

NAME:

Individual Experiences: A Look Through the Eyes of the Civil Rights Generation

Learning Target & Guiding Questions

I can examine the fight for justice and changes brought about in the Civil Rights era of the mid-20th century.

What are the primary factors that have created and perpetuated the racial disparities facing the U.S.?

How do larger structures dictate individual experiences?

In order to bring our learning target closer to home, we will spend the coming weeks digging deeper into the individual stories that made up the Civil Rights Movement including events in Boston and Springfield as they began to desegregate public schools in the seventies, as well as recent stories and events. To better understand and share these stories, each of you will choose a **MOMENT** from the list below to research. Your research will then inform **a character that you will create** and flesh out in a creative product for History. The scene you create surrounding that character will be your final product for the expedition and will be completed in English based on your history research, which will include firsthand accounts, contemporary media, and legislation.

During the research stage, you will need to find information surrounding the event or moment you choose and the actual people involved. You should be able to answer the following:

Who/What/When/Where/Why/How Relating to your Moment

This portion of the assignment will be due before you start working on your character. Research in your topic will be submitted as a 2 page summary with a works cited page listing out all of your sources (this is the first page of your note taking packet). This will be due **Friday 3/29**

Your Fictional Character

The point of this character is to consider the experience of individuals who lived through this, but who was not historically central to the particular even you researched. This will help us dig into the guiding questions as well as our title, ***Integration? Using Stories to Confront Racism in Modern America***. Once you have your foundational research, you will need to consider the following questions in order to craft your character:

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Who/Where:

- Basics: Name, approximate age, location, family make up, community make up, racial/ethnic identity

What:

- What event was the person involved in or focused on?
- Was anyone related to them or close to them directly involved in the issue?
- How did this person react to news about the issue?
- Had they been a part of another big moment previously? How did that impact them?
- What may have happened in their lives or the lives of those around them that would influence their view(s)?
- What else was happening in this person's life at this time?

Why:

- How did they feel about the issue/events?
- What evidence/knowledge/personal experience were they using to support this position?
- Education? Involvement in a certain group already?
- How did they intend on enacting change? Did they? How?

When:

- At what point in the larger event are you focusing your scene (and as such, your character development)?
- Is your character reflecting on any past events or moments, are they living through one, and/or are they looking toward an event about to happen?

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PRODUCT

For the product, you must display the answers to the questions above in a creative format appropriate for your character, while giving clear understanding of the focus moment in Civil Rights History. The options are:

- 1) Moodboard/Small scrapbook (posterboard or multi-page notebook)
 - Either a poster sized collage or a few pages with the following pasted - photos of inspiring people & moments, newspaper articles, letter/notes to or from friends or family, notes / to-do's, calendar with upcoming events, tokens of personality (pictures, images, quotes, items, etc. - scrapbook might have more captions/journaling of thoughts)
- 2) Comic Strip Timeline (Comic Booklet)
 - Illustrations & detailed captions of either important moments in their lives or an important event seen through their eyes. Specific format can be discussed. Likely 20-30 ¼ page panels would be appropriate.
- 3) College Essay
 - Your character is a senior in high school. Identify a college your character might apply to and include an application essay focused around their experience of focal point / moment that you researched
- 4) Social Media Profile (large poster)
 - Include a bio, check-ins at prominent locations/establishments, a few posts, a list of friends, a few recent DM's
- 5) Found Poems (series of primary-source based poems)
 - Using the primary source documents from your research, create a series of found poems that tell about your characters life, relationships, beliefs, actions, and thoughts on your event

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- What else was happening in this person's life at this time?

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When:

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Additional Notes / Ideas

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Possible events/moments to choose from: (note: if a topic has a * it can only be selected by students enrolled for College Prep credit. Non-starred items can be selected by students in Honors or CP)

1. Bloody Sunday
2. MLK Assassination
3. Little Rock 9
4. Trayvon Martin, Ferguson, or any other "Black Lives Matter" focus point
5. LA Riots (or any other specific "race riot" between the 50s & 90s)
6. Shelley v. Kraemer
7. Burning of Black Wall Street*
8. KKK Rally at Stone Mountain (could also focus on other specific Klan action)
9. Bus Boycotts*
10. Lunch Counter Sit-Ins*
11. The rise or fall of the Black Panther Party
12. The election of Donald Trump
13. The Rise of White Supremacy 2015-2020
14. Hansberry v. Lee
15. Brown v. Board*
16. Plessy v. Ferguson*
17. Passage of the 13th/14/15th amendment*
18. Mendez v Westminster, Hernandez v Texas, Lau v Nichols Protests/Walkouts by Latino students seeking equal treatment in LA schools. '2004 The Minuteman Project anti-immigrant activists at the U.S./Mexico border.
19. Voting Rights Act
20. Passage of Equal Education Opportunity Act
21. The election of Barack Obama
22. March on Washington*
23. Lynching of Emmett Till*
24. Lynching (a specific, well-documented example to focus on)*

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25. Move-In Bombing
26. Integration of colleges
27. Integration of Boston Public Schools
28. 16th Street Baptist Church bombing*
29. Ruby Bridges (first year in school)*
30. 1964 Barksdale vs. Springfield (Black parents in Springfield file lawsuit over racial imbalance)
31. 1965 US District Court rules Springfield school are unconstitutionally segregated
32. Double V Campaign
33. This is only a partial list - if you have another topic you are passionate about, please talk to us!

Absent on Assignment Day: