

McDougal Littell

African-American Biographies

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Contents

To the Teacher	v
Unit 1 First Encounters: Beginnings to 1770	1
Unit 1 Timeline.....	2
Unit 1 Answer Key	4
Olaudah Equiano	5
Lucy Terry Prince.....	7
Unit 2 Building a Nation: 1770–1815	9
Unit 2 Timeline.....	10
Unit 2 Answer Key	12
Benjamin Banneker.....	13
Elizabeth Freeman.....	15
Agrippa Hull.....	17
Unit 3 The Early Republic: 1815–1840.....	19
Unit 3 Timeline.....	20
Unit 3 Answer Key	22
Nat Turner.....	23
David Walker.....	25
Unit 4 Growth and Change: 1840–1860.....	27
Unit 4 Timeline.....	28
Unit 4 Answer Key	30
Frederick Douglass.....	31
Dred Scott.....	33
Unit 5 War and Reconstruction: 1860–1880	35
Unit 5 Timeline.....	36
Unit 5 Answer Key	38
Harriet Tubman.....	39
Elizabeth Keckley.....	41
Unit 6 Across the Continent: 1880–1910	43
Unit 6 Timeline.....	44
Unit 6 Answer Key	46
W. E. B. Du Bois	47
Henry O. Flipper.....	49
Booker T. Washington	51
Scott Joplin.....	53

Unit 7 Expansion and Depression: 1910–1940	55
Unit 7 Timeline.....	56
Unit 7 Answer Key	58
Bessie Coleman	59
Charles Drew	61
Hattie McDaniel	63
A. Philip Randolph.....	65
Unit 8 War and Recovery: 1940–1960	67
Unit 8 Timeline.....	68
Unit 8 Answer Key	70
James L. Farmer, Jr.....	71
Christia Daniels Adair	73
Paul Robeson.....	75
Ralph Bunche	77
Rosa Parks	79
Unit 9 Modern Times: 1960 to Present	81
Unit 9 Timeline.....	82
Unit 9 Answer Key	84
Thurgood Marshall	85
Martin Luther King, Jr.....	87
Barbara Jordan.....	89

To the Teacher

African-American Biographies is designed to help you enrich your curriculum by incorporating African-American history into your lessons, giving students a broader multicultural perspective of United States and world history.

African-American Biographies includes the following features:

★ **Unit Opener**

At the beginning of each unit is a page that briefly summarizes the relevance of that unit and provides interesting trivia about the people whose biographies are included in that unit.

★ **Unit Timeline**

Each unit opens with a timeline that connects African-American history to American and world history.

★ **Unit Answer Key**

Answers to each of the review and critical-thinking questions at the end of each biography in the unit precede those biographies.

★ **Biographies**

African-American Biographies includes twenty-seven two-page biographies of influential African Americans. Each biography provides students with pertinent information about the life and contributions of the person, as well as several review and critical-thinking questions. Also, because many of the biographies include sophisticated military, scientific, and political terms, definitions of those words have been provided in the context of each biography.

You can use *African-American Biographies* in several ways in your classroom, depending on your needs.

★ **Engage**

Provide photocopies of a unit's biographies for all students. Then have students read all the supplied biographies and select one for further research for oral or written reports. Students can work individually, in pairs, or in teams.

★ **Explain**

Have students read unit biographies before beginning work on a similar timeframe in class. Throughout the weeks of classwork on the era, refer back to the biographies to compare and contrast what the African Americans profiled were doing and how this is the same or different from the major events described in your basal book.

★ **Explore**

In a class with limited reading abilities, read the biographies aloud to students. Then use the questions at the end to test and practice listening and critical-thinking skills.

★ **Enrich**

Assign the book as extra credit for students who need more of a challenge. Suggest they read all the biographies and answer the accompanying

questions. Then they should select, research, and report on a topic that is mentioned tangentially in one of the biographies.

★ **Extend**

Photocopy a unit timeline for all students. Use it as the basis for a class discussion on the era it describes. Help students analyze and integrate American and world events.

UNIT 1

First Encounters: Beginnings to 1770

African Americans are the only immigrant group who came to America unwillingly. For hundreds of years their experience was nearly the opposite of other immigrants'. Europeans and others came seeking opportunities for better lives. Africans came only as slaves and faced daunting and terrible conditions both on the sea journey and once they got here.

Olaudah Equiano

1745–1797

Slave, Author,
and Abolitionist

Did You Know?

- ★ Equiano may or may not have been born in Africa.
- ★ He traveled to the Americas, England, and through the Mediterranean and Caribbean during his life.
- ★ His autobiography is still regarded as a powerful argument against slavery.

Did You Know?

- ★ Prince is the author of the earliest-known poem by an African American.
- ★ She was a well-known orator.
- ★ She and her husband fought a land-ownership case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court—and won.

Lucy Terry Prince

1724–1821

Poet, Orator, and
Civil Rights Fighter

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1640

- 1645** Some 10,000 Africans are imported as slaves to Western Hemisphere each year for next decade. Most will go to sugar plantations in Brazil.
- 1649** Population of colony of Virginia includes 300 African Americans.
- 1671** Governor of colony of Virginia estimates that African Americans make up less than five percent of colony's population.
- 1674** English Puritan Richard Baxter denounces slave hunters as "enemies of mankind," but does not say slavery itself is wrong if slaves are well treated.

1680

- 1698** Britain allows its citizens to enter African slave trade.
- 1700** Judge Samuel Sewall of Boston pens *Selling of Joseph*, which condemns selling of slaves. Three years earlier, Sewall made public confession of error and guilt for being part of convictions and executions of 19 alleged witches in Salem, Massachusetts.
- 1700** Almost 7 million Africans are kidnapped, enslaved, and shipped to Western Hemisphere during 1700s.
- 1712** Slave revolt in New York leaves six whites dead. One dozen African Americans later hang as result.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1640

- 1642** Harvard College awards first degrees.
- 1643** Banished religious enthusiast Anne Hutchinson is killed by Native Americans.
- 1647** Peter Stuyvesant is named governor of New Netherlands.
- 1649** Tobacco exports bring prosperity to Virginia colony.
- 1655** Dutch colonists occupy New Sweden.
- 1664** English conquer New Netherlands.
- 1670** John Lederer leads two expeditions into Blue Ridge Mountains.
- 1671** Puritans found city of Charleston.
- 1677** Culpeper's Rebellion protests use of English trade laws in Carolina colony.

1680

- 1682** Pennsylvania colony is founded.
- 1686** Puritan rule ends in Massachusetts.
- 1692** Salem, Massachusetts, holds witchcraft trials.
- 1693** College of William and Mary is founded in Virginia.
- 1699** French priests found Cahokia, the first permanent settlement in Illinois wilderness.
- 1704** America's first regularly published newspaper begins in Boston.
- 1711** Tuscorora warriors massacre 200 Carolina settlers.
- 1715** Calvert family regains control of Maryland.
- 1716** Alexander Spotswood leads Virginia colonists into Shenandoah River valley.
- 1718** Collegiate School is renamed Yale University.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1640

- 1640** Irish peasants revolt against their landlords, who are mostly English.
- 1641** Rembrandt van Rijn paints *Night Watch*.
- 1642** France's Cardinal Richelieu dies after 18 years in power.
- 1643** France's Louis XIV begins 72-year reign.
- 1644** China's Ming dynasty falls.
- 1648** Taj Mahal completed outside Agra in India.
- 1649** English Puritans behead King Charles I.
- 1654** Black Death strikes eastern Europe.
- 1662** Emperor K'ang Hsi begins 50-year rule in China.
- 1676** England's Greenwich Observatory is established.

1680

- 1684** Versailles's Hall of Mirrors is completed outside Paris.
- 1687** University of Bologna is founded.
- 1692** *Aesop's Fables* is published.
- 1694** Bank of England is founded.
- 1697** Gold is discovered in Brazil.
- 1703** St. Petersburg, Russia, is founded.
- 1707** Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb dies after 49-year reign in India.
- 1711** Holy Roman Emperor Josef I dies of smallpox.
- 1713** Greek physician suggests immunization as way to prevent smallpox.
- 1715** France's King Louis XIV dies after 72-year reign.

1720

- 1724** In colony of South Carolina, African-American slaves outnumber whites by two to one.
- 1735** Colony of Georgia outlaws slavery.
- 1741** Fires in New York City in March and April lead to charges of “Negro Conspiracy.” Roman Catholic priests allegedly told African-American slaves to burn city on orders from Spain. On December 31, four whites and 18 African Americans are hanged and 13 African Americans are burned at stake.

1760

- 1761** American Quakers refuse to admit slave traders to Society of Friends even though many Quakers own slaves.
- 1763** English philanthropist Granville Sharp saves life of slave beaten by owner and sues when owner kidnaps slave and ships him to West Indies to be sold. Public outcry results.
- 1766** George Washington trades slave for quantity of rum and other commodities.

1720

- 1722** New Orleans becomes capital of Louisiana Territory.
- 1729** Natchez warriors attack Louisiana colonists after they demand control of sacred burial ground.
- 1732** Ben Franklin starts *Poor Richard's Almanack*.
- 1735** Printer John Peter Zenger wins landmark victory for freedom of press.
- 1738** George Whitefield launches Great Awakening.
- 1742** Coal deposits are found in western Virginia.
- 1749** French troops claim Ohio River Valley for Louis XV.
- 1750** Chippewa defeat Sioux and gain control of economically important wild rice stands in Minnesota.
- 1752** Philadelphia pioneers street lighting with globe lamps from England.

1760

- 1760** Population of 13 American colonies reaches 1.6 million.
- 1762** New York City holds its first St. Patrick's Day parade.
- 1763** Treaty of Paris sets Mississippi River as boundary between British colonies and Louisiana Territory.
- 1763** Boston merchants organize boycott of British luxury goods.
- 1764** America's first medical college opens in Philadelphia.
- 1765** Sons of Liberty clubs resist Stamp Act.
- 1766** Treaty of Oswego ends three-year Native American rebellion led by Pontiac.
- 1767** Philadelphia lawyer John Dickinson writes first installment of *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania*.
- 1769** Daniel Boone leads expedition to region of “Kentucke.”

1720

- 1720** England's “South Sea Bubble” collapse causes widespread financial losses.
- 1722** Easter Island discovered and named for Easter Sunday, its day of discovery.
- 1723** Christopher Wren is buried in St. Paul's Cathedral, which he had designed.
- 1725** Tsar Peter the Great dies.
- 1727** Britain's George II begins 43-year reign.
- 1729** Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* is first performed.
- 1731** France forbids barbers to practice surgery.
- 1737** Earthquake in Calcutta kills 300,000.
- 1739** Mughal Empire's collapse opens way for foreign domination of Indian subcontinent.
- 1742** Handel's *Messiah* is first performed.
- 1756** “Black Hole of Calcutta” incident enrages British.

1760

- 1760** Dutch merchants burn large amounts of nutmeg and clove to maintain high price levels for smaller stocks.
- 1761** British doctor John Hill publishes “Cautions Against Immoderate Use of Snuff,” which is first publication saying tobacco causes cancer.
- 1762** Catherine the Great becomes ruler of Russia.
- 1762** Decade-long typhus epidemic begins in Italy.
- 1766** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, age 10, returns to native Austria after having given concerts in Paris and London.
- 1766** Oliver Goldsmith pens *Vicar of Wakefield*.
- 1768** First volume of *Encyclopedia Britannica* is published.
- 1769** Great Famine of Bengal kills 10 million, about one-third of population.
- 1769** England's first Shakespeare Festival opens at Stratford-Upon-Avon.

UNIT 1 Answer Key

Olaudah Equiano, p. 5

Review Questions

1. An autobiography is the story of a person's life that is written by that person.
2. The aim of the expedition was to try to find a Northwest Passage to Asia.
3. Pascal wanted to show that he had complete control over Equiano.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Effects** The effect of the book's success was to bring Equiano financial independence.
5. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that abolition was a fashionable topic among the upper class and that Equiano's book was one of the most prominent.
6. **Analyzing Effects** Recent research has led to controversy about whether Equiano was born in Africa or South Carolina and thus whether the early parts of the autobiography are true.

Lucy Terry Prince, p. 7

Review Questions

1. Few facts are known about Lucy Terry Prince's early childhood because no written records exist.
2. Festus Prince was the son who enlisted in the Continental Army at age 16.
3. At the time of his marriage Abijah Prince was both a free man and a landowner.

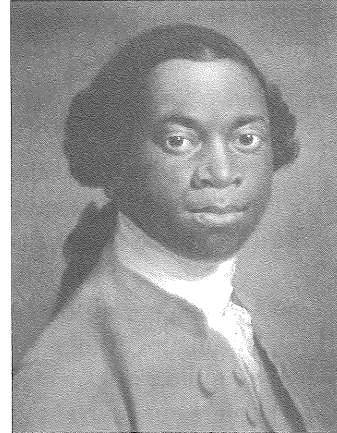
Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** The writer concludes that Prince may have been treated somewhat better than other slaves in town.
5. **Recognizing Effects** The lack of consistent written records makes it difficult to determine exactly what happened in the person's life.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Prince was a strong Christian because she had all of her children baptized.

Olaudah Equiano

1745–1795

Slave, Author, and Abolitionist



Kidnapping and Slavery

Almost everything we know about the first decade of Equiano's life comes from his **autobiography**. In it, he describes his happy childhood in Africa. His father was a village leader, and Equiano was expected to become one too. Equiano also describes how one day when he was 11 years old, he and his sister were home

autobiography a book about a person's life, written by that person

alone. Suddenly two men and a woman approached the house and kidnapped the two children. Several days later, they were separated. Equiano says he never saw his sister or any of his family again.

Equiano was forced to walk for several months to reach the coast of Africa. Once there he was sold into slavery. Then he was crowded onto a sailing ship that brought him across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas. Within two weeks of arrival, Equiano was sold again and put to work in the colony of Virginia. However, less than a month later, he was sold once more. His new master, Michael Henry Pascal, was an officer in the British navy.

Life with Pascal

Pascal owned Equiano for seven years and soon gave him a new name. Cruelly, Pascal chose the name Gustavus Vassa, which was also the name of the Swedish nobleman of the 1500s who had led Sweden to independence from Denmark. Despite the cruelty of the name choice, such renaming of slaves was quite common. It was a way to show that the master had complete control over the slave.

- ✦ Pascal returned to England and took Equiano with him.
- ✦ When Pascal was ordered to sea, Equiano was forced to go along, usually as Pascal's servant.
- ✦ During the Seven Years' War between Britain and France, Equiano fought on the British side both in Canada and on the Mediterranean Sea.

Despite the frequent moves, Equiano accomplished the almost unimaginable—he learned to read and write. This accomplishment was very rare for slaves. Often they were actually kept away from school because their masters believed it was better for them to be ignorant.

An Argument, Another Master, and Freedom

It was the custom of the time to give prize money to sailors who won victories. After the victories in the Seven Years' War, Equiano argued with Pascal that he was entitled to prize money and his freedom.

- ✦ Instead, Pascal kept the money and quickly sold Equiano.
- ✦ Equiano was taken to the Caribbean island of Montserrat with a new master named Robert King, who realized the value of this well-educated slave.

King trained Equiano to gauge weights and measures, a very important responsibility. Over the next three years, Equiano was able to save the amount of money needed to buy his freedom. Very shortly after he became free, he returned to England.

A Search for the Northwest Passage

Equiano tried other careers in England, but soon went back to sea. He again traveled to the Mediterranean and the Caribbean. He also was part of an expedition to Canada to try to find the fabled Northwest Passage to Asia. This expedition had both scientific and economic goals. The very northern part of Canada had not been completely explored. If there was a way to sail through this area, it would greatly decrease the amount of time and money it would cost to travel between Europe and Asia. Such a route was especially appealing to the British, who were in the process of gaining ever-greater control of India. The expedition was a scientific success but not an economic one because it proved that the Northwest Passage did not exist.

Trying to Help a Friend

Once back in England, Equiano tried to help John Annis, a friend who was also a former slave. In 1773 Annis was kidnapped by his former owner, who wanted to forcibly send him to the Caribbean. This practice had been outlawed in England, so Equiano got in contact with Granville Sharp, a well-known abolitionist, who worked with Equiano to help free Annis. However, the effort failed.

abolitionist person who favors ending slavery

A Best Seller

By the late 1780s, a growing number of people in England believed that slavery should be ended. In just one year, 1789, more than 100 books were published on the topic. One of these was *The Interesting Narrative of The Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, The African. Written By Himself*. The book went through nine editions in the first year, and Equiano went on a lecture tour to promote it and the abolition of slavery.

Equiano's stirring tales of his childhood and years as a slave helped shine a light on the terrible lives that slaves were forced to lead. However, some recent scholarship has cast doubt on Equiano's claim that he was born in Africa. Instead, he may have been born in South Carolina and created the story of his early life from those of others. Regardless of the truth of the autobiography's early pages, today the book is still praised for its powerful arguments against the barbarity of the slave trade.

barbarity cruel or savage acts

The book brought Equiano financial independence. He married and had two daughters, but died just a few years later in 1797. This was 40 years before slavery was abolished in the British colonies and 68 years before it ended in the United States.

Review Questions

1. What is an autobiography?
2. What was the aim of the expedition to Canada?
3. Why did Pascal give Equiano a new name?

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Effects** What effect did the his autobiography's success have on Equiano's life?

5. **Making Inferences** One of the early purchasers of Equiano's book was the Prince of Wales, the heir to the British throne. What can be inferred about the prominence of the book from this purchase?

6. **Analyzing Effects** What effect has recent research had on the validity of Equiano's autobiography?

Lucy Terry Prince

1724–1821

Poet, Orator, and Civil Rights Fighter



A Very Young Slave

It is believed that Lucy Terry Prince was born in Africa in 1730 and was forced into slavery when she was only five years old. By that time she had been captured, endured the terrible ocean crossing, and landed at Newport, Rhode Island. Exact records of these early events are lost. However in 1735 Ebenezer Wells of Deerfield, Massachusetts, bought her to help with housework for his family. She lived with and worked for the Wells family for the next two decades.

Ebenezer Wells and his wife Abigail never had any children, and there is some indication that Lucy may have been treated better than other slaves in the town. For example, a local merchant's account books show that a chocolate bar was purchased for her in about 1755.

Native Americans v. Colonists

The 1700s were a time of repeated and violent clashes between Native Americans and colonists. During the summer of 1746, a violent attack by Native Americans took place about a mile south of Deerfield in “the bars,” the colonial term for meadow.

On Monday, August 25, colonists went to the bars to finish raking the hay grown there. Native Americans were hiding in the surrounding bushes and soon attacked. Some colonists were killed, some were scalped, and some were carried off as hostages. The event made a deep impression on many people in the town. Within a few months Lucy Terry wrote a poem, “The Bars Fight” describing the event. The poem begins,

August, 'twas the twenty-fifth,
Seventeen hundred forty-six,
The Indians did in ambush lay,
Some very valiant men to slay.
'Twas nigh unto Sam Dickinson's mill,
The Indians there five men did kill. . . .

The Poem

Terry's poem is now regarded as the first to be written by an African American. It is also the only one of Lucy Terry's poems to have survived. It tells in vivid detail the horrible ordeal suffered by her friends and neighbors. However the poem was not published until more than a century later, in 1855. Before that time, it was handed down orally from listener to listener.

One of the remarkable features of the poem is how much Lucy Terry allies herself with the colonists, even though these were the very people who kept her in slavery. Such independent thinking followed her throughout her life, and white settlers came to view her as being an equal in many ways.

Marriage and Family

In 1756 Lucy Terry married Abijah Prince, the only free African-American in Deerfield. Lucy was probably free by this time, but records are unclear as to exactly how this happened. What is clear is that her husband was free and a landowner. Together they had six children. Lucy, who had been baptized and confirmed as a Christian, made sure all six were baptized too.

Two of her sons, Caesar and Festus, fought in the American Revolution. Festus enlisted in the Continental Army in 1779 when he was only 16 years old.

A Powerful Orator

contradictory inconsistent or showing different facts

Although records are **contradictory**, Lucy Prince may have sought admission to Williams College for one of her sons. At the time, no college admitted African-American students, and the application was rejected because of race. Prince then sought a hearing with the college's board of trustees. At the hearing, she spoke eloquently for three hours, quoting legal and biblical passages in support of the admission. However, the application was still turned down.

A Fighter for Legal Rights

By the 1790s the family had moved from Massachusetts to Vermont, where they purchased land. Within a few years, a neighbor named Colonel Eli Brownson claimed part of their land as his. The Princes fought back through the courts. Eventually the case reached the U.S. Supreme Court. The Princes hired Isaac Tichenor, future governor of Vermont, as their lawyer. However, some historians record that Lucy Prince herself argued the case. One historian reported that Justice Samuel Chase said that Lucy Prince "made a better argument than he had heard from any lawyer at the Vermont bar." The case was decided in favor of the Princes.

Lucy Terry Prince died in 1821 at the age of 91. Several New England newspapers reported her death, which was not usual for either women or African Americans. The *Franklin Herald* said,

“In this remarkable woman there was an **assemblage** of qualities rarely to be found among her sex. . . . [T]he fluency of her speech captivated all around her She was much respected among her acquaintance, who treated her with a degree of **deference**.”

assemblage collection

deference courteous respect

It is most notable that the newspaper writer spoke of Lucy Terry Prince as an extraordinary woman, without mentioning the fact that she was also African American. Even today the lack of attention to her race would be notable.

Review Questions

1. Why are so few exact facts known about Lucy Terry Prince's first few years of life?
2. Which Prince son joined the Continental Army when he was only 16?
3. Name two unusual facts about Abijah Prince at the time Lucy Terry married him.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What conclusion does the writer draw by the fact that Prince was given a chocolate bar when she was a slave?
5. **Recognizing Effects** What effect does the lack of consistent written records have on biographies such as this one?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about Lucy Terry Prince's religious beliefs from the fact of her children's baptisms?

