Discussion Questions


- Prior to reading “I Am a Man,” were you familiar with the Trial of Standing Bear and the story of the Ponca?
- Why does the reader feel sympathy for Chief Standing Bear?
- What do you admire most about Chief Standing Bear?
- How relevant is the story to our society today?
- What was the most important thing you learned from reading this book?
- What did you find surprising about the facts introduced in this book?
- How has reading this book changed your opinion of: Chief Standing Bear, Issues of Citizenship, or Constitutional Protections?
- Does the author present information in a way that is interesting and insightful, and if so, how does he achieve this?
- Does Starita give proper consideration to all sides of the issues? Does the author seem to have a bias?
- How has the book increased your interest in the subject matter (Nebraska History, Native Americans, Issues of Citizenship, or Constitutional Protection)?
- Will you read “The Dull Knifes of Pine Ridge” by Joe Starita? Why or why not?

Discussion questions selected by staff of the Lincoln City Libraries – Lincoln, Nebraska