


# Civil Rights Movement Worksheets

Name: \_\_\_\_\_




## Famous Civil Rights Activists

The Civil Rights Movement in the United States of America began in the early 1950s when African-Americans started to seek equality over issues regarding race. Some of the famous civil rights leaders are pictured below. Write a short biographical narrative about them.

**Civil Rights Movement**

MALCOLM X



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Timeline for Equality

Since the transatlantic slave trade, African-American an inferior life because of skin color. It was during the 1950s when the whole African-American community to seek empowerment and equality. Let us try to complete this timeline by providing important events.

**Civil Rights Movement**



1954

1955

1963

1961

1965

1968

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Women in Black History

Aside from racial segregation, African-American women conquered gender discrimination in all aspects of American society. Some notable women are pictured below with word clues, tell us their contributions in Black history.

**Civil Rights Movement**



Ain't I a woman? \_\_\_\_\_

Sojourner Truth



Underground Railroad \_\_\_\_\_

Harriet Tubman



Montgomery Bus Boycott \_\_\_\_\_

Rosa Parks



Philanthropist \_\_\_\_\_

Oprah Winfrey

# Civil Rights Movement **Facts**

## **CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**



The civil rights movement was a worldwide series of political movements for equality before the law that peaked in the 1960s. The main aim of the movements for civil rights included ensuring that the rights of all people are equally protected by the law, including the rights of minorities and women.

### **Historical Background**

- ★ Since the first slaves arrived from Africa in 1619, there was a tremendous need for the protection and enforcement of a person's civil rights.
- ★ In 1808, Congress banned the importation of slaves from Africa.
- ★ In 1863, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring "that all persons held as slaves" within the Confederate states "are, and henceforward shall be free."

# Civil Rights Movement **Facts**

## Rise of the Civil Rights Movement

- ★ On May 17, 1954, the United States Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, declared that racial segregation in schools was unconstitutional. It overturned the *Plessy v. Ferguson* doctrine of “separate but equal.”



*Photo of Montgomery  
Bus Boycott*

- ★ On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat at the front of the “colored section” of a bus to a white passenger.
- ★ In response to her arrest, Montgomery’s black community launched a successful year-long bus boycott. It was led by Martin Luther King, Jr., and Montgomery’s buses were desegregated on Dec. 21, 1956. A series of movements followed starting in the mid 1950s until the late 1960s.
- ★ By 1957, The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), a civil rights group, was established by Martin Luther King, Jr., Charles K. Steele, and Fred L. Shuttlesworth. Dr. King became its founding president. He encourage all African Americans to exercise their civil rights.

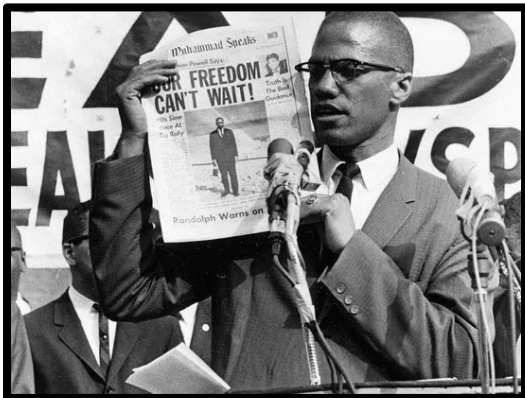
# Civil Rights Movement **Facts**

- ★ Later that year, the Civil Rights Act was passed, ensuring that all African Americans can exercise their right to vote. Despite this, the admission of nine black students at the Little Rock Central High School was rejected by opposing white people. Known as the 1957 Little Nine Rock crisis, it was resolved by President Dwight Eisenhower when he enforced the integration.
- ★ In 1961, black and white Freedom Riders started to ride buses to test whether there was integration.
- ★ By 1964, civil activist Fannie Lou Hamer became one of the leaders of the Freedom Summer Campaign, which gathered as many African Americans in Mississippi to register and vote.
- ★ On August 28, 1963, the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom is attended by about 250,000 people, the largest demonstration ever seen in the nation's capital. Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. The march built momentum for civil rights legislation.
- ★ Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested and jailed during anti-segregation protests in Birmingham, Al. He wrote "Letter from Birmingham Jail", which advocated non-violent civil disobedience.
- ★ When Dr. King met with President John F. Kennedy, Kennedy urged Congress to pass the Civil Rights Bill that prohibited segregation and discrimination based on race, nationality or gender.



# Civil Rights Movement Facts

- ★ On November 22, 1963, President JFK was assassinated during his motorcade in Dallas. The bill was not signed into law.
- ★ During the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed. It banned discrimination and segregation. Furthermore, the right of minorities to vote was stated.
- ★ On February 21, 1965, Malcolm X, former follower of Elijah Muhammad, leader of the Nation of Islam in the United States, was assassinated after establishing the Organization of Afro-American Unity.



- ★ The Organization of Afro-American Unity advocated that racism was the greatest enemy of African Americans. It was believed that members of the Nation of Islam shot Malcolm X dead.

- ★ On March 7, 1965, the first Selma Freedom March was organized by John Lewis. The demonstration ended with violence and came to be known as "Bloody Sunday."
- ★ On August 6, 1965, the Voting Rights Act was signed into law. The law enabled the protection of African Americans' right to vote and the prohibition of literacy tests in the process.
- ★ Race riots occurred from 1965 until 1967. On August 11, 1965, the Watts Riots erupted in Los Angeles. It was followed by the Newark Riots and Detroit Riots.
- ★ In 1966, Bobby Seale and Huey P. Newton founded the Black Panther, which aimed to liberalized African-Americans through violent revolution.

# Civil Rights Movement **Facts**

- ★ On April 4, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated by James Earl Ray at Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. Violent riots broke out in many cities in the United States after his death.
- ★ In November 2009, Barack Obama, an African-American Senator from Illinois, was elected as the 44th President of the United States. On February 2, 2009, Eric Holder was elected in a vote of 75 to 21 as the first African-American Attorney General of the United States.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

# Famous Civil Rights Activists

The Civil Rights Movement in the United States of America began in the early 1950s when African-Americans started to seek equality over issues regarding race. Some of the famous civil rights leaders are pictured below. Write a short biographical narrative about them.

## MALCOLM X



Personal  
Life

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Activism



Personal  
Life

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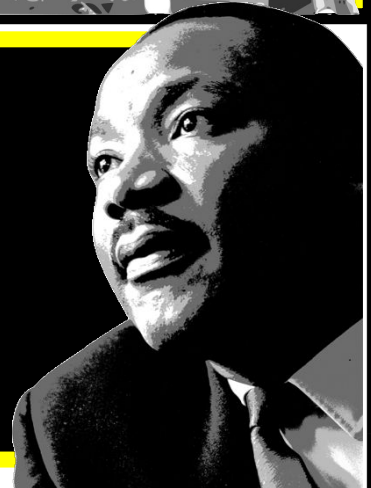
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Activism

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

# CRM: Fill in the Facts

Read the statements carefully and fill in the missing terms to complete the facts about the Civil Rights Movement.

**1**

She was arrested in 1955 after she refused to give up her seat to a \_\_\_\_\_ man on the \_\_\_\_\_ bus.

**2**

The \_\_\_\_\_ crisis happened when several black students' admission to the Little Rock Central High School was rejected.

**3**

He was once a loyal follower of Elijah Muhammad and former member of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**4**

\_\_\_\_\_ was the civil rights activist leader who was assassinated in \_\_\_\_\_, Tennessee.

**5**

The first \_\_\_\_\_ turned into a violent riot known as "Bloody Sunday."



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Timeline for Equality



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

Since the transatlantic slave trade, African-Americans lived an inferior life because of skin color. It was during the 1950s when the whole African-American community began to seek empowerment and equality. Let us trace the timeline by providing important events.

1954

1955

1957

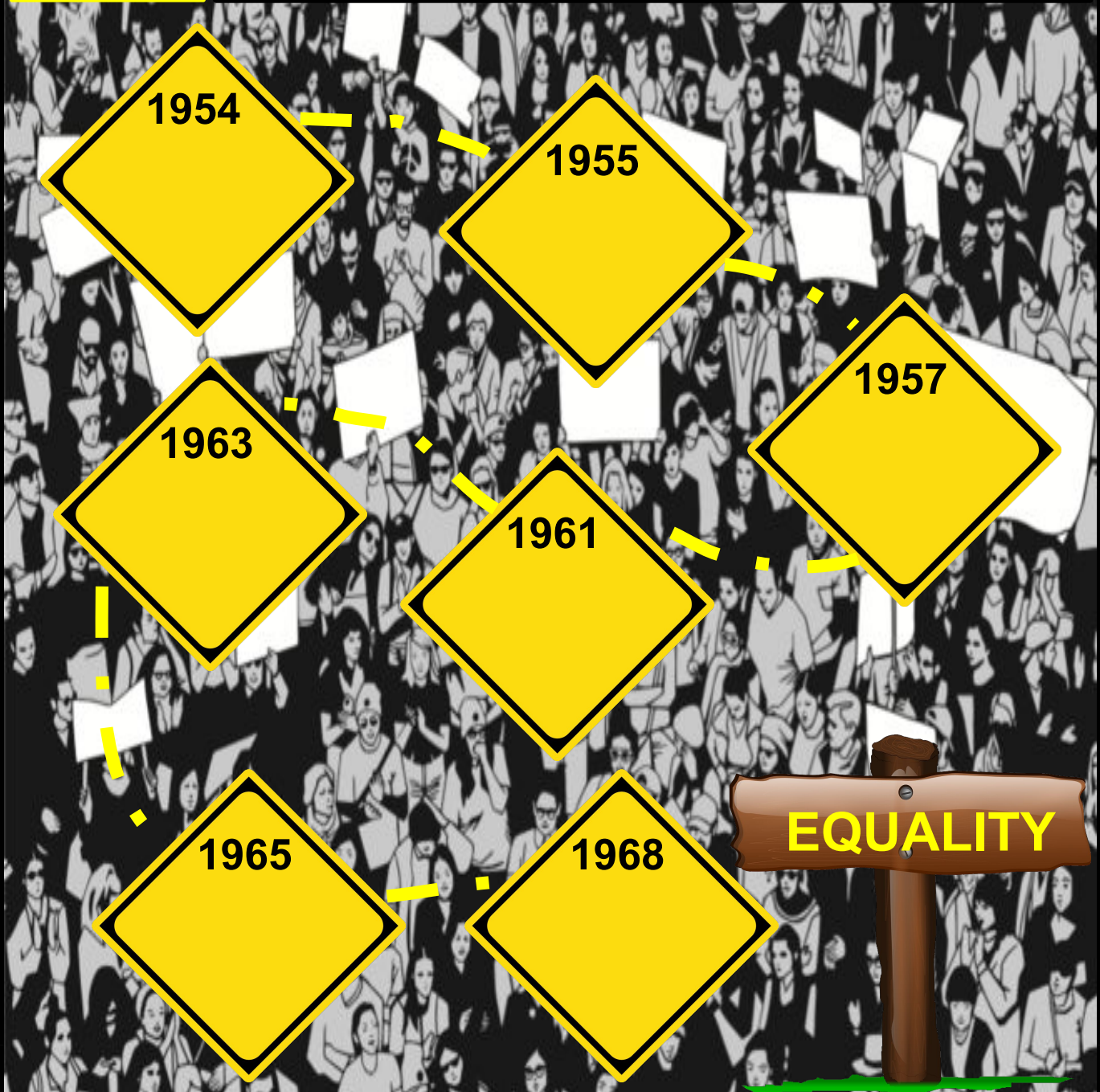
1963

1961

1965

1968

**EQUALITY**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

# Activist's Notebook

In order to understand and keep a record of what they fought for, complete the activist's notebook.