UNIT 2 Building a Nation: 1770–1815

The late 1700s were years of revolution and initial steps toward building a new nation. African Americans, like others, fought on both sides in the Revolutionary War. African Americans also used emerging laws in the new nation to their advantage and helped found some of our most important institutions.

Benjamin Banneker

1731–1806

Clockmaker, Astronomer,
and Surveyor

Did You Know?

- ✦ Banneker was born on the family farm where he lived most of his life.
- ✦ He had little formal education, but was a mathematical genius who wrote and maintained a very successful almanac for many years.
- ✦ He corresponded with Thomas Jefferson in a effort to push Jefferson to help end slavery.

Did You Know?

- ✦ Freeman was born into slavery and sold when she was just six months old.
- ✦ She used the new Massachusetts State Constitution as the basis for a suit that led to her freedom.
- ✦ She was an ancestor of W. E. B. Du Bois.

Elizabeth Freeman

1742?–1829

Freed Slave and
Civil Rights Fighter

Agrippa Hull

1759–1848

Freeborn Revolutionary War
Soldier

Did You Know?

- ✦ Hull enlisted in the Continental Army when he was 18 years old.
- ✦ He was an aide to Tadeusz Kosciuszko during the war, and the two men became lifelong friends.
- ✦ Hull was widely known for his dignity, character, and wit.

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1770

- 1770** Sailor Crispus Attucks and four others die in Boston Massacre.
- 1772** Quaker minister John Woolman dies after nearly three decades of preaching against slavery, saying it is incompatible with religion.
- 1774** Connecticut and Rhode Island end importation of slaves.

1785

- 1775** Overall slave population in South is more than 450,000; some Southern colonies have far more slaves than other residents.
- 1776** Thomas Jefferson’s draft of Declaration of Independence is edited to remove words that attack slavery.
- 1776** Delaware ends importation of slaves.
- 1778** Virginia ends importation of slaves.
- 1783** Maryland ends importation of slaves.

- 1787** Freedman Richard Allan, 27, and others in Philadelphia found African Methodist Episcopal Church after racist treatment at local Methodist Church.
- 1787** Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, and others found Free African Society to improve economic and social conditions for African Americans.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1770

- 1770** Boston painter John Singleton Copley completes *Paul Revere*, depicting local silversmith.
- 1772** Boston patriot Sam Adams and others organize Committee of Correspondence.
- 1774** English religious mystic Ann Lee introduces “Shakerism” to America.
- 1775** Continental Congress begins national lottery to raise money for Continental army.

1785

- 1776** George Washington crosses Delaware River on Christmas night and next day turns tide of war in Battle of Trenton.
- 1778** British forces take Augusta, but have mixed results elsewhere in Georgia.
- 1780** General Nathanael Greene defeats British army at Springfield, New Jersey.
- 1782** Maryland forbids further importation of slaves.

- 1785** University of Georgia is founded.
- 1786** First U.S. golf club is founded near Charleston, S.C.
- 1787** “Federalist Papers” begin publication.
- 1789** Ben Franklin quips, “Nothing is certain but death and taxes.”
- 1789** University of North Carolina becomes first U.S. state university.
- 1791** Bill of Rights becomes U.S. law.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1770

- 1770** Explorer James Cook visits Australia and claims island continent in name of England’s King George III.
- 1771** Forces of Catherine the Great conquer Crimea for Russia.
- 1774** Treaty of Kuchuk-Kaainardji ends six-year Russo-Turkish war.
- 1776** English historian Edward Gibbon publishes first volume of *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.
- 1778** France charts Société Royale de Médecine and charges it to study epidemics.

1785

- 1779** Thomas Gainsborough paints *Blue Boy*.
- 1781** Chinese imperial forces suppress Muslim revolt in Gansu Province.
- 1784** French chemist Antoine Lavoisier demonstrates indestructibility of matter.
- 1784** Famine sweeps Japan.

- 1785** Emerald Buddha Chapel is completed in Bangkok.
- 1788** Wahhabi Islamic fundamentalists in Arabia expand influence.
- 1789** Panthéon is completed in Paris.
- 1789** French Revolution begins.
- 1791** Berlin’s Brandenburg Gate is completed.
- 1792** Mary Wollstonecraft writes *Vindication of the Rights of Women*.

1800

1792 Invention of cotton gin makes it possible to clean cotton much more quickly, thus increasing demand for slaves to pick it. U.S. cotton production grows from 140,000 lb. in 1791 to 25 million lb. in 1800.

1793 Fugitive Slave Act outlaws helping slaves to run away or giving refuge to them.

1808 U.S. bans importation of slaves, but illegal imports continue.

1811 Slave revolt near New Orleans is put down.

1813 Physician, abolitionist, and signer of Declaration of Independence Benjamin Rush dies in Pennsylvania.

1814 Britain and U.S. work together to suppress slave trade, but effort fails.

1800

1794 Frontier farmers stage Whiskey Rebellion.

1798 Eli Whitney pioneers "American system" of mass production.

1799 George Washington dies at Mount Vernon.

1800 Thomas Jefferson wins presidential election.

1802 United States Military Academy is founded at West Point, N.Y.

1803 Louisiana Purchase doubles size of U.S.

1805 Treaty ends hostilities between U.S. and Tripoli.

1807 Aaron Burr is acquitted of trying to create separate nation from Mexico and parts of Louisiana Territory.

1809 Robert Owen's cotton mill partners reject his proposal to stop employing children under age 10.

1811 Slave revolt in New Orleans is crushed.

1812 *New England Journal of Medicine* begins publication.

1814 *Baltimore American* publishes "Star Spangled Banner" by Francis Scott Key one week after bombardment of Fort McHenry.

1800

1793 France's King Louis XVI is guillotined.

1794 Persia's Aga Mohammed founds dynasty that rules until 1925.

1796 English physician Edward Jenner pioneers smallpox vaccination.

1797 Severe earthquakes shake cities of Cuzco and Quito in South America.

1799 French troops under Napoleon discover Rosetta Stone.

1800 Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 is first performed.

1802 Napoleon revokes emancipation decree of 1794 and reintroduces slavery in France's colonies.

1803 Bubonic plague kills 150,000 in Constantinople.

1805 Horatio Nelson defeats combined French and Spanish fleet in Battle of Trafalgar.

1806 Holy Roman Empire ceases after 1006 years.

1807 Louis David paints *Coronation of Napoleon and Josephine*.

1811 Jane Austen publishes *Sense and Sensibility*.

1812 Napoleon retreats from Moscow.

Benjamin Banneker, p. 13**Review Questions**

1. Banneker was born free because both of his parents had been freed from slavery by the time he was born.
2. The word *latitude* is used to help describe a distance north or south of the earth's equator.
3. Banneker retired so he could spend his time on astronomy.

Critical Thinking

4. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Banneker was quite an unusual person because although he was both African American and almost 60 years old, he was still considered to be the very best man for the important job on the new national capital.
5. **Analyzing Effects** The declining interest in the anti-slavery cause led to the end of the annual work because publishers were no longer interested in it.
6. **Evaluating Evidence** The article includes three major points that indicate Banneker's importance. First, he was the first American to build a wooden clock. Second, he was chosen to be part of the small team of men who worked on laying out the city of Washington, D.C. Third, he was the first African American to create an almanac.

Elizabeth Freeman, p. 15**Review Questions**

1. The legal case was called *Bett and Brom v. Ashley*.
2. The word *ratify* means to give formal approval to.
3. Brom was a male African-American slave owned by the Ashleys, who became part of the suit against them.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that Elizabeth Freeman wanted a name for herself that showed her status and was not connected to her past as a slave.
5. **Recognizing Effects** The two African-American sisters were inherited as "property" by Hannah Ashley and her husband John.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Freeman listened carefully to what white people said to each other when she was in their presence and that she thought through the implications of what she heard.

Agrippa Hull, p. 17**Review Questions**

1. The word *impoverished* means poor or without wealth.
2. Hull and Kosciuszko were reunited in Philadelphia during Kosciuszko's long visit there after the war.
3. John Burgoyne was a British army general who was defeated by the Continental Army in the American Revolution.

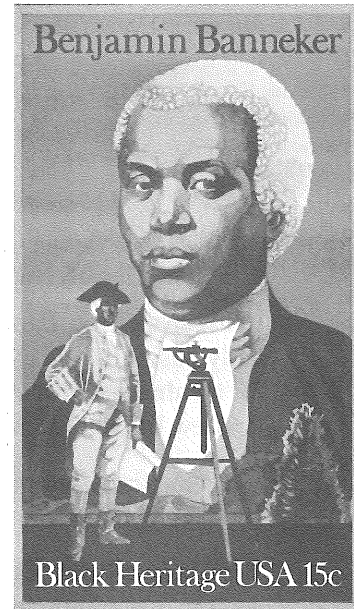
Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded from the many changes in enlistment rules that white Patriots had very mixed feelings about the service of blacks in the Continental Army.
5. **Recognizing Effects** The effect of American success was to cause the French and Spanish to strengthen their support for the Americans in hopes of doing damage to their mutual enemy, the British.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Stockbridge was a fairly liberal town for the era since several free African-American families chose to live there.

Benjamin Banneker

1731–1806

Clockmaker, Astronomer, and Surveyor



A Free Family

Rodger and Mary Banneker were free African Americans who lived in Maryland. They owned a farm, and their son Benjamin was born there on November 9, 1731.

The Bannekers were free, but poor. As a result, young Benjamin got little formal schooling. His grandmother taught him to read and to do some math. Then the young boy was able to attend a nearby Quaker school for a few years. As soon as he was old enough to work in the family farm fields, though, his formal education ended. After that he taught himself.

A Self-Taught Man

Banneker loved to read and read everything he could find. With borrowed books, he studied history, religion, and mathematics. Numbers fascinated him. He loved to make up and solve puzzles.

Clockmaker

In 1751 Banneker saw a pocket watch owned by a traveling salesman named Josef Levi. Banneker had never seen a watch or clock before and was so fascinated that Levi gave the watch to him. Banneker spent days taking the watch apart and putting it back together again and decided to become a clock and watchmaker.

The following year he attracted attention by building a large clock entirely out of wood. It was the first wooden clock built in America. It kept accurate time for 40 years until it was destroyed in a fire.

A New Interest

Banneker's life changed in the 1770s when the Ellicott family moved from Pennsylvania to a part of Maryland near the Banneker farm. They came to the area to set up farming on a large scale, and they built flour and saw mills. They also built an iron foundry and a large general store.

George Ellicott was part of the large family, and he and Banneker had many of the same interests, especially mathematics. Ellicott was also an amateur **astronomer** and owned a telescope. Ellicott lent Banneker the telescope and some books about the stars.

astronomer person who makes a scientific study of matter in outer space

Banneker was hooked. He gave up farming and devoted himself to studying the stars. This meant he spent his nights looking through the telescope and slept during the day. Some of his neighbors thought he had become lazy or sleepy. However, one observer noted that Banneker's house was filled with books and papers.

Surveyor

Despite what others thought, the Ellicotts knew Banneker was a genius. In 1790 Andrew Ellicott was hired by the new federal government to survey what was to

become the capital city of Washington, D.C. Banneker was quickly added to the six-man team because he knew how to use surveying tools. At the time Banneker was almost 60 years old, which was quite elderly for the times.

latitude the distance north or south of the equator

Banneker's job was to figure out **latitude**. He did this by observing the stars each night. He used astronomical instruments to make these observations. Then he compared his findings with the information in books and determined the latitude by combining and comparing the two sources of information.

Groundbreaking Author

In his spare time, Banneker used the project's books to figure the daily positions of the stars. These calculations formed the basis for an **almanac** that was first published in 1792. In a letter to Andrew Ellicott, Banneker described his almanac as

almanac an annual reference book that contains calendars, weather forecasts, lists, tables, and short articles

“the first attempt of the kind that ever was made in America by a person of my complexion.”

The book gave Banneker an opportunity to express his strong opposition to slavery, and the first edition featured a biography of Banneker written by Senator James McHenry. McHenry called Banneker's achievements a strong argument against slavery. Groups opposed to slavery publicized the almanac. This boosted its sales. Between 1792 and 1797, there were 28 editions of the popular work.

Correspondence with Jefferson

Just before the first edition of the almanac came out, Banneker sent his astronomical findings to Thomas Jefferson, who was then secretary of state. Banneker knew that Jefferson shared his interest in astronomy, and he hoped that the author of the Declaration of Independence might also share his passion for ending slavery. Jefferson replied,

“no body wishes more ardently to see a good system commenced, for raising the condition, both of [African Americans'] body and mind, to what it ought to be . . .”

Final Years

Banneker continued to collect astronomical observations, but interest in the anti-slavery cause died down. As a result, Banneker could no longer find a publisher, and the annual book came to an end.

Banneker died in his sleep in 1806, just a couple of weeks before his 75th birthday. He was buried in the Banneker family graveyard on the farm. During the graveside funeral, his house caught fire and burned to the ground. Almost everything Banneker owned was lost, including the wooden clock he had created several decades before.

Review Questions

1. Why was Banneker born into freedom rather than slavery?
2. What does the word *latitude* mean?
3. Why did Banneker retire from farming?

Critical Thinking

4. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about Banneker's inclusion as part of the team that surveyed what became Washington, D.C.?
5. **Analyzing Effects** What effect did a declining interest in the anti-slavery cause have on Banneker's almanac?
6. **Evaluating Evidence** What evidence does the article give to indicate that Banneker was an important figure in American science and technology?

Elizabeth Freeman

1742?–1829

Freed Slave and Civil Rights Fighter



Sold as an Infant

destined on a predetermined course

The baby who grew up to be Elizabeth Freeman was born about 1742 in the colony of New York, not Africa. Even so, she was **destined** for slavery because her parents were African-American slaves. At the age of just six months, she and her sister Lizzie were purchased by Pieter Hogeboom, a Dutch immigrant.

Hogeboom died in 1758, and the two young slave girls were inherited by Hogeboom's daughter and son-in-law, Hannah and John Ashley. John Ashley was one of the most prominent and respected men in Massachusetts, and he was believed to be a rather humane slave owner. Hannah Ashley was not. She was described as "a **shrew** untamable."

shrew bad tempered person

A Teenager Grows Up

Freeman, who was called Mum Bett at the time, and her sister lived in the Ashley household for more than 20 years. During this time Freeman married and had a daughter. Tragedy struck when Freeman's husband, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, was killed.

A Turning Point

One day in 1780 Hannah Ashley lived up to her nickname of shrew. Ashley became very angry with Lizzie and picked up a red-hot shovel from the fireplace. When she raised the shovel to hit Lizzie, Freeman ran between the two women and was struck instead. Her arm was badly burned. She bore the scar for the rest of her life and never had full use of the arm again.

Immediately after the event Freeman left the house and refused to go back. Soon she sought out Theodore Sedgwick, a young lawyer who was also strongly opposed to slavery.

The Massachusetts Constitution

ratified given formal approval to

The colony of Massachusetts had just become the state of Massachusetts. As a result, the state had recently **ratified** its first constitution. Freeman told Sedgwick that she believed she was a free person because she had heard that the new state constitution said that all people were born free and equal. She said that she believed that if others were free, then she should be too. Sedgwick asked her how she knew this. Freeman, who had often worked serving food at dinner parties given by the Ashleys, said,

“By keeping still and minding things.”

Bett and Brom v. Ashley

Sedgwick, who would later become a U.S. Senator and Supreme Court Justice, decided that Freeman had a case. He combined her case with that of another African-American slave owned by the Ashleys, a man called Brom.

- ✦ The trial began on August 21, 1781.
- ✦ Sedgwick argued that Bett and Brom had been **deprived** of property that belonged to them. That property was their own persons.
- ✦ Lawyers for John Ashley argued that the two were “servants for life.”
- ✦ The following day the jury decided in favor of Bett and Brom.
- ✦ The jury awarded them 30 shillings in damages.
- ✦ John Ashley decided to appeal the ruling, but then changed his mind.
- ✦ Bett and Brom were free.

deprived denied; kept from possessing or enjoying

A New Life, A New Name

The woman who had been called Mum Bett all her life chose a new name for herself: Elizabeth Freeman. She also chose a new life. John Ashley asked Freeman several times to return to the Ashley household as a paid servant, but she refused. Instead, Freeman became a housekeeper and much-loved nurse to the growing Sedgwick family.

Freeman remained with the Sedgwicks for many years. She saved her money too. In the early 1800s she purchased some property, and she and her daughter lived there. Eventually there were grandchildren and great-grandchildren, one of whom was W. E. B. Du Bois, a noted scholar and African-American leader of the early 1900s.

Long-Lasting Effects

Freeman was one the first slaves to be set free in Massachusetts or in any part of the new nation of the United States. She was certainly the first to be set free in large part due to her own intelligence and determination. Ultimately the case of *Bett and Brom v. Ashley* became key in the ending of slavery in Massachusetts.

An Influential Woman Departs

Freeman died in 1829 and was buried in the Sedgwick family plot in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Her tombstone says in part,

“[I]n her own sphere she had no superior or equal. She neither wasted time nor property. She never violated a trust nor failed to perform a duty. In every situation of domestic trial, she was the most efficient helper, and the tenderest friend.”

Review Questions

1. What was the name of the legal case that led to Elizabeth Freeman’s freedom?
2. Define the word *ratify*.
3. Who was Brom?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can we conclude about Mum Bett’s choice of a new name once she was free?
5. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did the death of Pieter Hogeboom have on the teenage sisters?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred from Freeman’s statement that she kept still and minded things?

Agrippa Hull

1759–1848

Freeborn Revolutionary War Soldier



African Americans in the Revolutionary War

When the Revolutionary War broke out, many white colonists were willing to join the Patriot side. However, they were unwilling to have African Americans fight alongside them in the Continental Army because the vast majority of African Americans in the colonies were slaves.

- ✦ In May of 1775 it was decided that only free blacks could **enlist**.
- ✦ Five months later, it was decreed that neither free blacks nor slaves could serve.
- ✦ Soon the British army offered freedom to any slave who escaped to their side.
- ✦ George Washington heard of the British offer and in December of 1775 said that free blacks should be accepted into the army.
- ✦ The Continental Congress did not agree. They ruled that “free Negroes who have served faithfully in the army . . . may be reenlisted therein, but no others.”
- ✦ Despite the ruling from Congress, many army units, especially from New England, ignored the policy in an effort to fill their military **quotas**.
- ✦ In early 1777, with the war dragging into its third year, any free black was allowed to enlist. Later that year Congress even authorized the enlistment of slaves.

enlist to join the armed forces

quotas set numbers or percentages, often of people

A Young Soldier

Agrippa Hull was just 18 years old in 1777. He had been born a free African American, and he lived in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. He enlisted in the Continental Army on May 1 “for the duration.” White soldiers in New England usually enlisted for a single military campaign. However Hull, like most of the thousands of African Americans who fought in the Continental Army, was enlisted for as long as the war lasted.

Serving with Two Generals

Hull was made a private in the army brigade led by John Paterson. Soon Hull’s intelligence and wit brought him to the attention of the general himself. Paterson made Hull his personal assistant. Later, Hull became personal assistant to Paterson’s friend, a Pole named Tadeusz Kosciuszko.

During his six years in the Continental Army, Hull saw action in several battles. These included the Battle of Saratoga in New York colony.

The Battle of Saratoga

- ✦ The Battle of Saratoga was actually a series of battles over several months in the summer and fall of 1777.
- ✦ It was a turning point in the American Revolution.
- ✦ The British planned to capture the Hudson River Valley and cut off the New England colonies from all the others.
- ✦ Instead, the Continental Army defeated and captured a British army led by General John Burgoyne.
- ✦ The American success convinced France and Spain to give political, military, and diplomatic aid to those who had defeated their archenemy, Britain.

Kosciuszko

impoverished having little or no wealth; poor

Tadeusz Kosciuszko was an **impoverished** Polish nobleman. He was in Paris, France, when the Revolutionary War began. Soon Benjamin Franklin, who was also in Paris, convinced Kosciuszko to become involved and to join the Continental Army. On October 18, 1776, Kosciuszko became a Colonel of Engineers.

After the successes of the Battle of Saratoga, George Washington assigned Kosciuszko to create a defensive system on the important waterway of the Hudson River. Kosciuszko and Hull worked in the region for many months.

Hull and Kosciuszko

The two soldiers developed a friendship that lasted the rest of their lives. After the war Hull went back to Massachusetts and again became a farmer. Kosciuszko returned to Europe.

However, Kosciuszko returned to America in 1797 and spent almost a year living in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was in poor health and rarely left his bedroom. Hull made the journey from Massachusetts to Philadelphia to visit his old friend. One can imagine the two sitting for many hours discussing the war, talking about mutual friends, and discussing the issue of slavery, to which both were strongly opposed.

Life in Stockbridge

After the war Hull married and had several children. He also became a neighbor of Elizabeth Freeman, who had used the new Massachusetts Constitution to help her win her freedom from slavery. Hull lived for more than half a century after the Revolutionary War and became something of a living legend in Stockbridge because of his war service, his story-telling ability, and wit. Today a portrait of Agrippa Hull hangs in the Stockbridge public library.

Review Questions

1. What does the word *impoverished* mean?
2. Where did Hull and Tadeusz Kosciuszko have a reunion after the war?
3. Who was John Burgoyne?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about white Patriots' feelings about black Patriots by the changes in black enlistment rules in the 1770s?
5. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did American success at the Battle of Saratoga have on the French and Spanish governments?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about the town of Stockbridge since both the Hull and Freeman families lived there?

The first decades of the nineteenth century were a time of increasing efforts by African Americans themselves to end slavery. The South was the site of repeated slave revolts. None were successful, but all resulted in death and increasingly strict conditions for slaves. In the North, anti-slavery groups began to form, and writers argued for improved conditions for and fairer treatment of blacks everywhere.

Nat Turner

1800–1831

Leader of Slave Rebellion

Did You Know?

- ★ Turner was deeply religious, and his mystical visions shaped his life.
- ★ He once ran away from his master, but he returned because he felt the Holy Spirit told him to do so.
- ★ His mother so hated slavery that she tried to kill her son when he was born rather than let him live as a slave.

Did You Know?

- ★ Walker's exact birth date is not certain.
- ★ He was born in the South, but moved to Boston, Massachusetts, as an adult.
- ★ His *Appeal* had to be distributed secretly in the South.

David Walker

1796?–1830

Anti-slavery Writer

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1815

1817 African-American abolitionist and businessman James Forten joins with Richard Allen to form Convention of Color, which advocated settling escaped slaves in Canada, not Africa.

1820

1820 Missouri Compromise allows Missouri to enter Union as slave state while Maine enters as free.

1820 Washington Colonization Society founds nation of Liberia for repatriation of African Americans to Africa.

1822 South Carolina slave rebellion leads to arrests, executions, and tighter slave laws in South.

1825

1826 New Pennsylvania law cancels out effects of Fugitive Slave Law there.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1815

1816 Indiana admitted to Union as 19th state.

1817 Erie Canal construction begins.

1818 U.S.-Canadian border is established.

1819 Vermont inventor John Conant patents iron cooking stove.

1820

1820 U.S. Congress accepts Missouri Compromise.

1821 James Monroe begins second term as president.

1821 Boston's English High School opens as nation's first tuition-free secondary school.

1823 President James Monroe explains Monroe Doctrine in annual message to Congress.

1825

1825 New York Stock Exchange opens.

1826 Quincy Market opens in Boston.

1826 John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both die on July 4, the 50th anniversary of Declaration of Independence.

1827 Explorer Jedediah Smith travels from southern California to Columbia River.

1828 Andrew Jackson is elected president.

1829 Perkins Institution for the Blind opens in Boston.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1815

1815 Tambora volcano erupts in East Indies causing worldwide cold summer weather the following year.

1816 English dandy "Beau" Brummell flees to France to escape creditors and later dies in French insane asylum.

1817 Waterloo Bridge is completed in London.

1818 Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is instant success.

1819 Walter Scott pens *Ivanhoe*.

1820

1820 Washington Colonization Society founds Liberia for repatriation of U.S. blacks to Africa.

1821 England's Michael Faraday pioneers electric motor.

1822 Greece declares independence from Ottoman Empire.

1822 France's Jean François Champollion deciphers Rosetta Stone.

1823 Worldwide cholera epidemic begins in Russia.

1824 English reformer Robert Owen urges women's rights, free progressive education, and an end to slavery.

1825

1825 Death of Tsar Alexander I sets off failing uprising by aristocratic army officers called Decembrists.

1827 Sailing ship crosses from New Orleans to Liverpool in record time of 26 days.

1828 Zulu King Shaka is assassinated.

1828 Dutchman Conrad J. Van Houten produces world's first chocolate candy.

1829 Greece becomes independent nation.

1830

- 1830** Some 40 African Americans from nine states attend first annual National Negro Convention.
- 1831** Abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison begins publication of *The Liberator*.
- 1832** Boston abolitionists form New England Anti-Slavery Society.
- 1833** Connecticut's Prudence Crandall is jailed for admitting African-American girls to her school.

1835

- 1836** U.S. Congress passes resolution saying it has no authority over state slavery laws.
- 1837** Alton, Illinois, newspaper editor Elijah Lovejoy is shot dead in street by those who oppose his abolitionist views.
- 1838** "Underground Railroad" begins.
- 1840** Slaves aboard *Amistad* rebel near Cuba and sail to Connecticut.

1840 World's Anti-Slavery Convention opens in London, but prominent U.S. abolitionists refuse to attend because women are excluded.

1830

- 1830** Joseph Smith founds Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and publishes *Book of Mormon*.
- 1831** Nat Turner rebellion causes panic among Caucasians in South.
- 1831** Cyrus McCormick demonstrates reaper that allows one man to do work of five.
- 1832** Boston abolitionists form New England Anti-Slavery Society.
- 1834** As pelts become scarce, John Jacob Astor, America's richest man, sells fur interests and invests heavily in New York real estate.

1835

- 1836** Republic of Texas is formed.
- 1837** Mount Holyoke Female Seminary opens as first U.S. college for women.
- 1837** Samuel Morse gets patent on telegraph.
- 1838** Missouri settlers found Kansas City.
- 1839** Charles Goodyear pioneers use of rubber.
- 1839** Boston University, University of Missouri, and Virginia Military Institute are founded.

1830

- 1831** French Foreign Legion begins.
- 1833** British claim Falkland Islands as Crown territory.
- 1834** Xhosa warriors battle Dutch ranchers and farmers as they encroach on Xhosa lands.

1835

- 1837** Victoria begins 64-year reign of Britain and its empire.
- 1837** Charles Dickens writes *Oliver Twist*.
- 1838** Dutch forces defeat Zulus at Battle of Blood River.
- 1838** Crops fail in Ireland and thousands die in resulting famine.
- 1839** Opium War begins between China and Britain.
- 1840** New Zealand's Maori agree to turn over sovereignty but not land to Britain.

UNIT 3 Answer Key

Nat Turner, p. 23

Review Questions

1. The uprising had to be postponed because Turner was very ill.
2. A white physician named Thomas Gray wrote the book, based on his notes from conversations with Turner after he was captured.
3. Religion—and religious visions—played a very important role in Turner’s life.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Effects** White mobs tortured and murdered African Americans who were not part of the uprising, and Southern legislatures passed new laws that strengthened controls over all blacks.
5. **Analyzing Points of View** Turner’s mother’s point of view was that slavery was so terrible that she would rather kill her own child than let him live as a slave.
6. **Analyzing Motives** Turner headed toward Jerusalem, Virginia, because it was the closest town to where he found himself and because the name of the town had great significance to him because of its Biblical meanings.

David Walker, p. 25

Review Questions

1. Walker opened a used clothing store in Boston.
2. A hypocrite is a person who pretends to hold beliefs or feelings that he or she does not actually hold.
3. The goal of the Massachusetts General Colored Association was to promote the rights and interests of African Americans nationally.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that while record keeping for Southern whites may have been carefully managed, those same record keepers probably did not generally feel the need to keep such careful records of African Americans, most of whom were thought of as property, not people.
5. **Recognizing Main Ideas** The *Appeal* was an anti-slavery pamphlet written by Walker.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that the level of medical knowledge was not nearly as high as it is now, when we have tests that can clearly determine if deaths are caused by tuberculosis or by poison.



Nat Turner

1800–1831

Leader of Slave Rebellion

A Violent Place and Time

Nat Turner was born into slavery on October 2, 1800, in Virginia. His birth was just one week before the hanging of Gabriel Prosser, another Virginia slave, who had enlisted thousands of slaves in a revolt. It terrified slave owners throughout the nation.

A Second Revolt

In 1822 a second slave revolt was planned. This revolt was in Charleston, South Carolina, and was led by a slave named Denmark Vesey. Like Prosser, Vesey was deeply religious and believed that the Bible told slaves to revolt. Again news of the revolt leaked out, but only Vesey and the other top leaders were ever caught. Tension among the slave owners grew once more.

Three Visions

Turner was deeply religious and spent what time he could fasting and praying. He was well educated for a slave, and he was a persuasive orator, who became known as a prophet. Stories were told that his mother so hated slavery that she tried to kill her son when he was born. He also had visions, three of which formed his life.

- ✦ In 1821 Turner ran away from his master, but he returned 30 days later because of a vision he had had. He said that the Holy Spirit had told him to “return to the service of my earthly master.”
- ✦ In the middle 1820s Turner had another vision. He saw lights in the sky and prayed to find out what they meant. “I discovered drops of blood on the corn, as though it were dew from heaven, . . . and then I found on the leaves in the woods . . . forms of men . . . portrayed in blood.”
- ✦ On May 12, 1828, Turner had a third vision. “I heard a loud noise in the heavens, and the Spirit instantly appeared to me and said . . . I should arise and prepare myself and slay my enemies with their own weapons.”

Two More Signs

In February of 1831 there was an eclipse of the sun. Turner believed this was the sign he had been waiting for. He told his most trusted friends about his plans for a slave revolt. Like Turner, they were filled with religious passion and with hatred. They agreed to follow him and picked July 4th—Independence Day—as the day for the revolt.

However Turner became very ill, and the uprising had to be put off. A few weeks later, on August 13th, certain conditions in the sky made the sun appear to be a bluish-green color. Turner, who had recovered, took this as a final sign.

The Revolt Begins

On the evening of August 21, Turner and his trusted followers met in the woods. At two o'clock the next morning, the group went to the home of Turner's owner. The slaves entered the house and killed everyone inside as they lay sleeping, including the children. Then they set off through the surrounding area and killed all the white people they met. More slaves joined the rebels until there were more than 40 people in Turner's group.

March to Jerusalem

In the middle of the day of August 22 Turner decided to take his band to Jerusalem, Virginia. The town was the closest one to where they were, but the name *Jerusalem* also had special meaning for Turner because of its use in the Bible. By this time news of the killings and uprising had gotten around to white people in the area. The local militia appeared, a battle began, and the rebels scattered.

The next day, Turner and his followers tried to attack another house of white people, but they fought back. Soon state and federal troops arrived. In a final battle, one rebel was killed but many escaped, including Turner.

Hiding and Then Capture

Turner went into hiding. For more than two months he managed to avoid capture, even though he was often hiding quite near the home of his murdered master. Finally on October 30th Turner was discovered in a swamp. He was arrested and then put in the Southampton County, Virginia, jail.

The Confessions of Nat Turner

During the week he was in the Southampton jail, Turner was interviewed at length by a local doctor named Thomas R. Gray. The doctor later described Turner as very intelligent, but a fanatic. Gray said, "I looked on him, and my blood curdled in my veins." Eventually, Gray published his notes from the interview, calling them *The Confessions of Nat Turner*. By that time, however, Turner had been executed.

The Results

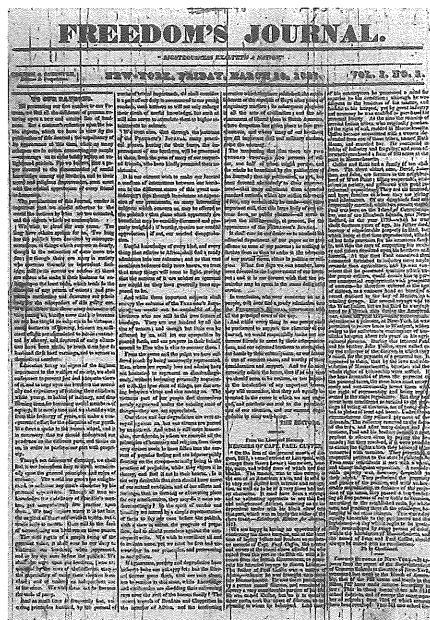
- * The rebels had shot, stabbed, and clubbed more than 55 white people to death.
- * Over the next months, more than 200 African Americans, many of whom had nothing to do with the revolt, were beaten, tortured, and murdered by hysterical white mobs.
- * Many Southern legislatures passed laws forbidding the education of slaves, outlawing the gathering of groups of slaves, and placing strict controls on their movements.

Review Questions

1. Why did the uprising have to be put off from July 4th?
2. Who was the author of *The Confessions of Nat Turner*?
3. How important was religion to Turner?

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Effects** What effects did the uprising have on African Americans in the South who were not involved?
5. **Analyzing Points of View** Based on evidence in the passage, what was Nat Turner's mother's point of view about slavery?
6. **Analyzing Motives** Why did Turner lead his followers toward Jerusalem, Virginia, on August 22?



David Walker

1796?–1830

Anti-slavery Writer

A Southern Birth

The year of David Walker's birth may have been as early as 1785 or as late at 1797, but one thing is sure: he was born free, even though he was an African American in the South. Walker's father was a slave, but his mother was a free African American. According to laws at the time, this meant that David Walker was free too.

Being free did not shield Walker from the horrible truths of slavery, though. He saw firsthand terrible injustices and even deaths. He felt he could not remain in the South. He said,

“If I remain in this bloody land, I will not live long. As true as God reigns, I will be avenged for the sorrows which my people have suffered.”

avenged get even with; to seek revenge

A Move North

Walker left the South and traveled throughout the country. In 1825 he settled in Boston, Massachusetts. At the time Boston was one of the most tolerant cities in the North. However, even free African Americans still suffered from constant discrimination there.

Walker started a used clothing store and did well financially. In 1826 he married Eliza Butler, a young woman from a prominent African-American family. He became involved in local politics, joined several African-American civic and social groups, and became an active member of the May Street Methodist Church. He also became more and more involved in the anti-slavery movement.

Freedom's Journal

In 1827 New York City became the site of the first African-American owned and operated newspaper in the nation. Called *Freedom's Journal*, the paper came out once a week and was sold and distributed by a network of agents. One of these was David Walker. He also became a frequent contributor to the paper.

The Massachusetts General Colored Association

In 1828 Walker became a founding member of the Massachusetts General Colored Association (MGCA). The group was founded to promote the rights and interests of African Americans nationally. In an address at the group's first meeting, Walker said that the object of the MGCA was

“to unite the colored population, so far, through the United States of America, as may be practicable and expedient.”

expedient appropriate to a purpose

Through his work with the MGCA and other organizations, Walker gained the political **savvy** and social importance he needed to write and distribute his famous *Appeal*. By the end of 1828 Walker had become Boston's leading spokesman against slavery.

savvy understanding or shrewdness

The Appeal

In September of 1829 the first edition appeared of *David Walker's Appeal, In Four Articles: Together With A Preamble To The Coloured Citizens Of The World, But In Particular, And Very Expressly, To Those Of The United States Of America*. It was a sensation.

- ★ The pamphlet's goal was to instill pride in African-American readers as well as to give them hope that their terrible situations would someday change.
- ★ Walker called for an immediate end to slavery and said African Americans deserved to be treated as equal citizens of the nation.
- ★ He wrote that white Americans were **hypocrites** for valuing the Declaration of Independence phrase of "all men are created equal," but not giving that equality to blacks.

hypocrites people who pretend to have beliefs or feelings that they do not actually hold

Delivering the Appeal

Walker's main audience for the *Appeal* was African Americans who were slaves in the South. He knew that slave owners would not allow free distribution of his pamphlet, so he came up with an ingenious solution. Walker's clothing shop was on the shipping docks in Boston, and many of his customers were sailors. He sewed copies of the *Appeal* in the lining of clothing. Once the sailors got to Southern ports, they distributed the copies of the pamphlet. Within a few months, copies of the *Appeal* could be found throughout the South.

Reaction

The *Appeal* made a strong impression on both slaves and slave owners in the South. Slaves were inspired by Walker's words. White Southerners were horrified. A \$3,000 reward was offered for Walker's head, and \$10,000 was offered to anyone who could bring him to the South alive.

Nervous friends urged Walker to flee to Canada, where they thought he would be safer. However, events took an unexpected turn. In June of 1830 Walker was found dead in his home. At the time, there was some suspicion he had been poisoned, but modern-day research suggests he died of tuberculosis, an infectious disease of the lungs.

Review Questions

1. What kind of business did David Walker establish in Boston?
2. Define the word *hypocrite*.
3. What was the goal of the Massachusetts General Colored Association?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about record keeping for African Americans in the South by the lack of exact records about David Walker's birth?
5. **Recognizing Main Ideas** What was the *Appeal*?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about medical knowledge at the time by the fact that Walker's death from disease was thought by some to have been caused by poison?

UNIT 4

Growth and Change: 1840–1860

In the years leading up to the Civil War, the issue of slavery became a topic of endless debate. Opponents of slavery, both black and white, argued for an end to the practice. Some whites wrote, spoke out, and helped escaped slaves make it to Canada where they would be free. African Americans such as Dred Scott tried to use the U.S. legal system to gain their freedom.

Frederick Douglass

1818–1895

Writer, Orator, and
Fighter for Human Rights

Did You Know?

- ★ Douglass had a white father he never met.
- ★ His autobiography was criticized as being too well written to have been penned by a black man.
- ★ He was a long time supporter of rights for women.

Did You Know?

- ★ Dred Scott sued for his freedom twice, once in state court and once in federal court.
- ★ He lost both court cases but was eventually freed in the last few months of his life.
- ★ He was twice forced to live as a slave in U.S. territories where slavery was illegal.

Dred Scott

1795?–1858

Slave Who Fought
for His Freedom

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1840

- 1841** Author, minister, escaped slave, and abolitionist James W. C. Pennington writes first history of African Americans, entitled *Origin and History of Colored People*.
- 1842** U.S. Supreme Court overturns Pennsylvania law that canceled out effects of Fugitive Slave Act there.
- 1844** Lewis and Harriet Hayden escape from slavery in Kentucky and soon become traveling lecturers for American Anti-Slavery Society.

1845

- 1845** Methodist Episcopal Church in America splits into northern and southern branches when Georgia's Bishop James Andrews refuses to give up his slaves.
- 1845** African American abolitionist and poet Frances Ellen Watkins Harper publishes *Forest Leaves*, which will go through 20 editions in next few years.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1840

- 1840** William Henry Harrison is elected president.
- 1840** Richard Henry Dana anonymously publishes *Two Years before the Mast*.
- 1841** John Tyler becomes U.S. president after Harrison dies of pneumonia.
- 1841** Cincinnati race riots last five days.
- 1841** *New York Tribune*, *Cincinnati Enquirer*, and *Cleveland Plain Dealer* newspapers begin publishing.
- 1841** James Fenimore Cooper writes *The Deerslayer*.
- 1842** John Charles Frémont maps Oregon Trail.
- 1842** Georgia physician Crawford Williamson Long performs first recorded surgical operation using general anesthesia.
- 1843** Yellow fever kills 13,000 in Mississippi Valley.

1845

- 1845** Florida and Texas become 27th and 28th states.
- 1845** Iowa becomes 29th state.
- 1846** Congress founds Smithsonian Institution.
- 1847** Frederick Douglass begins publication of abolitionist newspaper *North Star*.
- 1847** Brigham Young founds Salt Lake City.
- 1847** American Medical Association is founded.
- 1848** Wisconsin becomes 30th state.
- 1848** Gold is discovered in California, and soon 75 percent of population of San Francisco leaves for gold fields.
- 1848** Thousands of farmers buy McCormick reapers after farm hands leave for California gold fields.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1840

- 1840** World's Anti-Slavery Convention opens in London.
- 1840** World's first adhesive postage stamp goes on sale in Britain.
- 1841** New Zealand becomes British colony.
- 1842** Opium War between China and Britain ends.
- 1842** Fire destroys most of German city of Hamburg.
- 1843** Maori War begins in New Zealand and lasts for five years.
- 1843** Charles Dickens pens *A Christmas Carol*.
- 1843** English clerk George Williams founds YMCA in London.

1845

- 1845** Alexandre Dumas writes *Count of Monte Cristo*.
- 1845** Potato blight kills half of crop in Ireland.
- 1846** Famine sweeps Ireland as potato crop fails again and food reserves are gone.
- 1847** Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels publish *Communist Manifesto*.
- 1847** More than 200,000 emigrants leave Ireland, many for America.
- 1847** Brontë sisters write *Wuthering Heights* and *Jane Eyre*.
- 1848** *Communist Manifesto* sparks revolts in Paris, Rome, Vienna, Prague, Berlin, Budapest, Milan, and elsewhere.
- 1849** Revolutions in Dresden and Baden are put down.

1850

- 1850** Widespread criticism given to new Fugitive Slave Act that strengthens 1793 law by substituting federal for state law.
- 1851** African-American abolitionists in Boston defy new Fugitive Slave Act by rescuing jailed fugitive slave there.
- 1851** Abolitionists in Syracuse, New York, rescue another fugitive slave.
- 1854** Wisconsin Supreme Court releases man jailed for rescuing runaway slave.
- 1854** Boston abolitionists fail to rescue runaway slave from local federal courthouse; large group of enraged but silent citizens looks on as Federal troops later escort him to ship that takes him back into slavery.

1855

- 1856** Pro-slavery mob riots May 21 in Lawrence, Kansas. Three days later abolitionist John Brown and followers get revenge by killing five slavery supporters.
- 1858** Abe Lincoln says, "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."
- 1859** John Brown and followers seize Harper's Ferry, Virginia, and thousands of weapons stored there by federal troops. U.S. Marines capture Brown, who is later convicted of treason and hanged.

1850

- 1850** Zachary Taylor dies, and Millard Fillmore becomes president.
- 1850** California becomes 31st state.
- 1851** Fire in Library of Congress destroys thousands of volumes, including two-thirds of collection acquired from Thomas Jefferson in 1814.
- 1851** Harriet Beecher Stowe writes *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
- 1852** Dark horse candidate Franklin Pierce wins presidential election.
- 1852** Prohibition laws pass in Massachusetts, Vermont, and Louisiana.
- 1852** Congress appropriates \$150,000 for survey to find best route for transcontinental railroad.
- 1853** George Crum invents potato chips.
- 1853** New York City creates Central Park.

1855

- 1856** James Buchanan is elected president.
- 1857** TB causes death rates in New York, Philadelphia, and Boston to become highest in world.
- 1857** "Jingle Bells" becomes popular song.
- 1858** Minnesota becomes 32nd state.
- 1859** Comstock Lode of silver and gold deposits are discovered in what will be Nevada.
- 1859** Frenchman Charles Blondin crosses Niagara Falls on tightrope.

1850

- 1850** Chinese civil war begins and ultimately costs 30 million lives.
- 1850** Founder of Bahai faith is executed.
- 1850** Charles Dickens writes *David Copperfield*.
- 1851** London's Great Exhibition, the first world's fair, attracts 6 million visitors.
- 1852** Napoleon III begins second French Empire.
- 1852** Huge program of public works begins in Paris.
- 1854** Crimean War begins.
- 1854** Egypt grants Suez Canal concession to French promoter.
- 1854** *Le Figaro* newspaper begins publication in Paris.

1855

- 1855** Cholera and typhus take more lives than wounds do in Crimean War.
- 1855** Tsar Alexander II comes to throne and begins era of reform.
- 1856** Crimean War ends.
- 1856** Boers establish South African Republic with Pretoria as its capital.
- 1857** Sepoy Mutiny in India leads to British government taking over duties and obligations of East India Company.
- 1858** Tsar Alexander II begins freeing Russia's serfs.
- 1858** Queen Victoria and President Buchanan exchange messages over first transatlantic cable.
- 1859** World's first polo club is started in Assam, India.
- 1859** Construction begins on Suez Canal.

UNIT 4 Answer Key

Frederick Douglass, p. 31

Review Questions

1. An abolitionist is someone who favors the end of slavery.
2. William Lloyd Garrison was the publisher of *The Liberator*, an abolitionist newspaper that had a great effect on Douglass.
3. Cedar Hill is now a National Historic Site because it was the home of an important American, Frederick Douglass.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that Douglass feared being caught and as a runaway slave, being returned to the South.
5. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** The burning of Douglass's home in Rochester, New York, caused him to move to Washington, D.C.
6. **Analyzing Effects** Reading the *The Liberator* had a thrilling effect on Douglass because its powerful attacks on slave owners filled him with joy.

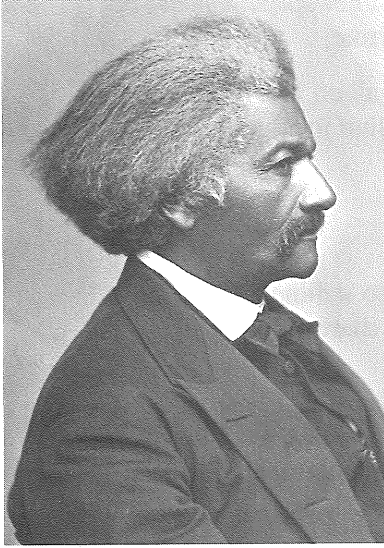
Dred Scott, p. 33

Review Questions

1. Dred and Harriet Scott met at Fort Snelling, in Wisconsin Territory.
2. Charles Sumner was a senator from Massachusetts who was particularly outraged by the rulings of Chief Justice Roger Taney.
3. Taylor Blow's purchase of the family and decision to set them free finally gave the Scotts what they had fought so hard for.

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** Irene Emerson's transfer of her slaves to her brother, John Sanford, gave Dred Scott the opportunity to go to court against a different master.
5. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that many of the Supreme Court justices were probably more inclined to favor rulings that supported slavery than ones that did not.
6. **Recognizing Effects** The effect of the Taney decision was to further divide the pro- and anti-slavery lawmakers and move the country closer to civil war.



Frederick Douglass

1818–1895

Writer, Orator, and Fighter for Human Rights

Born a Slave

Frederick Douglass's father was white, and his mother was a black slave. By the laws of the time, this meant that their child, whose birth name was Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, was a slave too. Douglass never met his father, and he saw his mother only a few times before she died when he was seven. The boy spent the early years of his life living with relatives along the eastern shore of Maryland in Talbot County, where they worked on a plantation.

Learning to Read

When he was eight, Douglass was sent to Baltimore, Maryland, to live with Hugh Auld, a ship's carpenter, and his wife, Sophia. Hugh Auld was like most slave owners and wanted to prevent Douglass from learning to read and write. Sophia Auld felt differently, and she taught the young boy the alphabet and a few words. When Hugh Auld found out, he demanded that his wife to stop teaching Douglass to read. He said it would make the boy dangerous. Young Douglass heard the exchange, and it changed his life. He later wrote,

“From that moment I understood the pathway from slavery to freedom.”

Even though Douglass knew it would be difficult to learn without a teacher, he was determined. Each time he was left alone, he looked for a book or newspaper. He did his best to figure out the words and their meanings. If education was the way out of slavery, he knew he did not want to waste a moment.

A Turning Point

Douglass's master became concerned about what Douglass was learning. He sent Douglass back to the plantation to work as a field slave. A white supervisor there beat him to teach him to fear whites. Risking his life, Douglass, who was just 16, fought back. Douglass later said the event was a turning point in his life. He knew he had the courage to be free.

Freedom and a New Name

In 1838, Douglass escaped to New York, where slavery was against the law. He also changed his last name. As an escaped slave, he was a wanted man. A different name might bring him a little safety. He finally settled on Douglass as his new name. He chose it because Douglass was a character in Sir Walter Scott's *The Lady of the Lake*, a popular poem of the era.

A New Life

In a few weeks, Douglass moved to New Bedford, Massachusetts. He had also married Anna Murray, a free black woman whom he had fallen in love with when they both lived in Baltimore. He joined a church, and he attended abolitionist meetings.

An Important Friendship

It was during this time that Douglass began reading an abolitionist newspaper called *The Liberator*. The newspaper had a thrilling effect on him. He later wrote,

“The paper became my meat and my drink. My soul was set all on fire. Its . . . powerful attacks upon the upholders of [slavery] sent a thrill of joy through my soul, such as I had never felt before!”

Writer, Abolitionist, and Spokesman

By 1841, Douglass was not just reading *The Liberator*. He was also writing articles for it. William Lloyd Garrison, the paper’s publisher, urged Douglass to share his story so the world could learn just how horrible slavery was.

In 1845 Douglass published his autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*. The book was a bestseller, and it was translated into several languages. Critics often attacked the book because they said that so **eloquent** a work could not possibly have been written by a black man. In 1847, Douglass, who now lived in Rochester, New York, started his own abolitionist newspaper, the *North Star*. He also risked his life by helping runaway slaves who came through New York on their way to Canada on the Underground Railroad.

eloquent moving, persuasive, and dignified

Civil War

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Douglass used his speaking talents to recruit African Americans to join the Union Army. Two of his sons joined. However, when he learned that black soldiers were being paid less than whites, he went straight to President Abraham Lincoln with his complaint.

A Representative of the Government

After the war Douglass held several government positions.

- ★ In 1877 he was made a United States marshal of the District of Columbia, where he had moved after his home in Rochester was burned down by arsonists.
- ★ In 1889 Douglass became ambassador to Haiti, and he served in that post for two years.

A Tireless Fighter for Civil Rights

For the rest of his life, Douglass spoke and wrote about the need for civil rights for all people. On February 20, 1895, after attending a rally for women's rights in Washington, D.C., Douglass returned to Cedar Hill, his home. While recalling the day's speeches, Douglass suddenly fell to the floor. The great man was dead at age 77.

Review Questions

1. Define the word *abolitionist*.
2. Who was William Lloyd Garrison?
3. Why is Cedar Hill now a National Historic Site?

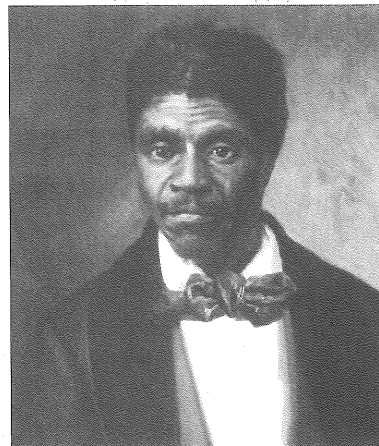
Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about Douglass’s decision to change his last name when he fled to New York?
5. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** What caused Douglass to move from Rochester, New York, to Washington, D.C. ?
6. **Analyzing Effects** What effect did reading Garrison’s *The Liberator* newspaper have on Douglass?

Dred Scott

1795?–1858

Slave Who Fought for His Freedom



A Slave's Life

Dred Scott was born into slavery about 1795. Unlike many enslaved people who worked their whole lives on one plantation, Scott traveled with his masters throughout the country. He was forced to move from Virginia to Alabama to Missouri as his owners, Peter Blow and his family, tried to find better lives from themselves.

Little more is known about Dred Scott's early life. Even how he got his name is a mystery. As a child he was called Sam, but he took the name Dred Scott sometime between 1834 and 1846.

On Free Soil

About 1833 Scott was sold for \$500 to John Emerson, a doctor in St. Louis, Missouri. Emerson took Scott with him from St. Louis to Fort Armstrong, Illinois, where Emerson served in the army. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 had outlawed slavery in Illinois, but Emerson paid no attention to the law.

In 1836, Emerson took Scott further north to Fort Snelling, in the Wisconsin Territory. Once again Scott was illegally enslaved on free soil. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 had outlawed slavery in the Wisconsin Territory. While at Fort Snelling, Scott met a young slave named Harriet Robinson. Dred and Harriet were married, and her owner sold her to Emerson.

A Return to Slave Territory

In 1840, the Scotts traveled by riverboat with John Emerson back to St. Louis. When the doctor was away on duty for the army, the Scotts worked for Emerson's wife and family.

When Emerson died unexpectedly in 1843, the Scott family became the property of Emerson's widow, Irene, who continued to hire them out. Dred Scott offered to buy his freedom from Emerson, but she refused.

A First Court Suit

In 1846 Dred and Harriet Scott filed suit against Irene Emerson in a case that would ultimately be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. The Scotts claimed that they were free because they were taken from a slave state to free territories. Dred Scott also said that Irene Emerson beat him and imprisoned him in a small room.

- ✱ In 1850 in a state trial, the jury sided with the Scotts and set them and their children free.
- ✱ In 1852 Irene Emerson appealed the decision. Lawyers on both sides agreed that the appeals would be based on Dred alone, but the decisions would apply equally to Harriet. Later that year the Missouri Supreme Court reversed the jury's decision. The Scotts were ordered back into slavery.

A Second Case

When Irene Emerson moved to New York, she left her slaves in the service of her wealthy brother, John F. A. Sanford. The change in masters led Dred Scott to sue again, this time in federal court. The case finally reached the Supreme Court in 1856.

Three Important Issues

Dred Scott's case centered around three questions.

- * Was Scott, as a Missouri slave, a citizen with the right to sue in federal courts?
- * Did being in a free territory mean that a slave was freed?
- * Was the Missouri Compromise, which had outlawed slavery in the Wisconsin Territory, constitutional?

The Supreme Court Decides

At the time, seven of the nine justices on the U.S. Supreme court had been appointed by presidents who favored slavery. In addition five of the justices came from slave-owning families. The Court's ruling was 7-2 against Scott. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, a strong supporter of slavery, wrote the decision.

- * Taney said that African Americans, whether enslaved or free, were not citizens of the United States. This meant that Scott had no right to sue for his freedom in the first place.
- * Taney also wrote that living for a time in a free territory did not make Scott free.
- * Finally Taney held that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional.

Aftershocks

The Court's ruling against Scott was a great disappointment to Northerners who opposed slavery. Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner reacted with outrage.

abominable awful, loathsome, or disgusting

“[T]he opinion of the Chief Justice in the case of Dred Scott was more thoroughly **abominable** than anything of the kind in the history of courts.”

The Court's decision ended all hopes for cooperation in Congress. Lawmakers from the North and the South became more divided over slavery. Indeed, the case moved the country closer to civil war.

After the trial, Dred Scott and his family were sold to Taylor Blow, the son of Scott's first owner. Taylor Blow had helped pay the Scotts' legal fees, and he set the family free. A few months later, in early 1858, Dred Scott died of tuberculosis. He was buried in St. Louis.

Review Questions

1. Where did Dred and Harriet Scott meet?
2. Who was Charles Sumner?
3. Who eventually gave freedom to the Scotts?

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** What caused Dred Scott to seek a second trial?
5. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about the opinions of many of the Supreme Court justices by the fact that more than half of them came from slave-owning families?
6. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did the Scott decision have on the U. S. Congress?

Slavery and its aftermath continued to shape the lives of almost all African Americans. Some fought the system and worked to escape before the war ended. Others managed to use their talents to change their own lives and those of others.

Harriet Tubman

1820?–1913

The Moses of Her People

Did You Know?

- * Tubman so wanted freedom that she left her husband behind when she escaped.
- * She rescued 300 people from slavery.
- * She assisted Union troops during the Civil War.

Did You Know?

- * Keckley was put to work as a slave when she was just four years old.
- * Her famous clients included Mrs. Jefferson Davis as well as Mary Todd Lincoln.
- * She died in poverty, despite her connection to the White House.

Elizabeth Keckley

1818?–1907

White House Dressmaker,
Author, and Confidant of
Mary Todd Lincoln

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1860

- 1861** Ten Southern states secede from Union.
- 1862** Congress abolishes slavery in District of Columbia and U.S. territories.
- 1862** President Lincoln makes emancipation an aim of U.S. Civil War victory.
- 1863** Emancipation Proclamation takes effect January 1, freeing nearly 4 million slaves in U.S.
- 1864** Union forces take Atlanta, Savannah, Mobile Bay, and Shenandoah Valley.

1865

- 1865** Thirteenth Amendment to U.S. Constitution prohibits slavery.
- 1865** Ku Klux Klan formed in South.
- 1866** New Louisiana constitution leads to race riots in New Orleans over issue of voting rights for African Americans.
- 1866** U.S. Congress passes Civil Rights Act to help ensure citizenship rights for African Americans.
- 1867** Fourteenth Amendment says native born and naturalized citizens have rights that no state can change or end.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1860

- 1861** Abraham Lincoln takes office as president.
- 1861** Civil War begins as Fort Sumter is attacked.
- 1861** Congress levies first income tax to raise funds for Civil War.
- 1861** Elisha G. Otis patents steam-powered elevator.
- 1863** President Lincoln makes short, eloquent speech to dedicate national cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
- 1863** Emancipation Proclamation takes effect January 1.
- 1863** Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad is founded.
- 1864** Nevada is admitted to Union as 36th state.

1865

- 1865** Civil War ends, and John Wilkes Booth assassinates President Lincoln.
- 1866** Postwar economic depression hits United States.
- 1866** Cattle from Texas are driven north for first time along Chisholm Trail.
- 1866** Poet Walt Whitman writes “O Captain! My Captain!” to commemorate Abraham Lincoln.
- 1867** New England Conservatory of Music is founded in Boston.
- 1868** Transcontinental railroad is joined at Promontory Point in Utah Territory.
- 1869** Louisa May Alcott begins publication of *Little Women*.
- 1869** John Wesley Powell begins exploration of Colorado River.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1860

- 1861** Italy unites as a single kingdom.
- 1861** Portugal’s King Pedro V dies of cholera at age 24.
- 1861** Queen Victoria’s Prince Consort, Albert, dies of typhoid fever at age 42.
- 1862** English explorer John Speke confirms that Africa’s Lake Victoria is source of Nile River.
- 1862** Victor Hugo publishes *Les Misérables*.
- 1863** Scarlet fever kills more than 30,000 in England.
- 1863** 12-year worldwide cholera epidemic begins.
- 1864** Cyclone in India destroys most of Calcutta and kills 70,000.

1865

- 1865** William Booth starts mission in London that later becomes Salvation Army.
- 1865** Austrian botanist Gregor Mendel describes natural laws of heredity.
- 1866** Cholera epidemic kills 120,000 in Prussia; 110,000 in Austria; and 50,000 in America.
- 1866** Russia’s Leo Tolstoy publishes first installment of *War and Peace*.
- 1867** Tsar Alexander II cedes Alaska to America for \$7.2 million.
- 1867** Emperor Matsuhito ends feudal military government that has ruled Japan since 1185.
- 1867** Karl Marx publishes *Das Kapital*, which says world overpopulation is myth created by capitalists to justify poverty among workers.
- 1868** Britain abolishes debtors’ prisons.
- 1869** Suez Canal opens.

1870

- 1870** First African-American legislators take seats in U.S. Senate and House.
- 1870** Fifteenth Amendment says voting rights cannot be denied because of “race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”
- 1874** Federal troops put down New Orleans revolt against African-American state government officials.
- 1874** Race riots in Vicksburg, Mississippi, leave 75 African Americans dead.

1875

- 1875** New federal law says African Americans have equal rights in public places and cannot be excluded from juries.
- 1876** South Carolina has statewide race riots.
- 1879** New restrictions in South cause many African Americans to move to Kansas because they remember John Brown, anti-slavery activist who began his efforts in state, and they cannot afford cost of moving to African nation of Liberia.

1870

- 1870** Rutherford Stuyvesant builds New York’s first luxury apartment building.
- 1871** Great Chicago Fire destroys 3.5 square miles of city.
- 1871** P. T. Barnum’s “Greatest Show on Earth” grosses \$400,000 in first season.
- 1872** Susan B. Anthony and other women’s rights advocates are arrested in Rochester, New York, for trying to vote.
- 1872** Congress creates Yellowstone National Park.
- 1872** James McNeill Whistler paints *The Artist’s Mother*.
- 1873** World’s first cable streetcar goes into service in San Francisco.
- 1873** “Home on the Range” becomes popular song.

1875

- 1875** First Kentucky Derby is run at Louisville’s new Churchill Downs racetrack.
- 1875** Alexander Graham Bell invents telephone.
- 1876** President Grant opens Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.
- 1876** Centennial fairgoers pay 10¢ each for novelty fruit called *banana*.
- 1876** Mark Twain writes *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.
- 1877** San Francisco has months of anti-Chinese riots.
- 1877** First Westminster Kennel Club dog show is held in New York.
- 1878** President Rutherford B. Hayes holds first Easter-egg roll on lawn of White House.
- 1879** Mary Baker Eddy founds Church of Christ, Scientist.
- 1880** Thomas Edison patents electric light bulb.

1870

- 1870** German chemistry student Friederich Miescher discovers DNA, which no one then suspects is the basic genetic material that passes on inheritable characteristics.
- 1870** Jules Verne writes *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*.
- 1871** United German Empire is proclaimed with Wilhelm I as emperor.
- 1871** Paris falls to German troops in Franco-Prussian War.
- 1872** Japan issues decree making education compulsory.
- 1872** Louis Pasteur publishes paper saying that fermentation is caused by microorganisms.
- 1874** Norwegian physician Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen discovers cause of leprosy.
- 1874** French “Impressionist” painters hold first exhibition.

1875

- 1875** Britain gains control of Suez Canal.
- 1875** George Bizet’s opera *Carmen* is first performed.
- 1876** Queen Victoria is made Empress of India.
- 1877** Japan’s samurai warriors stage revolt when government ends pensions and right to wear two swords.
- 1877** Famine kills 4 million in Bengal region of India.
- 1877** First Wimbledon lawn tennis championship matches are held.
- 1878** *H.M.S. Pinafore* by Gilbert and Sullivan premiers in London.
- 1878** Continuing famine kills at least 10 million in China and perhaps twice that number elsewhere in Asia.
- 1879** Britain forces Afghanistan to turn over control of strategically important Khyber Pass.
- 1879** Potato crop failure in Ireland causes famine and widespread unrest.

UNIT 5 Answer Key

Harriet Tubman, p. 39

Review Questions

1. The first people Tubman rescued were one of her sisters and the sister's two children.
2. An overseer is someone who supervises and directs the work of others, especially laborers.
3. Tubman went back to rescue others because she could not forget the horrors she had seen and experienced, and she did not want to leave family and friends in bondage.

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** The rewards were never paid out because Tubman was never captured.
5. **Analyzing Points of View** Tubman managed to fool the slave hunters because their point of view was that runaway slaves would only take trains heading north, the shortest route to freedom, and not south, which seemed to lead only deeper into slave-holding territory.
6. **Making Generalizations** Tubman's curiosity led her to learn about the Underground Railroad, while her independence helped her decide to leave her husband behind and escape to the North. She used her intelligence to create disguises, false trails, and careful scheduling to make her rescue missions successful.

Elizabeth Keckley, p. 41

Review Questions

1. A confidant is a person to whom private matters or secrets are told.
2. Robert E. Lee was one of the leaders of the Confederacy.
3. Keckley's mother was her daughter's sewing teacher.

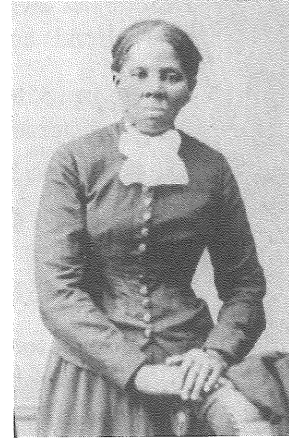
Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that Keckley's indiscretions about the Lincoln family caused her to lose status, so the fashionable ladies chose to go elsewhere.
5. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** Keckley's white owners hired her out as a seamstress because they were quite poor and wanted the money Keckley could earn with her sewing skills.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Keckley felt a strong bond with the former First Lady.

Harriet Tubman

1820?–1913

The Moses of Her People



Born a Slave

The woman who became Harriet Tubman was born into a large slave family on a plantation in Maryland. Her birth name was Araminta Ross, but she later changed her first name to Harriet in honor of her mother.

A Hard Childhood

Harriet was a curious and independent child. These qualities made life under the harsh system of slavery even more difficult because she was not willing to instantly obey. As a result, by age 10 she was working as a field hand. The work was very difficult for a little girl. She labored from before sunrise until after dark, splitting fence rails and loading timber. Overseers in the fields were very cruel. In an interview many years later, she said,

overseers those who supervise and direct the work of others, especially laborers

“I prayed to God to make me strong and able to fight and that’s what I’ve prayed for ever since.”

A Secret Route to Freedom

Over the years Harriet’s owner hired her out to work on other plantations. As she worked, she asked the slaves she met to teach her about the surrounding forests. She wanted to know where the paths led. It was then that she learned about the **Underground Railroad**.

Underground Railroad a series of secret routes that slaves traveled and buildings where they hid while escaping to the North

Big Decisions

In 1844, 24-year-old Harriet married John Tubman. He had been born free, but marrying a free man did not make Harriet free. She was still a slave.

In 1849, Harriet learned that two of her sisters had been sold, were already on their way to the Deep South in chains, and she would be next. Sale into the Deep South would make escape impossible because freedom would now be hundreds of miles away. Harriet decided to try to escape, but her husband decided to stay behind.

A Dangerous Escape

That night Tubman set off on the 90-mile journey to freedom in the North. Her first stop on the Underground Railroad was at the house of a white woman who opposed slavery. Harriet continued to slip through swamp and woodland, traveling at night and hiding during the day. After many days, she reached Pennsylvania and freedom. For the first time in her life, Harriet Tubman was free. She later said,

“I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person now I was free. There was such a glory over everything, the sun came through like gold through the trees . . . and I felt like I was in heaven.”

A Woman Called Moses

Despite her own freedom, Tubman could not forget the horrors she had endured nor the many friends and family still in bondage. Boldly, she decided to go back to get them.

- ✦ In 1850 Tubman made her first trip back into slave territory and rescued her sister and her two children.
- ✦ In late 1851 she led 11 more people to freedom.
- ✦ A few months later she helped three men, including one of her brothers, to escape.
- ✦ In 1857 she rescued her elderly parents.

Tubman soon became known by the code name Moses because of her heroic efforts in leading slaves to the “promised land.” When slaves heard that Moses was coming, they knew it was their chance to be free.

During the 1850s Tubman returned to Maryland once in the spring and once in the fall each year on rescue missions. She became the greatest “conductor” on the Underground Railroad and helped more than 300 people escape slavery.

An Inventive and Courageous Woman

Slave hunters tried to capture Tubman and her charges, but she outsmarted them with an iron will, daring, careful planning, and disguise.

- ✦ Once at a train station, she and her charges purposely took a train heading south to avoid capture when slave hunters were watching only trains heading north.
- ✦ She often timed her missions to begin on Saturday nights, knowing that it would be Monday before the escapes could appear in the newspapers.
- ✦ She once carried two live chickens with her, and at a dangerous point, she released the birds and chased them ineffectually to hide her true intent.

Rewards worth \$40,000 were offered for Tubman’s capture, but they were never paid.

The Civil War and After

During the Civil War Tubman worked for the Union army. She served as a nurse, cook, and spy. Because she knew the territory, she sometimes accompanied Union gunboats on their journeys into the South. When slaves learned that the gunboats could take them to freedom, they came running from all directions. Tubman later said,

“I never saw such a sight.”

After the war, Tubman turned a home she owned in Auburn, New York, into a shelter for those with no place to stay. Today that home is a National Historic Landmark.

Review Questions

1. Who were the first people that Tubman rescued from slavery?
2. Define the word *overseer*.
3. Why did Tubman decide to go back to the South to rescue other slaves?

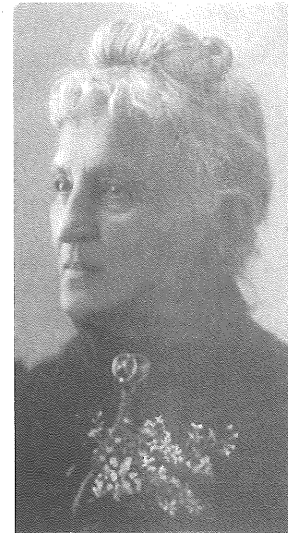
Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** Why were the rewards for Tubman’s capture never paid out?
5. **Analyzing Points of View** Why did Tubman manage to fool slave hunters by traveling south on a train?
6. **Making Generalizations** What personal qualities did Tubman have that helped her succeed in her life?

Elizabeth Keckley

1818?–1907

White House Dressmaker, Author,
and Confidant of Mary Todd Lincoln



An Early Incident

Elizabeth Keckley was born a slave in Virginia and was put to work at the age of just four. She was told to rock the cradle containing her master's baby. According to the story, Keckley was too enthusiastic in her rocking, and the baby fell out. Alarmed, Keckley tried to get the baby back in the cradle by picking her up with a fireplace shovel. The incident was discovered, and Keckley was punished with a beating, even though she was expected to continue caring for the infant.

Her Mother's Career

Keckley's mother was household seamstress on the Virginia plantation where the two lived, and she taught her daughter to sew. The skill would eventually take Keckley out of slavery and into the highest ranks of American society.

A Move to St. Louis

Over the years Keckley lived in several places as she was loaned and given to various people. Eventually she, her young son, and her owners landed in St. Louis, Missouri. Her white masters were so poor by this time that they decided to hire her out as a seamstress.

A Sought-After Worker

Keckley had to put in long, tiring hours, but the work also gave her a chance to perfect the skills that would eventually take her out of slavery. She became very skilled at both designing and sewing women's clothes. Over the next few years she built up a group of clients that included some of the wealthiest and most influential women in St. Louis.

Financial Support for Many

Eventually Keckley was supporting 17 people with her sewing work. These included Keckley and her son, but most were the family of her white owner.

A Dream Comes True

During the St. Louis years Keckley dreamed of buying her freedom and that of her son too. She often asked her master how much he would charge to free them. Usually he just got angry at being asked, but finally he said he would take \$1,200 for the two of them. However, since the master and his family took most of what Keckley earned, she was unable to collect enough money to buy her freedom.

Then the money came in an unusual way. Keckley's many white clients heard of her plight. Together they donated enough money for her to buy her way out of slavery. Keckley later wrote,

“Free, free! What a glorious ring to the word. . . Free! The soul could go out to heaven and to God with no chains to clog its flight or pull it down.”

Success in Washington

Within a few years Keckley had moved to Washington, D.C., and began again as a clothing designer and seamstress. Eventually she employed 20 seamstresses in her business, and her clients were some of the most influential women in the nation. These included Mrs. Robert E. Lee whose husband would soon lead the Confederate army.

Mary Todd Lincoln

In March of 1861 Mary Todd Lincoln was to become First Lady, as her husband Abraham became president. When her gown for an inaugural ball was accidentally stained, friends suggested Elizabeth Keckley to produce a new one. Within a few months Keckley was the First Lady's **confidant**.

confidant one to whom private matters or secrets are told

Over the next four years Keckley made numerous dresses, capes, and other clothing for Mrs. Lincoln. Keckley even traveled with her. She also became close to the president. When Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theater, Mary Todd Lincoln was wearing a cape that Keckley had made. Mrs. Lincoln gave the blood-stained cape to Keckley, and today it is in a museum, as are other examples of Keckley's work.

After the White House

After Abe Lincoln's death Mary Lincoln moved back to Illinois, and Keckley closed her business and went with her. It soon became apparent, however, that Mary Todd Lincoln's financial situation was so strained that she could not support the two of them. Keckley moved back to Washington.

A Book

Keckley remained concerned about Mary Lincoln's poverty and tried to help. In 1868 she published *Behind the Scenes; or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House*. She hoped that it would generate money to help support the former First Lady.

Disaster

Instead the book brought widespread criticism from all sides. Mary Todd Lincoln was furious at Keckley for revealing the former First Lady's true feelings about some of the leading Union army generals as well as intimate details about the assassination. African-Americans condemned Keckley for invading the privacy of a dead president whom they revered. The fashionable wealthy ladies of Washington soon became clients of other dressmakers. Keckley lost her business and lived in poverty. For many years before her death in 1907 she lived at the Home for Destitute Women and Children, which she had helped establish decades earlier.

Review Questions

1. Define the word *confidant*.
2. Who was Robert E. Lee?
3. Who first taught Keckley some sewing skills?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about why Washington's fashionable ladies went to other dressmakers after the publication of Keckley's book?
5. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** Why did Keckley's owners hire her out as a seamstress in St. Louis?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about the depth of Keckley's friendship with Mary Lincoln by her move to Illinois?

UNIT 6

Across the Continent: 1880–1910

The years after the end of Reconstruction brought change across the nation, and African Americans felt this change very strongly. New Jim Crow laws set back the progress African Americans had made in civil rights, and separation of the races became accepted by many, both black and white.

W. E. B. Du Bois

1868–1963

Activist and Scholar

Did You Know?

- ★ Du Bois first attended Fisk University when he did not have the money to go to Harvard.
- ★ His most famous book is *The Souls of Black Folk*.
- ★ He differed with Booker T. Washington on how African Americans could best succeed.

Did You Know?

- ★ Flipper left Atlanta University when he was appointed to West Point.
- ★ He served as assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for several years.
- ★ He is honored by West Point today for his perseverance in the face of adversity.

Henry O. Flipper

1856–1940

First African American to
Graduate from West Point

Booker T. Washington

1856–1914

Political Leader, Author, Educator

Did You Know?

- ★ Washington was the first head of the Tuskegee Institute.
- ★ His autobiography is called *Up From Slavery*.
- ★ He said that African Americans should seek improvements for themselves through their own self-sufficiency.

Did You Know?

- ★ Joplin came from a musical family.
- ★ He is most famous for his rags, but he yearned to be taken more seriously for his operas.
- ★ He wrote two operas, but only one, *Treemonisha*, exists today.

Scott Joplin

1868–1917

Composer and Pianist

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1880

- 1881** Tennessee passes law that forces African Americans to sit in certain sections in rail cars and creates precedent that other Southern states will follow.
- 1884** Deadliest race riot in U.S. history occurs in Cincinnati.

1885

- 1887** Florida passes law that requires African-American railway passengers to sit apart from other passengers.

1890

- 1890** Mississippi creates literacy tests, taxes, and other ways to limit voting by African Americans. Other Southern states create similar laws.
- 1891** Chicago's Provident Hospital becomes first interracial hospital in U.S.
- 1891** Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, and Tennessee pass racist laws against African Americans.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1880

- 1881** Clara Barton founds American Association of Red Cross.
- 1882** Brooklyn Bridge opens.
- 1883** Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show opens.
- 1884** Mark Twain writes *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

1885

- 1885** World's first skyscraper is built in Chicago.
- 1886** Statue of Liberty is dedicated in New York Harbor.
- 1887** Thomas Edison opens laboratory in West Orange, New Jersey, that is ten times larger than his earlier lab in Menlo Park.
- 1887** Anti-Chinese riots break out in Seattle.
- 1888** Washington Monument is completed in Washington, D.C.
- 1889** North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Washington become states.

1890

- 1891** James Naismith invents game of basketball.
- 1891** Grover Cleveland wins presidential election.
- 1892** Ellis Island opens as immigrant receiving station in New York Harbor.
- 1893** Kindergarten teacher Mildred Hill and her sister write "Happy Birthday to You."

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1880

- 1881** Tsar Alexander II is assassinated in Russia.
- 1883** Robert Lewis Stevenson writes *Treasure Island*.
- 1883** Krakatoa volcano between Java and Sumatra erupts, is heard 3,000 miles away, and creates tsunami that destroys 163 villages in Indonesia.

1885

- 1887** China's Yellow River floods and resulting crop failures and famines kill 900,000.
- 1889** Japan gets first written constitution.
- 1889** Brazil's army deposes Emperor Pedro II after a 49-year reign and declares a republic.
- 1889** Worldwide flu pandemic begins and will affect 40 percent of world's population in next two years.
- 1889** Eiffel Tower completed in Paris.

1890

- 1890** Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm forces resignation of Prime Minister Otto von Bismarck.
- 1891** Oscar Wilde writes *Picture of Dorian Gray*.
- 1892** Arthur Conan Doyle writes *Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*.
- 1893** New Zealand becomes first nation to give women voting rights.

1895

- 1896** U.S. Supreme Court upholds racial segregation in case of *Plessy v. Ferguson* and says “separate but equal” is constitutional.
- 1897** African-American abolitionist, teacher, and hospital director Maria Stewart dies in Washington, D.C., at age 94.
- 1898** Race riots and lynchings of African Americans sweep South.

1900

- 1902** William Still, abolitionist, and prominent “conductor” on Underground Railroad, dies.
- 1903** U.S. Supreme Court upholds Alabama state constitution clause that denies voting rights to African Americans.

1905

- 1906** Brownsville, Texas, has race riot.
- 1908** Springfield, Illinois, has race riot.
- 1909** National Association for Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is founded.

1895

- 1896** Gold is discovered in Alaska.
- 1897** U.S. automobile production rises to 100 cars that year, up from 25 in year before.
- 1897** Library of Congress building is completed in Washington, D.C.
- 1897** John Philip Sousa writes march called “Stars and Stripes Forever.”

1900

- 1900** L. Frank Baum writes *Wizard of Oz*.
- 1901** President McKinley is assassinated, and Theodore Roosevelt becomes president.
- 1901** Booker T. Washington writes *Up from Slavery*.
- 1902** Candy store owner Morris Michtom invents toy sensation called Teddy Bear.
- 1903** Wright brothers’ airplane flies at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.
- 1904** Teddy Roosevelt wins presidential election.

1905

- 1905** Upton Sinclair writes bestseller *The Jungle*, which exposes terrible conditions in meat-packing industry, and sales of meat products fall nationwide.
- 1906** San Francisco earthquake kills 25,000 and leaves 250,000 homeless.
- 1908** Henry Ford begins selling Model T cars.

1895

- 1895** German physicist Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen discovers X-rays.
- 1896** First Olympic games of modern times are held in Athens, Greece, with 484 contestants from 13 nations.
- 1897** Queen Victoria celebrates Diamond Jubilee of 60 years on Britain’s throne.
- 1897** Englishman Bram Stoker writes *Dracula*.
- 1898** H.G. Wells writes *War of the Worlds*.
- 1899** Boer War begins in South Africa.

1900

- 1901** Queen Victoria dies at age 81 after nearly 64-year reign.
- 1902** Beatrix Potter writes first of 23 Peter Rabbit books.
- 1904** Russo-Japanese War begins.
- 1904** Scientist Marie Curie discovers radioactive elements radium and polonium.

1905

- 1905** Teddy Roosevelt mediates end to Russo-Japanese War.
- 1905** United States begins construction of Panama Canal.
- 1907** Bubonic plague kills 1.3 million in India.
- 1907** British Empire covers 20 percent of world’s surface.
- 1908** Scottish author Kenneth Grahame writes *Wind in the Willows*.

W. E. B. Du Bois, p. 47**Review Questions**

1. Du Bois first went to Fisk University because he got a scholarship there, and he did not have the money at that time to attend Harvard.
2. Jim Crow laws were the systematic practice of discriminating against and segregating African Americans.
3. His most famous work is *The Souls of Black Folk*.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Causes** The upsurge in lynchings, Jim Crow laws, and race riots at the end of the 1800s caused Du Bois to change his mind.
5. **Analyzing Causes** Du Bois began to develop the *Encyclopedia Africana* because the president of Ghana asked him to.
6. **Analyzing Motives** Du Bois attacked Washington's philosophy in his book because he no longer believed that Washington's plan for success among African Americans would have the desired outcome.

Henry O. Flipper, p. 49**Review Questions**

1. The earlier African-American cadets probably withdrew because they felt isolated and abused.
2. Flipper was found innocent when a second review of the evidence was conducted in a much later time when racism was not so prevalent in the nation.
3. The word *ostracize* means to be excluded from a social group.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Motives** The white officers were probably motivated by a desire to not have an African American among them.
5. **Summarizing** Henry Flipper was able to rise above unfair treatment and use his education, intelligence, and perseverance to create new opportunities for himself in a variety of careers.
6. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** Flipper's appointment to West Point caused him to leave Atlanta University.

Booker T. Washington, p. 51**Review Questions**

1. The main aim of the NNBL was to encourage African Americans to become business owners.
2. An endowment is money given to an institution to be invested with the understanding that only the interest received from the investments is to be spent.
3. Among the problems were no buildings and very little money.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** Washington's speech had the effect of reassuring conservative whites that he would accept segregation.
5. **Recognizing Motives** They wanted to show Northern white attendees how much racial progress the South had made.
6. **Making Inferences** Washington believed that African Americans should accept segregation. Du Bois believed that they had to push for an end to segregation or it would never happen.

Scott Joplin, p. 53**Review Questions**

1. Harmony is the structure, progression, and relation of musical chords.
2. The Columbian Exposition celebrated the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's first journey.
3. Joplin based his first opera on the invitation from President Teddy Roosevelt to Booker T. Washington to visit the White House.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that new musical forms often face barriers to acceptance.
5. **Analyzing Motives** Joplin realized that New York gave him the best chance of finding the financial backers and music publisher he needed for *Treemonisha*.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Joplin believed that education was very important since he chose to attend college at a time when he was already established in a musical career.

W. E. B. Du Bois

1868–1963

Activist and Scholar



A New England Childhood

William Edward Burghardt Du Bois was born in 1868 in Great Barrington, a small town in western Massachusetts. Will's father, Alfred Du Bois, was a barber and laborer. He deserted the family when Will was two. Will's mother, Mary Burghardt Du Bois, was a domestic worker. She was descended from Elizabeth Freeman, a Massachusetts slave in the late 1700s who sued in court for her freedom—and won. The Burghardt family helped Will's mother to raise him.

A Rarity in Town

The Burghardts stood out in Great Barrington because few African Americans lived there. The young Du Bois experienced some racism, but he believed that hard work and natural intelligence would allow him to overcome it. He wrote,

“I found it easy to excel most of my classmates in studies, if not in games.”

A Brilliant Student

Du Bois's confidence and great intellect helped him pursue a first-rate education. He wanted to attend Harvard University, but did not have the money. However he did get a scholarship to what is now Fisk University in Tennessee. Du Bois finally got a scholarship to Harvard and graduated with honors in 1890. In 1895 he earned a Ph.D. in history at Harvard.

Struggling for Equal Rights

Du Bois put his training to work. He carefully studied the conditions in which African Americans lived. Between 1897 and 1914, he wrote 16 reports on African-American life.

At first, Du Bois believed that ignorance caused America's racial problems. He thought that scientific investigations and scholarship could solve the problem. However lynchings, **Jim Crow laws**, and race riots at the end of the 1800s changed his mind. He came to believe that only active protest could bring about change.

Jim Crow laws the systematic practice of discriminating against and segregating African Americans, especially as practiced in the South from the late 1800s to the middle 1900s

The Souls of Black Folk

In 1903 Du Bois completed the book for which he is most famous. It is called *The Souls of Black Folk*. In it he attacked the views of Booker T. Washington, the nation's most famous African American of the time. Like Du Bois, Washington believed that African Americans should work hard to educate themselves. Washington also believed that African Americans should accept segregation, white prejudice, and the inability to vote. Du Bois strongly disagreed. In *The Souls of Black Folk*, Du Bois wrote,

“So far as Mr. Washington apologizes for injustice, North or South, does not rightly value the privilege and duty of voting, . . . and opposes the higher training and ambition of our brighter minds—so far as he, the South, or the Nation, does this—we must unceasingly and firmly oppose them.”

Du Bois’s book had a powerful effect on African Americans nationally. Soon the African-American community was divided into two camps. The conservatives followed Washington. Washington’s critics believed as Du Bois did.



Founding Father

In 1909 Du Bois helped found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The organization took forceful action against lynching, Jim Crow laws, and voting discrimination. NAACP actions included legal suits, lobbying, and propaganda campaigns.

Du Bois also edited the NAACP’s magazine, *The Crisis*, from 1910 to 1934. The magazine’s monthly issues covered politics and race relations. It also covered African-American culture, religion, and poetry.

Disappointment with America

Over the years, Du Bois grew impatient with the progress of integration in the United States. He began to think that communism, as it had grown up in the Soviet Union, might offer a solution. However, after World War II, America became strongly anti-communist. In 1951 Du Bois, now 83 years old, was arrested and charged with being an agent for a foreign power. He was found not guilty. A few years later Du Bois joined the Communist Party and took out a newspaper ad announcing his decision.

Leaving the United States

In 1961 the president of the African nation of Ghana invited Du Bois to direct the development of a book to be called the *Encyclopedia Africana*. In 1962 Du Bois gave up his U.S. citizenship and became a citizen of Ghana. He called the United States a “land of magnificent possibilities.” However, Du Bois believed that his native country was “betraying its mighty destiny.” He died in Ghana on August 27, 1963, at age 95.

Review Questions

1. Why did Du Bois first attend Fisk rather than Harvard?
2. What were Jim Crow laws?
3. What is Du Bois’s most famous work?

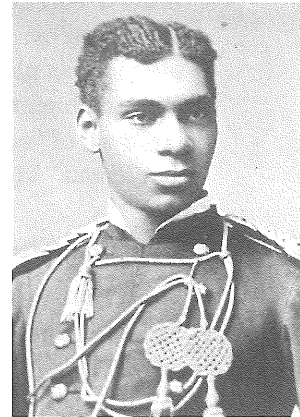
Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Causes** What caused Du Bois to change his mind about research and scholarship being the best way to end racism in the United States?
5. **Analyzing Causes** What caused Du Bois to begin development of the *Encyclopedia Africana*?
6. **Analyzing Motives** In *The Souls of Black Folk*, why did Du Bois attack the philosophy of Booker T. Washington?

Henry O. Flipper

1856–1940

First African American to Graduate from West Point



A Georgia Childhood

Henry Ossian Flipper was born on March 21, 1856, in Thomasville, Georgia. He was the eldest of five sons born to Festus and Isabella Flipper. Festus Flipper was a free African-American shoemaker. He later bought the freedom of his wife and children, who were slaves.

As a child, Henry Flipper attended a school run by the American Missionary Association. In 1873 he became a freshman at Atlanta University. However he was soon appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. This was a unique honor for an ex-slave. Today, West Point celebrates Flipper as one of its most distinguished graduates, but it was not always so.

The United States Military Academy at West Point

In 1802 President Thomas Jefferson had signed the legislation that made West Point the nation's first military academy. Over the years, many of America's greatest military leaders have been students there. These include Dwight D. Eisenhower, Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, George Patton, and Douglas MacArthur

Almost from the first years of the academy, the school placed a strong emphasis on training civil engineers. The new nation was expanding, and it needed people who could build bridges, railroads, harbors, and roads. Henry Flipper became one of these engineers.

A West Point Cadet

Flipper was not the first African American to attend West Point. Four other African-American men had become students there, but all had dropped out, often because they felt isolated and abused. Flipper attended during the era of **Reconstruction**, when there were suddenly more opportunities for African Americans. However, he was often **ostracized** too. He spent little time with the other cadets except at official activities.

Reconstruction the period from 1866 to 1877 during which the former states of the Confederacy were controlled by the federal government

ostracized excluded from a normal social group

In 1877 Flipper became the first African American to graduate from the academy. He had been trained as an engineer. He ranked 50th in his class of 76, and he received a commission as second lieutenant.