## LIST OF CIVIL RIGHTS

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## FAMOUS NON-VIOLENT CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS in the world

photo

photo

photo

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

# Lincoln and Kennedy

U.S. Presidents Lincoln and Kennedy were both known for their advocacy in promoting equal civil rights for African-Americans. Do additional research and complete their profiles.

FULL NAME

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PRESIDENTIAL  
TERM

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CIVIL RIGHTS

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DEATH

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Equality Acrostic



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 banned segregation and discrimination based on gender, race and nationality. It aimed to exercise equality among white and black people in the United States. Now, complete the acrostic with words or phrases describing what equality truly means.

**E**

**Example:**  
Equal access to education

**Q**

**U**

**A**

**L**

**I**

**T**

**Y**

**BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# MLK's "I Have A Dream"



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

On August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. He uttered his famous speech "I Have Dream." Read the full speech online and analyse the manuscript using the guide questions.

1. When and where did Martin Luther King, Jr. deliver his famous speech?

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2. What are the main points of his speech?

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3. How did it change the course of African-American history in America?

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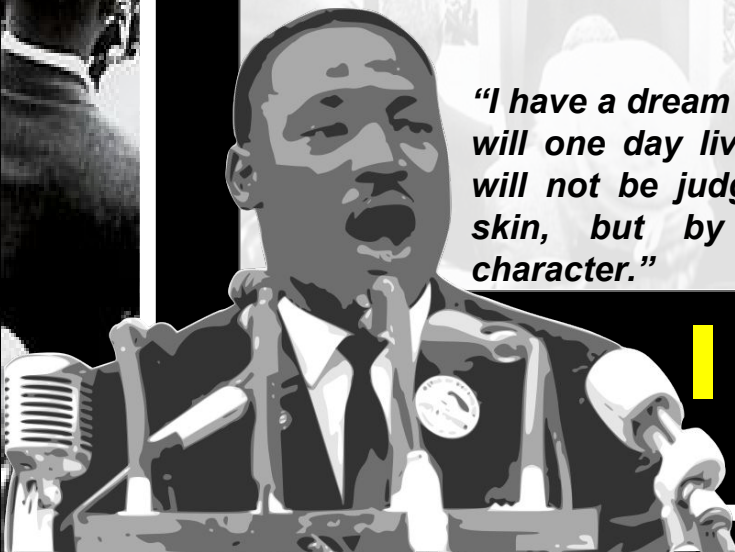
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*"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."*

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

**I HAVE A DREAM**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

# Women in Black History

Aside from racial segregation, African-American women conquered gender discrimination in all aspects of American society. Some notable women are pictured below with word clues, tell us their contributions in Black history.



Ain't I a  
woman?

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**Sojourner Truth**



Underground  
Railroad

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**Harriet Tubman**



Montgomery  
Bus Boycott

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**Rosa Parks**



Philanthropist

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**Oprah Winfrey**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Civil Rights Movement

# Civil Rights Photo Vault

History can never forget how African-Americans fought for equality and freedom through the Civil Rights Movement. Analyse the photos using the guide questions.

1



2



3



4



1. What are the concepts presented in each photo?
2. Spot the similarities and differences of their advocacies?
3. How did it help the status of African-Americans in the United States?

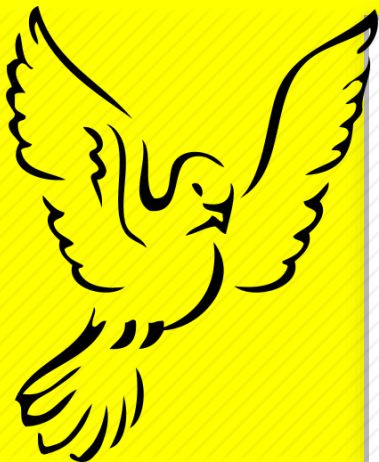
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Freedom Writer



**Civil Rights  
Movement**

In May 1961, Freedom Riders began to ride buses to ensure that racial integration was implemented well. Now, become a freedom writer! Write an essay highlighting the importance of freedom to humanity. You can cite contemporary issues on peace.



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