First Assignments

In January of 1878 Flipper was assigned to the 10th Cavalry Regiment. His job was to supervise construction projects at forts in Texas. One of these projects was the construction of a drainage ditch to dry up some ponds to prevent disease. Today Flipper's Ditch, as it is called, is a National Historic Landmark.

Over the next few years Flipper was given increasingly more responsible positions. When he was posted to Fort Davis, Texas, he was given charge of the fort's supplies and all its buildings.

A Bright Career Ends

In 1881 Fort Davis got a new commanding officer who immediately relieved Flipper of most of his duties. Soon some people at the fort warned him that a group of white officers was plotting to force him out of the army. In 1881 Flipper was charged with **embezzlement**, but found not guilty. He was convicted, however, of “conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.” Flipper was dismissed from the army.

embezzlement taking of property of others for personal use by a trusted friend of official

Moving On

Flipper remained in the Southwest, working as a surveyor, engineer, consultant, and Spanish translator. In 1892 he published a book on Spanish laws, which helped return huge tracts of land to their rightful owners.

When the Spanish-American War started in 1898, Flipper again volunteered to serve in the military. Bills were introduced in Congress to restore him to his former rank, but they failed. Flipper could not re-enlist.

A Move to Government

Flipper continued working for mining companies in the Southwest. It was during this time that he befriended Albert B. Fall, who later became a U.S. senator. Fall used Flipper’s reports on Mexican politics, and he brought Flipper to Washington to be a translator for his committee. Fall later became Secretary of the Interior and hired Flipper as his assistant.

Last Years

In 1923 Flipper left government service and went to work for an oil company in Venezuela. He worked for the company as an engineer for about seven years.

Flipper retired in 1931 and moved to Atlanta, Georgia. He lived there with his brother, a bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, until he died of a heart attack on May 3, 1940. His autobiography, *The Colored Cadet at West Point* (1878), offers insight into his unique life.

Found Innocent and Now Honored

Flipper always insisted that he was innocent of the charges that had led to his dismissal from the army. However it was not until nearly a century after he left West Point that a review of military records revealed that his fellow officers had made up the evidence against him. His records were corrected, and he was given a **posthumous** honorable discharge. Today West Point presents an annual award in Flipper’s honor to the graduate who shows “the highest qualities of leadership, self-discipline, and perseverance in the face of unusual difficulties while a cadet.”

posthumous occurring after one’s death

Review Questions

1. Why did the four African Americans who preceded Flipper at West Point not graduate?
2. Why was Flipper later found innocent of the charges of misconduct?
3. Define the word *ostracize*.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Motives** What were probably the motives that led Flipper’s fellow officers to have made up evidence against him?
5. **Summarizing** Summarize Flipper’s qualities and abilities that helped him succeed.
6. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** What caused Flipper to leave Atlanta University?

Booker T. Washington

1856–1914

Political Leader, Author, Educator



A Familiar Existence

Booker Taliafero Washington was born in 1856 on a farm near Hale's Ford, Virginia. Like many others of his time, Washington was born to a black slave mother and a white father who never

acknowledged him. When emancipation came, Washington and his family were **destitute**. They moved to West Virginia in search of work. Washington was nine years old and worked making salt and mining coal.

destitute without any resources

A Drive for Education

Washington desperately wanted an education, and despite the family's poverty, he was allowed to quit work when he was 16 and go to school at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in Hampton, Virginia. There was no money for transportation, so Washington walked the hundreds of miles to get there. However Washington thought the tough journey was worth it. He later said that getting an education was

“about the same as getting into paradise.”

Washington worked as a janitor at Hampton to pay for his room and board, and a white friend of the principal paid his tuition. Washington later said that this man's generosity was an example for all people, black and white. He graduated with honors in 1876 and began teaching at the school.

Tuskegee Institute

In 1881 the head of Hampton Institute was asked to recommend someone to head a new tuition-free school for African Americans in Tuskegee, Alabama. A month later Washington arrived at Tuskegee. The task ahead of him was formidable.

- ✱ The school had no buildings, so classes had to be held in a nearby church.
- ✱ The amount of money provided was only \$2,000 per year.
- ✱ Washington held the first classes at Tuskegee on July 4, 1881.
- ✱ There were 30 students.
- ✱ By the next year, the first permanent building was finished.
- ✱ Students studied academic subjects along with woodworking, cooking, weaving, home economics, brick making, agriculture, and the blacksmith trade.
- ✱ They attended daily religious services.
- ✱ Student teachers practiced at the elementary school opened in 1901 for children of Tuskegee teachers and townspeople.
- ✱ By the time Washington died in 1915 Tuskegee had 2,000 students, 200 teachers, and an **endowment** worth \$2 million.
- ✱ Today Tuskegee University has about 3,000 students, 900 teachers and staff, and is worth about \$500 million.

endowment money given to an institution to be invested with the understanding that only the interest received from the investments is to be spent

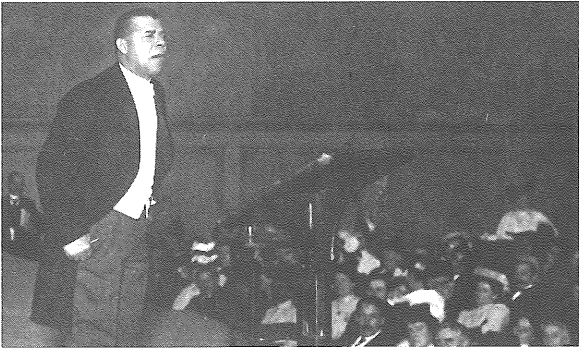
The Atlanta Speech

In 1895 the white organizers of the Cotton States and International Exposition in Atlanta, Georgia, asked Washington to make a speech there. The organizers were nervous about having an African American speak. However they hoped to impress Northern visitors with the visible evidence of racial progress in the South.

Washington's speech has come to be known as the Atlanta Compromise. The speech is considered to be one of the most important in American history. It is also controversial. In the speech, Washington said,

“Cast down your bucket where you are.”

By this Washington meant that African Americans should accept racial discrimination and not call for equality. They should gain rights through their own economic and moral advancement rather than through legal and political changes. This position helped Washington win the support of many white people. He needed this support to make possible the programs he had planned for Tuskegee. However, some African-American leaders such as W. E. B. Du Bois sharply disagreed.



A Business League

In 1900 Washington formed the National Negro Business League (NNBL). The group's main goal was to encourage African Americans to become business owners. The NNBL promoted the achievements of black businessmen and protected them against fraud. Black community leaders hailed Washington for his work, and the NNBL was a great success.

An Autobiography

In 1901 Washington finished his autobiography. It is called *Up from Slavery*. The book describes Washington as a self-made man and talks about his beliefs in segregation of the races and the need for African Americans to be self-sufficient. The book was a great success nationally and brought Washington even more fame.

The Legacy

Booker T. Washington died in 1915. He had managed to keep his following of white conservatives, but his black followers were demanding more. The year of Washington's death was the beginning of the “Great Migration” of rural Southern blacks to the urban North. Washington's philosophy did not survive the change.

Review Questions

1. What was the aim of the National Negro Business League?
2. Define the word *endowment*.
3. What were two of the problems that faced Washington at Tuskegee Institute when he first opened the school?

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** How did Washington's Atlanta speech strengthen his support among conservative whites?
5. **Recognizing Motives** What motive did the organizers of the Cotton States and International Exposition have in inviting Washington to speak?
6. **Comparing and Contrasting** Compare and contrast the political views of Washington with those of W. E. B. Du Bois.

Scott Joplin

1868–1917

Composer and Pianist



A Musical Family

Scott Joplin was born in 1868, just three years after the Civil War had ended. Father Jiles Joplin was a freed slave. Mother Florence Givins Joplin was a freeborn African American. Both parents are thought to have been musical, with Jiles known for his playing of the violin. Eventually there were five children, and three of them—Scott, Robert, and Will—became musicians.

Early Musical Training

When Scott was young, his family moved from another part of eastern Texas to the town of Texarkana. Florence Joplin took a job working in the home of a local lawyer who owned a piano. Scott got his first opportunities to play the piano there.

When young Joplin was about 11 years old, a wealthy Texarkana businessman named R. W. Rodgers hired a European tutor for his own children. Julius Weiss met Joplin, was impressed, and offered to give him free piano lessons. Weiss taught Joplin sight reading, musical **harmony**, and appreciation of European musical forms, especially opera. Rodgers died in 1884, and his family let Weiss go. It appears that Scott Joplin left Texarkana about then also.

harmony structure, progression and, relation of chords

A Working Musician

Joplin spent the next several years trying out his professional musical talents.

- * He sang with various vocal groups.
- * He played several instruments including piano, banjo, cornet, and violin.

Ragtime

In about 1890 Joplin settled in St. Louis, Missouri, where a type of music called “jig-piano” was popular. The musical style was noted for its bouncing bass and **syncopated** melodies. It became known as “ragged time,” which was shortened to just “ragtime.” Ragtime became as popular as rock ’n roll and rap are today. Just like those two musical forms, ragtime was also criticized.

syncopated when the normally weak musical beat is accented

- * Opponents said it lacked artistic merit.
- * Others said it was harmful to listeners and hurt their intellectual, moral, and physical well-being.
- * One critic called ragtime “a national calamity.”
- * Another said that fans of ragtime had “sold themselves body and soul to the musical Satan.”

Despite what the critics said, by 1905 even President Teddy Roosevelt’s popular daughter Alice was a big fan.

Traveling the Middle West

In the early 1890s Joplin traveled throughout the Middle West, playing the piano in bars and elsewhere. In 1893 he played in Chicago at the time of the Columbian Exposition. This was a huge world's fair celebrating the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's first journey to the Americas. In the middle 1890s Joplin moved to Sedalia, Missouri. He enrolled in the George R. Smith College for Negroes there, and he worked as a musician around town.

The Composer

In 1899 a Kansas City firm published Joplin's *Original Rags*. However Joplin had not gotten a clear contract with the publisher and received almost nothing for the work as a result. He would not make the same mistake again. Later that same year Joplin had a lawyer draw up a royalty contract with a music publisher in Sedalia for *Maple Leaf Rag*. The piece sold about one million copies of the piano music and brought Joplin some financial success. Some of Joplin's other ragtime pieces are *The Entertainer*, *Searchlight Rag*, and *Wall Street Rag*.

A Guest of Honor

In 1901 Joplin moved to St. Louis, Missouri, and met the symphony conductor Alfred Ernst. Ernst came to believe that Joplin was a genius and may have encouraged the ragtime composer to try his hand at composing opera. This fit with Joplin's desires very well, because he sought serious artistic recognition his whole life.

By the end of the year Joplin was hard at work on *A Guest of Honor*. The story of the opera was based on a controversial invitation from President Teddy Roosevelt to African-American leader Booker T. Washington to visit the White House. By 1903 the opera was completed and Joplin had formed an opera company. Performances were set for towns throughout the Middle West. Sadly, someone stole the box office receipts, and most performances were cancelled. The music was never published, and the score was lost, possibly being destroyed when Joplin could not pay the boarding house bill for his opera company.

Treemonisha

In 1907 Joplin moved to New York City to find financial backers and a publisher for his next opera, *Treemonisha*. Joplin sought a publisher for years, but finally in 1911 he published the score at his own expense. The opera was never performed in his lifetime.

A Forgotten Man

By 1911 Joplin was ill and his health, both mental and physical, got worse quickly. He died in 1917. By then Joplin was mostly forgotten. Interest in his music did not begin again for several decades. During his lifetime he never achieved the artistic recognition he wanted so much.

Review Questions

1. Define the word *harmony*.
2. What did Chicago's Columbian Exposition celebrate?
3. On what controversial event did Joplin base his first opera?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** Based on early reactions to ragtime, what can be concluded about new forms of music generally?
5. **Analyzing Motives** What motivated Joplin to move to New York City in 1907?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about Joplin's belief in education by his attendance at the George R. Smith College for Negroes?

UNIT 7

Expansion and Depression: 1910–1940

The early 1900s brought an expansion of opportunities for African Americans. New technology such as airplanes and movies brought glamour and fame to some. Other African Americans fought to organize labor unions to bring fair pay and treatment to workers.

Bessie Coleman

1892–1926

Flying Pioneer

Did You Know?

- * Coleman grew up in Texas.
- * She was rejected by flying schools in America and moved to France to learn to be a pilot.
- * She died in a flying accident in Florida.

Did You Know?

- * Drew was a star athlete in both high school and college.
- * He created the “bloodmobile” concept, which the American Red Cross uses today.
- * He died in a car crash when he was only 45.

Charles Drew

1904–1950

Surgeon, Teacher,
and Researcher

Hattie McDaniel

1893–1952

First African American to
Win an Academy Award

Did You Know?

- * McDaniel left school at age 15 to become an entertainer.
- * She appeared in more than 90 movies.
- * She also starred in several radio shows.

Did You Know?

- * Randolph was valedictorian of his high school.
- * He led a 12-year battle for union recognition for Pullman Porters.
- * He forced Franklin Roosevelt to end discrimination in defense industries during World War II.

A. Philip Randolph

1889–1979

Union Organizer and Activist

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1910	1915	1920
<p>1910 African-American prizefighter Jack Johnson becomes heavyweight champion, and race riots erupt in Boston, Cincinnati, Houston, New York, and elsewhere.</p> <p>1910 About 80 percent of African Americans still live in 11 Southern states.</p> <p>1913 Marcus Garvey founds Universal Negro Improvement Association in British West Indies.</p>	<p>1915 D. W. Griffith's <i>Birth of a Nation</i> motion picture heightens racial tensions.</p> <p>1916 Marcus Garvey moves to New York City.</p> <p>1917 Race riots in East St. Louis, Illinois, leave 39 dead. W. E. B. Du Bois and writer James Weldon Johnson lead 15,000-person silent protest march in New York.</p> <p>1919 Race riots in 26 U.S. cities leave dozens dead.</p>	<p>1921 Tulsa, Oklahoma, has race riot that officially leaves 39 African Americans dead, but other tallies reach 300.</p>

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1910	1915	1920
<p>1911 Deadly fire at New York's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory creates demand for better working conditions for laborers.</p> <p>1912 New Mexico and Arizona become states.</p> <p>1913 Novelist Eleanor Porter writes <i>Polyanna</i>.</p> <p>1914 President Woodrow Wilson proclaims first national Mother's Day.</p>	<p>1915 D.W. Griffith's motion picture <i>Birth of a Nation</i> premiers.</p> <p>1916 Wilson wins reelection with slogan "He kept us out of war."</p> <p>1917 United States declares war on Germany and enters World War I.</p> <p>1917 Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, and other stars speak at rallies to sell Liberty Bonds to fund war effort.</p> <p>1918 Novelist Willa Cather writes <i>My Antonia</i>.</p> <p>1919 Chicagoan Sherwood Anderson pens <i>Winesburg, Ohio</i>.</p>	<p>1921 Congress passes Federal Highway Act to coordinate state highways and standardize road-building practices.</p> <p>1922 Wage cuts cause nearly six-month coal strike.</p> <p>1922 Lincoln Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C., after seven years of construction.</p> <p>1923 Robert Frost's poem "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" is published.</p> <p>1924 President Calvin Coolidge wins reelection.</p> <p>1924 George Gershwin's <i>Rhapsody in Blue</i> premiers.</p>

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1910	1915	1920
<p>1911 Russian Premier Peter Stolypin is assassinated in Kiev Opera House as Tsar Nicholas II looks on.</p> <p>1911 Revolution in China ends 267-year old Manchu dynasty, and revolutionary Sun Yat-sen is elected president by provisional assembly.</p> <p>1911 Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and party are first to reach South Pole.</p> <p>1912 <i>Titanic</i> sinks in North Atlantic on maiden voyage.</p> <p>1914 World War I begins.</p>	<p>1916 Battle of Somme is bloodiest in world history.</p> <p>1916 Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef dies, ending 68-year reign.</p> <p>1917 Tsar Nicholas II formally resigns power and Bolsheviks gain control of Russia.</p> <p>1918 World War I ends.</p> <p>1918 Flu pandemic kills more than 20 million worldwide.</p>	<p>1922 Benito Mussolini becomes dictator of Italy.</p> <p>1922 Egyptologist Howard Carter finds ancient tomb of King Tut.</p> <p>1922 Scottish bacteriologist Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin, world's first antibiotic.</p> <p>1923 Communists create Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from Russia, Ukraine, White Russia, and Transcaucasia.</p> <p>1923 Earthquake and resulting fire destroy Japanese cities of Tokyo and Yokohama.</p>

1925

1929 African-American accused criminal burned alive by Mississippi lynch mob, and jury returns verdict of death “due to unknown causes.”

1930

1931 Nine African-American boys and young men arrested, tried, and convicted in notorious Scottsboro boys case that is travesty of American justice.

1933 Mobs lynch 42 African Americans as lynchings spread across South.

1935

1935 Race riot erupts in Harlem section of New York City.

1936 Jesse Owens wins four Olympic gold medals in Berlin and embarrasses Hitler for his “master race” theories.

1939 First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and others resign from Daughters of American Revolution when group refuses Marian Anderson’s request to sing at Constitution Hall. Anderson later sings at Lincoln Memorial to crowd of 75,000.

1925

1927 Charles A. Lindbergh flies solo across Atlantic and becomes world hero.

1927 *Jazz Singer* changes films forever with addition of sound.

1928 Herbert Hoover is elected president.

1929 New York Stock Market crash causes single day loss almost equal to cost of World War I to U.S., and worldwide depression begins.

1930

1931 Unemployment in U.S. tops 8 million.

1931 New York City’s Chrysler and Empire State buildings are completed, and Rockefeller Center construction is started.

1932 Some 25,000 poverty-stricken “Bonus Marchers” trek to Washington, D.C., in hopes of receiving World War I pensions not due until 1945.

1932 Comedian Jack Benny begins radio show that will continue for 23 years.

1933 Franklin Roosevelt begins first term as president.

1933 Chicago’s Century of Progress world’s fair opens.

1935

1935 Social Security Act becomes law and provides unemployment insurance and system of benefits for senior citizens.

1937 Flyer Amelia Earhart disappears on July 2 over Pacific Ocean.

1937 San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge opens.

1939 Hollywood has its best year ever as *Gone with the Wind*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *Drums Along Mohawk*, and *Wuthering Heights* all debut.

1925

1926 Josef Stalin becomes dictator of Soviet Union.

1926 Japan’s Emperor Hirohito begins reign that will last until 1989.

1926 A.A. Milne writes *Winnie-the-Pooh*.

1927 Oil is discovered in Iraq.

1930

1930 Worldwide depression sets in as trade declines, production drops, and unemployment rises.

1932 Revolts and assassinations rock Japan, El Salvador, France, and Siam.

1933 Adolf Hitler becomes dictator of Germany.

1934 Political unrest starts or continues in France, Belgium, Austria, Bulgaria, China, Yugoslavia, Nicaragua, Italy, and Ethiopia.

1934 Canada’s Dionne quintuplets become world’s first set of five babies to survive.

1935

1936 Civil war begins in Spain.

1936 Britain’s George V dies, and Edward VIII soon formally resigns power to marry American divorcée Wallis Simpson.

1937 Japan invades China.

1937 Buchenwald concentration camp opens in Nazi Germany.

1938 Oil is discovered in Kuwait.

1939 World War II begins.

UNIT 7 Answer Key

Bessie Coleman, p. 59

Review Questions

1. Coleman was born in Texas.
2. She attended beauty school in Chicago.
3. The stamp was issued in 1995.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Motives** Coleman wanted to “amount to something.”
5. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that Abbott’s advice shaped much of Coleman’s life.
6. **Analyzing Effects** The effects were a lengthy recovery and the need for a new plane.

Charles Drew, p. 61

Review Questions

1. The four types of blood are A, B, AB, and O.
2. Drew moved to New York City because he got a scholarship for further medical study at Columbia University.
3. Plasma is the yellowish liquid that remains after red cells have been removed from blood.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** Drew’s great success in high school and in college sports made many people conclude that he would choose a sports-related career for himself.
5. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** Nazi Germany was bombing Britain, and there were many wounded who needed blood.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that many people, even those in roles of authority nationally, did not have accurate scientific understandings of race.

Hattie McDaniel, p. 63

Review Questions

1. George Cukor did not want to cast McDaniel because he did not believe she had the proper dignity.
2. McDaniel starred on The Beulah Show in the late 1940s on radio.
3. McDaniel appeared in the movie “Show Boat” in 1936.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Points of View** McDaniel believed that it was better to be well paid to play a maid than to have to be one in real life. Other actors believed that they should turn down such roles.
5. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** Henry McDaniel suffered for much of his life from the effects of wounds he received in combat as a Union soldier during the U.S. Civil War.
6. **Making Inferences** Since Susan McDaniel was opposed to careers in show business, it can be inferred that she probably was quite upset about and opposed to her young daughter’s decision.

Philip Randolph, p. 65

Review Questions

1. They became railroad workers as slaves when a Southern railroad purchased them to build and repair tracks.
2. Socialism is a system of state ownership of production and distribution channels.
3. It took 12 years to become recognized as a union.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** The race riots were caused by tensions over too few jobs and too many workers after World War I.
5. **Recognizing Effects** The planned march caused Roosevelt to formally end discrimination in defense industries.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that Randolph was a very important person since the president himself chose to attend the funeral.



Bessie Coleman

1892–1926

Flying Pioneer

To Make Something of Herself

Bessie Coleman had a great desire to “amount to something.” She was born into a large African-American family in 1892 in a tiny Texas town called Atlanta. When she was two, the family moved to Waxahachie, about 30 miles south of Dallas.

In 1900 Coleman’s father left the family and returned to Oklahoma Territory, when he had grown up. He was three-quarters Native American, and he wanted to return to the part of America where he could enjoy full rights. Coleman’s mother decided to stay behind in Texas with the several children who were not yet grown. Life for the family in Texas became harder. Bessie remained determined to succeed.

- ✦ She graduated from 8th grade at the top of her class with especially high marks in math.
- ✦ She took a job doing washing and ironing to earn money for school.
- ✦ In 1910 she had enough money to enroll in the prep school at what would become Langston University in Oklahoma. Unfortunately her money ran out after only one semester and she had to return to her laundry job in Texas.

To Chicago

By 1915 Coleman had had enough of her life in Texas. She headed to Chicago to live with her brother Walter.

- ✦ She went to beauty school and then got a job as a men’s manicurist at the barbershop owned by the trainer of the Chicago White Sox baseball team.
- ✦ The job, her efficient skills, and natural charm soon helped her make friends with the wealthiest and most powerful black citizens of Chicago.

Flying Becomes a Goal

During and after World War I newspapers were full of stories of daring flyers. Coleman realized she had found a way to make something of herself. She decided to learn to fly an airplane.

- ✦ Coleman applied to several American flying schools, but all rejected her.
- ✦ She sought advice from Robert S. Abbott, editor and publisher of *The Chicago Defender*, the prominent African-American newspaper.
- ✦ Abbott advised her to save her money, learn French, and apply to flying schools in France, where racism was less of a barrier.
- ✦ Coleman enrolled in a language course and got a better-paying job. She sailed for France in November of 1920.

Success and Acclaim

In June of 1921 Coleman completed a seven-month instructional course, passed a rigorous exam, and got her flying license from the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. She then spent two more months taking additional instruction from a French flying ace. In September she sailed for New York.

Coleman's return to America was front-page news in most of the country's black newspapers and in many flying magazines. They celebrated her accomplishment of being the first African American to earn an international pilot's license.

Making a Living

Airplanes were still very new, and few carried passengers. Coleman realized she would have to make her living as a **barnstormer**. She sought more training in Europe, and she returned to the U.S. full of confidence and enthusiasm.

barnstormer one who appears at county fairs and carnivals as a stunt flier

Coleman appeared in her first American air show on September 3, 1922, near New York City. Six weeks later, she appeared in Chicago. Many other appearances soon followed. However Coleman still did not have her own airplane, and she had other plans. She wanted to open a flying school for African Americans.

A California Crash

Coleman took a job in California promoting products where she flew an airplane that trailed advertising behind. After several months she had saved \$400 and purchased an ancient plane that had been made by the Curtiss Company.

One day in February of 1923 Coleman was flying the Curtiss from Santa Monica, California, to Los Angeles. The plane's engine stalled at 300 feet above the ground and quickly crashed. Coleman spent three months in a California hospital with a broken leg and ribs and many serious cuts. She then returned to Chicago and spent another 18 months recovering there.

A Fatal Comeback

Once she had recovered, Coleman tried several ways to raise money for a new plane.

- ✦ She gave flying performances across the country.
- ✦ She gave lectures at schools, theaters, and churches about her experiences.
- ✦ She opened a beauty shop in Orlando, Florida.

Eventually some wealthy friends helped her make the final payment on a leftover airplane from World War I.

Coleman planned to appear in an event sponsored by Jacksonville's Negro Welfare League on May 1, 1926. She was killed in a practice flight the day before. Thousands turned out for her funeral in Chicago. In 1990 a Chicago street was named for her, and in 1995 the U.S. Postal Service issued a stamp in her honor.

Review Questions

1. In what state was Coleman born?
2. Where did Coleman attend beauty school?
3. In what year was a postage stamp issued in Coleman's honor?

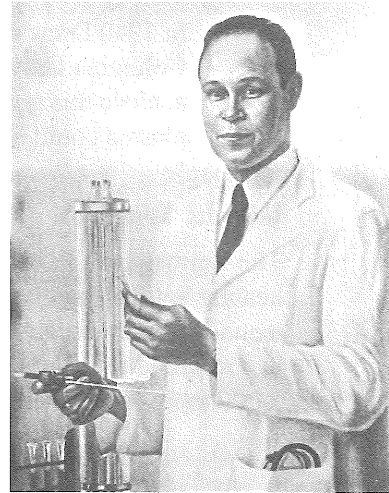
Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Motives** What motivated Coleman to learn to fly?
5. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about the importance of Robert Abbott's advice to Coleman?
6. **Analyzing Effects** What effects did the 1923 airplane crash in California have on Coleman?

Charles Drew

1904–1950

Surgeon, Teacher, and Researcher



A Star Athlete

Charles Drew was born in Washington, D.C., in 1904, the oldest of Richard and Nora Drew's five children. By the age of eight, he had won four swimming medals. When he graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, he received awards for his athletic performance in football, basketball, baseball, and track.

College and After

Drew attended Amherst College on an athletic **scholarship**. He was captain of the track team, and he was named the football team's most valuable player. He also worked very hard to earn good grades because he wanted to become a doctor. When Drew graduated from college in 1926, he did not have the money to pay for medical school, so he took a teaching job. He became a professor of biology and chemistry at Morgan State College in Baltimore, Maryland. He was also head of the school's athletic department.

scholarship grant of financial aid awarded to a student

Training as a Doctor

In 1928 Drew decided to apply to medical school. At the time only two schools in America accepted African Americans. Howard University rejected him because they felt he did not have enough college credits in English. Harvard University was the other school. Harvard accepted him, but for the following year. Frustrated, Drew applied to McGill University in Canada. He was immediately accepted.

Beginning Studies of Blood

Drew began his studies of blood while he was in medical school. The four types of blood—A, B, AB, and O—had recently been discovered. Scientists had quickly realized that giving the correct type of blood to a patient was very important. However, whole blood was very **perishable**. It could only be kept for seven days before it began to spoil. In 1930 Drew began working with Dr. John Beattie, a visiting professor from England. They decided to try to find a way to store blood safely for longer periods of time.

perishable subject to decay or spoilage

Further Training and Study

During the 1930s Drew continued his medical studies and did more research on blood.

- ✦ In 1933 Drew graduated from McGill.
- ✦ He did his medical internship and residency in Canada.
- ✦ In 1935 he returned to Washington, D.C., and took a job teaching at Howard University Medical School.
- ✦ In 1938 Drew got a scholarship for further study at Columbia University in New York City, and he continued his study of blood there.

- ✦ He began to study the possibility of using blood **plasma** rather than whole blood for emergency transfusions.
- ✦ In 1940 Drew received a Ph.D. degree in science from Columbia University. He was the first African American to achieve this goal. In his work there, he showed that liquid plasma could be stored safely for much longer than whole blood.

plasma yellowish fluid that remains when red cells are removed from blood

World War II

The war began in Europe in 1939, and within a few months, Britain was being heavily bombed by Nazi Germany. There was a terrible shortage of blood to treat the wounded. Drew received an urgent cable from John Beattie, a former professor, who had returned to Britain. Beattie asked Drew for 5,000 units of plasma immediately and 5,000 more three weeks later.

- ✦ Soon Drew was medical supervisor of the “Blood for Britain” program.
- ✦ He created the first “bloodmobile,” trucks equipped with refrigerators, to use during blood drives. The American Red Cross still uses such trucks today.
- ✦ He figured out how to turn laboratory experiments into mass production. For example, he adapted cream separating machines, which were used on dairy farms, to produce clear plasma. Before this time, the usual method was to allow donated blood to sit for several days until the red blood cells settled to the bottom of a container.
- ✦ Drew was now a leading authority on mass transfusion and processing methods of blood.

In 1941 Drew became director of the American Red Cross Blood Bank in New York. Soon he was asked to organize a massive blood drive of 100,000 donors for the U.S. Army and Navy. However the military told the Red Cross that the blood had to be typed according to the race of the donor. African-American donors were to be refused. Drew was irate. He accurately denounced the rules as unscientific and left the project.

Doctor, Professor, Researcher, Lecturer

Drew moved back to Washington, D.C., and became a professor of surgery at Howard University. In 1943 he became the first African-American surgeon to serve as an examiner for the American Board of Surgery, the national group that tests and certifies the abilities of surgeons. He continued to do research on blood and received many awards. In 1950 he died in an automobile accident on his way to deliver a lecture.

Review Questions

1. What are the labels given to the four types of blood?
2. Why did Drew move from Washington, D.C. to New York City in 1938?
3. What is plasma?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What parts of Drew's early life made many people believe that he would choose a sports career?
5. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** What caused the creation of the “Blood for Britain” program?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about national understandings about race at the start of World War II by the U.S. military's rule that blood donations be separated by race?

Hattie McDaniel

1893–1952

First African American to Win an Academy Award



Daughter of a Civil War Soldier

Hattie McDaniel was the youngest child of Henry and Susan McDaniel. Henry was a slave in Tennessee, but after the Emancipation Proclamation, he joined the Union Army. The wounds he received in combat caused him problems for the rest of his life.

When the war ended, Henry and Susan moved to Kansas, which had a reputation for being more tolerant of African Americans than many Southern states were. They settled in the town of Wichita, and Hattie was born there in 1893. When she was about five years old, the family moved to Denver, Colorado.

A Talented Child

Susan McDaniel was very devout Christian, and she strongly disapproved of show business. However, Hattie later recalled,

“I knew that I could sing and dance. I was doing it so much that my mother would give me a nickel sometimes to stop.”

Despite their mother’s disapproval, Hattie’s much older brother Otis supported her desire to perform.

Early Success

In 1909 Otis McDaniel wrote a play he called *Champion of the Freedman*. He cast Hattie as a wealthy young African American who “had more money than sense.” A Colorado reviewer said that the performances were well attended and greatly enjoyable. Shortly thereafter, Hattie, 15, quit high school.

On the Road

McDaniel moved to Kansas City, Missouri, to be with Otis and another brother, Sam. The two had founded an acting company, and Hattie joined them. She performed with their company, but she also began building a reputation on her own. However, she was not able to earn enough money to live, and she had to work as a maid to make ends meet.

Throughout the 1920s McDaniel sang, danced, and told jokes wherever and whenever she could. All too often, though, she had to fall back on work as a maid.

Off to Hollywood

By 1931 Otis McDaniel had moved to California and found steady work on a radio show called the *Optimistic Do-Nuts*. Hattie decided to go to Hollywood too.

McDaniel soon met Charles Butler, one of the few African-American casting directors in Hollywood. He was impressed with the friendly, hardworking young woman who listened to his advice. McDaniel was also a type that Butler could cast—as a maid. Her starting salary was \$7.50 a day. Other African-American actors grumbled that Butler

would only cast them in **stereotyped** roles such as servants or uneducated poor people. McDaniel felt differently; she was happy for the work. She also found work in other movies. These included

stereotyped oversimplified idea or opinion

- ✦ *Alice Adams* (1935)
- ✦ *Show Boat* (1936)
- ✦ *Saratoga* (1937)

McDaniel also got part-time work on the *Optimistic Do-Nuts* show. Then she was given her own radio show, *Hi Hat Hattie and Her Boys*, where she told jokes and sang songs. In 1934 the famed director John Ford hired McDaniel to play a maid in a movie starring Will Rogers, a famous humorist of the day. The movie was a big success and got McDaniel very positive reviews. She said,

“I would rather make seven hundred dollars a week playing a maid than be one.”

Gone With the Wind

The biggest of all movies of the 1930s was *Gone With the Wind*, and one of the prime supporting roles was a character called Mammy. The movie’s first director, George Cukor, did not want to cast McDaniel in the role. He thought she lacked the dignity the role called for. However the movie’s powerful producer, David O. Selznick, did want McDaniel to play Mammy, and she got the role.

McDaniel went out of her way to charm everyone associated with the production. She also made Mammy into a powerful characterization of a time long past. When the Academy Award nominations came out, McDaniel was nominated for best supporting actress. Then she won, the first African American to do so. She tearfully accepted the award saying she was speaking for herself and all other African Americans.

Later Years

After a career of more than 90 movies, McDaniel made her last film in 1949. After that she continued to appear on the radio as the star of *The Beulah Show*. In 1951 the program left radio for the new medium of television. McDaniel stayed with *The Beulah Show* until her death in 1952 from breast cancer.

In January of 2006, the U.S. Postal Service honored McDaniel with a first class postage stamp. At the unveiling ceremony, the Chairman of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors said,

“This stamp is a powerful reminder of her unprecedented contribution to Hollywood and to her pioneering legacy”

Review Questions

1. Why did George Cukor not want to cast McDaniel as Mammy?
2. On what radio show did McDaniel star in the late 1940s?
3. In what movie did McDaniel appear in 1936?

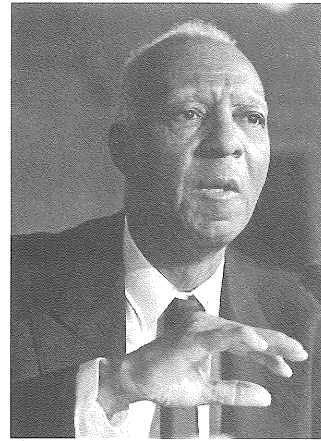
Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Points of View** How was McDaniel’s point of view different from that of many other African-American actors about playing roles such as maids and other servants?
5. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** How did Henry McDaniel’s service as a Union soldier in the U.S. Civil War affect his later life?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about Susan McDaniel’s probable reaction to 15-year-old Hattie’s decision to quit school, move to Kansas City, and become an entertainer?

A. Philip Randolph

1889–1979

Union Organizer and Activist



Born in the Segregated South

Asa Philip Randolph was born in Crescent City, Florida, to James William Randolph, a minister for the American Methodist Episcopal Church, and Elizabeth Robinson Randolph, a highly regarded seamstress. When Randolph was two years old, the family moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where there was a thriving and well-established African-American community.

When he was older, Randolph attended the Cookman Institute in East Jacksonville. It was the only high school for African Americans in the area. He was a standout student.

- ✦ He excelled in literature and public speaking.
- ✦ He was a star of the school's basketball team.
- ✦ He was valedictorian of his graduating class in 1907.

menial low level, insulting

After high school, Randolph could find only **menial** jobs, despite his intellectual and athletic achievements. Segregation meant that better jobs always went to whites, and blacks could get only the lowest paying ones. He decided to go to New York City.

Speaking Out for Fairness

Randolph went to New York in 1911. He enrolled in the City College of New York and got a job as an elevator operator to support himself. He soon became known for his street-corner speeches in Harlem, a New York neighborhood. He spoke out to the many African Americans who lived there, telling them that they had to fight for their rights. He also came to believe in **socialism**.

socialism system to create opportunity for all through state ownership of production and distribution channels

The Messenger and Beyond

Randolph became friends with Owen Chandler, an African-American student at Columbia University. In 1917 the two were asked to edit a union magazine called *Hotel Messenger*. Instead, they dropped the word *Hotel* and turned the magazine into one that favored socialist ideals. For example, the magazine criticized American involvement in World War I and pushed to build a more just American society.

In 1919 jobs became scarce as returning World War I soldiers sought work. As a result, there were widespread race riots in the United States as blacks and whites fought for the available jobs. In response, Owen and Randolph formed the National Association for the Promotion of Labor Unionism Among Negroes.

Working on the Railroads

African Americans had been railroad workers since the 1830s, when a Southern railroad bought slaves to build and repair tracks. After the Civil War, the number of railroads across the nation grew. Trips that used to take months now took only days. Passenger traffic grew greatly, and the Pullman Palace Car Company created “hotels on wheels” for them to travel in.

To attend to the passengers, the company hired only African Americans, who became known as Pullman Porters. By the 1920s more than 20,000 African Americans were working as Pullman Porters and other train personnel. At the time, this was the largest group of African-American laborers in the country.

The BSCP

The Pullman Porters had tried to organize a union since the early 1900s. Their pay and working conditions were well below average, even for that time. In 1925 the Pullman Porters asked Randolph to help them form a union. It was named the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP). Randolph had never been a porter, but he had a reputation for honesty, strong leadership skills, and a deep interest in and knowledge of unions.

A 12-Year Battle

The Pullman Company fought hard to keep the union from being recognized.

- ✦ It harassed workers.
- ✦ It threatened porters with the loss of their jobs.
- ✦ It used spies to find out what the BSCP was planning.

Finally in 1937, after 12 years of struggle, the BSCP became the officially recognized union for the Pullman Porters.

World War II

When America entered the war, the federal government began spending enormous amounts on money on guns, uniforms, bullets, tanks, airplanes, and other things needed for the effort. However African Americans were kept out of all defense industry jobs except those at the bottom.

Randolph decided to do something about it and called for a national protest march in Washington, D.C. The planned march put a great deal of pressure on President Franklin Roosevelt. As a result, he issued Executive Order 8802, which banned discrimination in the federal government and defense industries. Randolph had won, and the march was called off.

Another March

In 1963 Randolph was one of the organizers of the March on Washington for civil rights at which Martin Luther King made his “I Have a Dream” speech. After the event, Randolph and other leaders met with President Kennedy. Less than a year later, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law.

Randolph died in 1979, having been a role model for many civil rights leaders of the late 1900s. At his funeral, President Jimmy Carter led the mourners.

Review Questions

1. How did African Americans first become railroad workers?
2. Define the word *socialism*.
3. How long did it take for the BSCP to become a recognized union?

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Cause and Effect** What caused widespread race riots in 1919?
5. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did Randolph’s planned march have on President Roosevelt?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about Randolph’s national importance by the fact that President Carter attended his funeral?

UNIT 8

War and Recovery: 1940–1960

The decades of the 1940s and 1950s were ones of turmoil both at home and abroad. All Americans suffered through both World War II and the Korean War. At home African Americans worked alone and in groups to end segregation and bring peace to the world.

James L. Farmer, Jr.

1920–1999

Founder of CORE

Did You Know?

- ✦ Farmer started college when he was only 14 years old.
- ✦ He believed that nonviolent protests could end segregation.
- ✦ He served in the Nixon administration.

Did You Know?

- ✦ Adair spent her whole life in Texas.
- ✦ She was involved in two Supreme Court cases.
- ✦ She was a strong supporter of the NAACP.

Christia Daniels Adair

1893–1989

Voting Rights Activist

Paul Robeson

1898–1976

Athlete, Singer, Actor,
and Activist

Did You Know?

- ✦ Robeson was an All-American football player in college.
- ✦ He graduated from Columbia University law school in 1923.
- ✦ He worked tirelessly for friendship between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Did You Know?

- ✦ Bunche was born in Detroit but grew up in Los Angeles.
- ✦ He was valedictorian of his class at UCLA.
- ✦ He won the Nobel Prize for ending the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict.

Ralph Bunche

1904–1971

Diplomat and Winner of the
Nobel Peace Prize

Rosa Parks

1913–2005

Civil Rights Activist

Did You Know?

- ✦ Parks refused to give up her seat on an Alabama bus in 1955.
- ✦ Her action set off a highly-publicized boycott.
- ✦ She lived in Detroit in later years.

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY
1940

- 1941** Writer James Agee and photographer Walker Evans publish *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*, which exposes terrible conditions of Alabama sharecroppers.
- 1943** New York and Detroit have race riots.
- 1944** U.S. Supreme Court rules that citizens cannot be denied right to vote because of color.

1945

- 1945** Richard Wright pens *Black Boy*.
- 1947** Jackie Robinson, 28, signs with Brooklyn Dodgers and becomes first African-American baseball player in major leagues.
- 1947** Historian John Hope Franklin writes *From Slavery to Freedom*.
- 1948** Racial segregation ends in U.S. armed forces.
- 1948** NAACP decides to push for racial integration, especially of U.S. schools.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY
1940

- 1941** National Gallery of Art opens in Washington, D.C.
- 1941** Musicians Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn compose “Take the A Train.”
- 1941** Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, and U.S. enters World War II.
- 1942** Last automobile is produced in February, and auto industry makes tanks, jeeps, and airplanes until war ends.
- 1942** U.S. troops at Bataan and Corregidor in Philippines surrender to Japanese.
- 1942** U.S. begins internment of Japanese-Americans.
- 1942** U.S. defeats Japan in Battle of Midway.
- 1943** Cartoonist Bill Mauldin creates grimy soldiers Willy and Joe for Army newspaper *Stars and Stripes*.

1945

- 1945** Franklin Roosevelt dies, and Harry S. Truman becomes president.
- 1946** More than 1 million workers go on strike.
- 1946** Atomic Energy Commission is established.
- 1946** Benjamin Spock writes best-selling *Baby and Child Care*.
- 1946** ENIAC computer, which uses 18,000 radio tubes, begins computer revolution.
- 1947** Congress creates Everglades National Park.
- 1948** Racial segregation ends in armed forces.
- 1948** Some 1 million U.S. homes have TV sets, up from just 5,000 in 1945.
- 1949** Air Force pilots complete first nonstop round-the-world flight.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY
1940

- 1941** Germany invades Soviet Union and begins 900-day siege of city of Leningrad.
- 1942** Battle of Stalingrad begins August 22, and more than 1.6 million soldiers die before remaining German troops surrender in February, 1943.
- 1942** Some 1,000 Royal Air Force bombers hit industrial targets at Cologne, Germany.
- 1942** Mohandas K. Gandhi demands India’s immediate independence from Britain.
- 1942** British-U.S. force of 400,000 lands in North Africa in November.
- 1943** Allied armies invade Italy.
- 1943** German troops crush uprising in Warsaw’s Jewish ghetto.
- 1944** Some 176,000 Allied troops land on French beaches on D-Day, June 6.

1945

- 1945** World War II ends in Europe on May 8 and in Asia August 14.
- 1946** United Nations General Assembly holds first session.
- 1946** Nuremberg Tribunal gives death sentences to 12 leading Nazis.
- 1946** U.S. gives Japan new constitution, which brings democracy and ends centuries of absolutism.
- 1946** Women in Japan and Italy vote for first time.
- 1947** Arabs and Jews reject British proposal for division of Palestine into Arab and Jewish zones.
- 1947** India gains independence from Great Britain.
- 1947** Dead Sea Scrolls are discovered in cave in Palestine.
- 1948** Hindu extremist assassinates Mohandas K. Gandhi.
- 1949** Communists proclaim People’s Republic of China.

1950

- 1951** NAACP Florida state secretary Harry T. Moore and wife, Harriet, die Christmas night when their house is bombed in supposed retaliation for protests of 1946 lynching. No arrests are ever made.
- 1952** Malcolm X joins U.S. Black Muslim leader Elijah Mohammed and will become group's first national minister.
- 1953** Novelist Ralph Waldo Ellison writes *Invisible Man*.
- 1954** In *Brown v. Board of Education*, U.S. Supreme Court rules unanimously that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

1955

- 1955** U.S. Supreme Court orders desegregation of public golf courses, parks, swimming pools, and playgrounds.
- 1957** President Eisenhower sends federal troops to end disorders that arise from integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- 1957** Althea Gibson is first African American invited to play at Wimbledon tennis tournament—and wins.
- 1957** U.S. Congress establishes Civil Rights Commission.

1950

- 1950** President Harry Truman escapes assassination.
- 1950** U.S. decides to produce hydrogen bomb.
- 1951** Floods in Kansas and Missouri leave 200,000 homeless.
- 1951** *See It Now* with Edward R. Murrow and *I Love Lucy* debut on TV.
- 1951** *African Queen* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* hit movie theaters.
- 1952** Polio epidemic sickens 50,000 and kills 3,300, as Jonas Salk tests a polio vaccine.
- 1952** E.B. White writes *Charlotte's Web*.
- 1953** Former World War II military leader Dwight D. Eisenhower is elected president.
- 1953** Congress creates Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
- 1954** Supreme Court rules racial segregation unconstitutional in public schools.

1955

- 1955** Disneyland opens, and *Mickey Mouse Club* and *Captain Kangaroo* debut on TV.
- 1956** Dwight Eisenhower wins reelection as president.
- 1956** *My Fair Lady* opens on Broadway.
- 1957** Congress creates National Cancer Institute.
- 1957** Ford Motor Company introduces Edsel, which will be colossal failure.
- 1958** U.S. atomic submarine *Nautilus* makes first voyage under North Pole.
- 1959** Alaska and Hawaii become 49th and 50th states.
- 1959** Engineers create microchip.

1950

- 1950** Korean War begins.
- 1951** "Trial" armistice in Korean War ends, and fighting resumes.
- 1951** Jordan's King Abdullah is assassinated.
- 1951** South Africa enforces apartheid by issuing cards to residents, declaring them white, black, or colored.
- 1952** Britain's King George VI dies, and his elder daughter becomes Elizabeth II.
- 1952** Soviet dictator Josef Stalin dies after more than 25 years in power.
- 1953** Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norkay are first to reach summit of Mount Everest.
- 1953** Winter storms cause Holland's dikes to burst, leaving 100,000 homeless.
- 1953** Soviet tanks kill East Berlin workers protesting bad conditions and low wages.
- 1954** Revolt against French colonial power begins in Algeria.

1955

- 1956** Soviet troops put down uprising in Hungary.
- 1956** Crisis over control of Suez Canal leads to U.N. forces taking over.
- 1957** King Haakon VII of Norway dies after 52-year reign.
- 1957** Soviet Union launches Sputnik into space.
- 1958** Nikita Khrushchev comes to power in Soviet Union.
- 1958** Charles de Gaulle becomes premier of France.
- 1959** Fidel Castro comes to power in Cuba.
- 1959** Tibet's Dalai Lama escapes from communists to India.

James L. Farmer, Jr., p. 71**Review Questions**

1. Gandhi used nonviolent mass protests.
2. The purpose was to desegregate interstate bus travel.
3. A sit-in is a nonviolent protest in which participants refuse to leave until an agreement is made.

Critical Thinking

4. **Making Inferences** They did not believe that Republicans supported African-American causes.
5. **Analyzing Effects** The restaurant was no longer segregated.
6. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** Farmer realized he could only get a job in segregated churches.

Christia Daniel Adair, p. 73**Review Questions**

1. A primary is an election that selects a party's official candidates.
2. Warren Harding offended Adair.
3. The group opposed gambling.

Critical Thinking

4. **Making Inferences** The family placed great importance on education.
5. **Drawing Conclusions** The school provided a place for blacks to attend college, away from white schools.
6. **Recognizing Effects** People of all races could now vote in Texas primaries.

Paul Robeson, p. 75**Review Questions**

1. He supported the Progressive Party.
2. He was living in London, England.
3. The play was *The Emperor Jones*.

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** Robeson's intellectual, athletic, performing, and musical talents made him extremely versatile.
5. **Recognizing Effects** It was impossible for him to perform abroad.
6. **Making Inferences** The level of racism was quite intense.

Ralph Bunche, p. 77**Review Questions**

1. He was away from home for long periods.
2. It is a system for transition to self-government.
3. He taught at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** Bunche's father had left the family and his mother had died.
5. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** He talked out of turn in school.
6. **Making Inferences** The settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict led up to the parade.

Rosa Parks, p. 79**Review Questions**

1. She worked at a department store.
2. It lasted 13 months.
3. They moved to Detroit, Michigan.

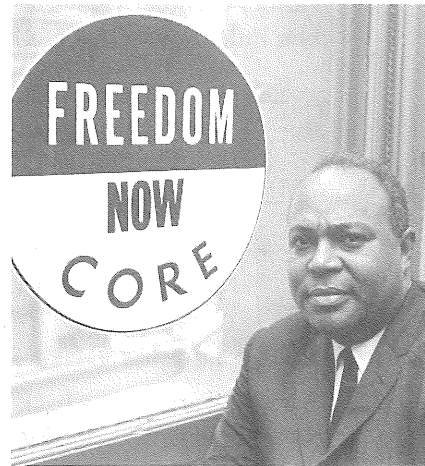
Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** Parks is greatly revered today.
5. **Recognizing Effects** She had to drop out of high school and didn't finish until many years later.
6. **Analyzing Motives** They had found a good case for challenging bus segregation.

James L. Farmer, Jr.

1920–1999

Founder of CORE



A Very Bright Child

James L. Farmer, Jr. was born in 1920 in Marshall, Texas. He attended public schools and was so smart that he skipped several grades in elementary school. He entered Wiley College in Marshall at the age of 14. Wiley was where Farmer's father, Dr. James L. Farmer, Sr., taught. Dr. Farmer was a distinguished scholar who in 1918 had become the first African American to earn a doctoral degree from the University of Texas. At that time, Dr. Farmer was one of only 25 African Americans in the country to hold the degree.

James Farmer, Jr., graduated from college in 1938, at an age when most students are just graduating from high school. He later enrolled in the School of Religion at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and he received a master's degree in sacred theology in 1940. However, he decided not to become a minister when he realized that the only jobs he would be able to get were at segregated churches. He decided to fight the Methodist Church's segregation policy rather than become an **ordained** minister.

ordained to have been given ministerial or priestly authority

World War II

Farmer was a **pacifist**. When the war began, he refused to serve in the U.S. armed forces because he was opposed to war in general. He also objected to serving in a group that was segregated. However, since Farmer held an advanced degree in religion, he was not called for military duty.

pacifist one who opposes violence as a way to settle disputes

First Sit-In

In 1942 Farmer led the first civil rights sit-in. He and about 25 friends, both black and white, seated themselves in the "whites-only" part of the Jack Spratt Coffee Shop in Chicago, Illinois. Then they refused to budge until all of them were served. The sit-in succeeded when the restaurant owner agreed to end segregation in the coffee shop.

The Congress of Racial Equality

That same year Farmer founded the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and the next year he was elected its national chairman. The goal of CORE was to use nonviolent protests to fight segregation in America. CORE was based on the philosophy of Mohandas K. Gandhi, the leader of the independence movement in India. For many years, Gandhi had been using nonviolent mass protests to try to end British rule there.

In 1947 CORE sent a group of eight white men and eight black men on a two-week trip through the Southern states of Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and North Carolina. The trip was called a Journey of Reconciliation, and the goal was to travel on public transportation such as buses to desegregate them. The group was arrested several times, but they received a great deal of publicity. This trip marked the beginning of a long series of similar campaigns.

The 1950s

Farmer eventually gave up his position as CORE's national chairman because it left him little time for his other work throughout the civil rights movement.

- ✦ In 1958 the International Confederation of Free Trade named him to a five-man delegation sent to 15 African countries.
- ✦ He was a radio and television commentator on programs sponsored by the United Auto Workers in Detroit.
- ✦ He served as program director for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

CORE Leader Once Again

By 1961 Farmer was back at the helm of CORE. During this time, CORE became famous for its sponsorship of the Freedom Rides. The purpose of the rides was to end segregation on interstate bus routes in the South. Although volunteer riders, who eventually numbered more than 300, were beaten and arrested and buses were burned, the campaign eventually succeeded. Under Farmer's leadership, CORE was also one of the sponsors of the 1963 March on Washington.

A Final Departure from CORE

Farmer left CORE in 1966 partly because he felt that it was restricting the activities of whites who had made a significant contribution to the goals of the organization. He then devoted himself to teaching and politics.

A Government Appointment

In 1969 President Richard Nixon appointed Farmer to be assistant secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Some African-American leaders thought it inappropriate for a former civil rights leader to serve in a Republican administration. Others defended Farmer, saying that African Americans should be represented in all political parties.

Later Life

Farmer later became a history professor at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia. In 1985 he published his autobiography, *Lay Bare the Heart*. In 1997 he was back in the national spotlight when Congressman John Lewis of Georgia organized a congressional tribute. In 1998 Farmer received an even greater honor when President Bill Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Farmer died on July 9, 1999, in Fredericksburg.

Review Questions

1. How did Mohandas K. Gandhi overturn British rule in India?
2. What was the purpose of the Freedom Rides?
3. What is a sit-in?

Critical Thinking

4. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about some African-American leaders objecting to Farmer's working for a Republican administration?
5. **Analyzing Effects** What effect did the sit-in at the Jack Spratt Coffee Shop have on future patrons?
6. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** What caused Farmer to decide to not become an ordained minister?



Christia Daniels Adair

1893–1989

Voting Rights Activist

A Texas Education

Christia Daniels was born on October 22, 1893, in the town of Victoria in southeast Texas. She was one of four children born to Hardy and Ada Daniels. Young Christia attended a small elementary school in the nearby town of Edna. In 1911 she and her brother were sent to Austin, the state capitol, to attend high school. Later she attended what is now Prairie View A&M University, which had been established for African Americans.

Marriage and Civic Affairs

In 1918 Christia Daniels married Elbert Adair, a railroad brakeman, and moved with him to Kingsville, Texas. Christia Adair started a Sunday school there. She also joined a group of women, both black and white, who opposed gambling.

Suffragist

At this time, Adair was one of the few African-American suffragists in Texas. The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave American women the right to vote. However when she tried to vote in a party primary election, she learned that state law prevented her because she was not white. Being turned away at the polls caused Adair to focus on racial issues.

A Political Encounter

One day in 1920 Adair's railroading husband told her that Republican presidential candidate Warren G. Harding would be coming by train to Kingsville. This was exciting news because at the time most African Americans were Republicans. Adair gathered up ten African-American children and took them to the railroad station. She positioned several of the children very near to where she knew Harding's train would stop. However when Harding finished speaking, he reached over the heads of the black children to shake hands with the white children behind them. Adair later recalled,

“I was offended and insulted and I made up my mind I wouldn't be a Republican ever.”

A Loyal Member

In 1925 the Adairs moved to Houston. Christia Adair became an early member of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). She was a loyal member of the NAACP for the rest of her life, and she served as executive secretary for 12 years.

A First Supreme Court Case

During the first half of the 20th century the Republican Party was very weak in most Southern states, including Texas. As a result the right to vote in a Democratic Party

primary an election in which voters of a political party nominate candidates for office

primary became very important. Whoever won the Democratic primary would almost certainly win the general election.

However, state and party laws in the South were set up to keep all those who were not white from voting in these primaries.

In the early 1940s the Houston NAACP and others challenged the Texas laws. Dr. Lonnie E. Smith was an African-American dentist in Houston. He sued for the right to vote in a primary election being conducted by the Democratic Party. Eventually the case, known as *Smith v. Allwright*, came before the U.S. Supreme Court. Thurgood Marshall, a future justice of the Supreme Court, presented the case for the NAACP. In 1944 the court ruled that primary elections must be open to voters of all races.

A Second Supreme Court Case

In 1957 the Houston, Texas, police tried to find the membership lists of the local chapter of the NAACP. This made up the second Supreme Court case. The case finally went to court as one in which lawyers had supposedly illegally sought clients. However Adair and others strongly believed that the real purpose of the case was to destroy the local NAACP chapter by scaring its members and ending the group's support of civil rights.

Adair testified for five hours in court. Eventually the case went to the U.S. Supreme Court, and again Thurgood Marshall represented the NAACP. Again Marshall won the decision. Adair, who was secretary of the local NAACP chapter, never admitted having chapter membership lists or having members' names.

Continuing the Fight

Adair sought other ways to end discrimination in Houston. She helped desegregate the Houston airport, the Houston Public Library, city buses, the veterans' hospital, and a local department store's dressing room. Other efforts led to jury service for African Americans and the eligibility of African Americans for county government jobs. She helped found the Harris County Democrats. She was also one of the first two African Americans to be chosen for the statewide Democratic committee.

Other Interests

- ✦ Adair was active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and she was the first African-American woman elected to its general board.
- ✦ She was active in the National Association of Colored Women's and Girls' Club.
- ✦ Even into her eighties, Adair worked as the clerk of absentee voting.

Awards

- ✦ In 1974 the Houston chapter of the National Organization for Women honored her for her activities with women's suffrage.
- ✦ In 1977, on her 84th birthday, a Houston park was dedicated in her name.

Review Questions

1. Define the word *primary*.
2. What presidential candidate offended Adair?
3. What was the purpose of the women's group that Adair joined in Kingsville, Texas, shortly after her marriage?

Critical Thinking

4. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about the importance the Daniels family placed on education by the fact that Christia and a brother were sent to Austin to high school?
5. **Drawing Conclusions** How did the creation of Prairie View A&M University encourage segregation in Texas schools?
6. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did the Supreme Court decision in *Smith v. Allwright* have on voters in Texas?

Paul Robeson

1898–1976

Athlete, Singer, Actor, and Activist



A Son of New Jersey

Paul Robeson grew up in New Jersey. He was born in 1898 in the town of Princeton. His father, William Drew Robeson, was an escaped slave who had become a Presbyterian minister. His mother was a former schoolteacher from Pennsylvania. Tragedy struck the family when she was killed in a fire. Paul was just six years old. Later Rev. Robeson moved the family to the town of Somerville.

- ✦ Robeson excelled at Somerville High School.
- ✦ He was on the baseball, basketball, and football teams.
- ✦ He sang in the glee club and was on the debate team.

Robeson graduated from Somerville High School in 1915 and got an academic scholarship to what is now Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

- ✦ He “lettered” in baseball, basketball, football, and track.
- ✦ He was named to the All-American football team twice.
- ✦ He was **valedictorian** of his graduating class in 1919.

valedictorian student with the highest academic rank

A Career Cut Short

Robeson then entered law school at Columbia University in New York. He supported himself by playing professional football until he graduated in 1923 and found a job at an all-white New York law firm. Things did not go well, though. A secretary refused to work with him because he was black. Robeson left the legal profession.

A Career in the Theater

During law school Robeson had become interested in acting and had appeared in two Broadway plays. He joined the Provincetown Players, an influential theater company that included the playwright Eugene O’Neill.

- ✦ In 1924 he starred in O’Neill’s *The Emperor Jones*.
- ✦ In 1930 he starred in Shakespeare’s *Othello* in London.
- ✦ In 1932 he returned to Broadway in the musical *Show Boat*.
- ✦ In 1943 he starred in a long-running production of *Othello*.

Movies

Robeson also began appearing in movies in Hollywood and in Britain. Among these were

- ✦ *The Emperor Jones* (1933)
- ✦ *Song of Freedom* (1936)
- ✦ *Show Boat* (1936)

An International Singing Career

Robeson had a rich, mellow singing voice. In 1925 he gave a concert in New York City that brought him enormously favorable reviews. He got a record contract that same year and released his first recordings of spirituals. He became known for singing work songs, folk music, and political ballads from many nations.

Discovering Africa

During the 1930s Robeson and his family lived mostly in London, England. It was there that he “discovered” Africa. He took classes at the University of London to learn various African languages. He said that African Americans had to be proud of their African roots,

“for no one respects a man who does not respect himself.”

Political Activism

In 1934 Robeson made the first of many visits to the Soviet Union, where he met with leading artists and performers. He was impressed by what he took to be the lack of racial prejudice.

In 1939 Robeson and his wife returned to the United States, and he continued his political activities. During World War II he used his many talents in support of the effort to defeat Germany and Japan. In 1948 Robeson supported the Progressive Party in the presidential election. At considerable risk, he made speeches throughout the South highlighting the African-American struggle for equality.

An Isolated Idealist

When the Cold War began, Robeson found himself increasingly isolated. He continued to support the Soviet Union, even after the horrors of Joseph Stalin’s rule were revealed in 1956. In 1950 the U.S. government had cancelled his passport, so Robeson could no longer go abroad to perform. Performances in the U.S. became rare. His physical and mental health declined, even after his passport was restored. He made a few more public appearances, but retired from public life in 1966. He died ten years later.

“Ol’ Man River”

The song with which Robeson is most closely associated is “Ol’ Man River” from *Show Boat*. The song was written as a slave’s lament, but over the years Robeson changed the words into a song of black resistance. Folk singer Pete Seeger quoted the lyricist as saying,

“If I’d known he was going to change it so much, I’d have let him write it himself.”

Seeger added, “But that was Paul Robeson. He could do anything.”

Review Questions

1. What political party did Robeson support in the 1948 presidential election?
2. Where was Robeson living when he “discovered” Africa?
3. In what Eugene O’Neill play did Robeson appear in both on the stage and in the movies?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** Why was Seeger’s conclusion that Robeson “could do anything” accurate?
5. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did the loss of his passport have on Robeson’s career?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about the level of racism Robeson felt by his decision to give up his legal career?

Ralph Bunche

1904–1971

Diplomat and Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize



An Influential Grandmother

Ralph Bunche was born in Detroit in a white house with green shutters and a large front porch that was owned by his grandmother, Lucy Johnson. Called “Nana” by her grandchildren, Lucy Johnson played a pivotal role in Bunche’s childhood.

In 1914 the family moved to New Mexico where Bunche’s father tried but failed to find work and soon left the family. When Bunche’s mother died, Nana moved Ralph and his two sisters to Los Angeles.

Lucy Johnson set a high standard for her grandchildren. At a time of great racism, Johnson was so light colored that she could have “passed” for white. However she did not and had a fierce pride in her race.

A Discipline Problem

Bunche did well in elementary school, but liked to talk out of turn. One teacher, Miss Emma Belle Sweet, tried to break this bad habit by making Bunche stand in the corner facing the wall. Despite the discipline, Bunche fondly remembered Miss Sweet and gave credit to her geography lessons for opening up the world to him.

High School and Beyond

Bunche attended Jefferson High School, just a half block from his Los Angeles home. He was on the debate team and competed in football, basketball, baseball, and track. He was also valedictorian of his class. When not in class he delivered newspapers to help the family budget. After graduation he got a job laying carpet, and he knew that the family needed the money he earned.

Despite the family finances, Nana Johnson made Bunche quit his job at the end of the summer and start college at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). He had an athletic scholarship to pay for school, and he worked as a janitor to earn money. Bunche became an all around scholar-athlete at UCLA.

- ✦ He was president of the debate society.
- ✦ He wrote for the campus newspaper.
- ✦ He was a star basketball player.
- ✦ He played football until a leg injury ended his career.

In 1927 Bunche graduated from UCLA and was again valedictorian of his class. For the next several years he alternated between teaching at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and working on a Ph.D. degree at Harvard University in Massachusetts. He completed his Ph.D. in 1934.

A Career Hurts a Family

By the time he had completed his work at Harvard, Bunche was also married and the father of two little girls. A third child, a son, came along in 1943. However Bunche’s

career kept him away from home for long periods, and this caused great stresses in the family. In 1945 his wife wrote,

“I know you think you are the Miracle Negro with the Whites . . . though it may be killing you and hurting your family. . . . I must realize that as you grow more important you will be away from us the best part of our lives.”

World War II

When World War II started, Bunche was rejected for military service because of his leg injury. Instead he became an advisor to President Roosevelt on minority problems. He was also an advisor to the U.S. military on Africa. In addition he was part of the first conferences that led to the formation of the United Nations. In the 1945 San Francisco Conference that created the UN, Bunche drafted the sections of the UN charter that deal with **trusteeship**.

trusteeship system for the transition to self-government

In 1946 Bunche became head of the Trusteeship Division of the UN. Because of his strong desire to see freedom around the world he was said to be the perfect man for the job. The Trusteeship Division helped ease the way for colonies around the world to achieve independence.

War in the Middle East

In 1948 war broke out between the new nation of Israel and its Arab neighbors. The UN appointed Count Folke Bernadotte of Sweden to attempt a peaceful resolution. Bunche was his main advisor. Near the end of the year, Bernadotte was assassinated, and the difficult role fell to Bunche. Through 11 months of work, he used fairness and objectivity to gain the confidence of both sides. In 1949 he negotiated an end to the conflict.

He returned to a hero's welcome in America. He had proved that the UN could fulfill its peacekeeping role.

- ✦ New York gave him a ticker tape parade.
- ✦ Los Angeles declared “Ralph Bunche Day.”

The ultimate honor came on September 22, 1950, when he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

A Bias for Peace

Bunche strongly believed that conflicts could be resolved through negotiation and without the use of force. Over the next years he worked tirelessly to end or even prevent conflicts in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. In 1967 he tried to retire from the UN, but Secretary General U Thant and U.S. President Lyndon Johnson pressured him to stay. He remained until the fall of 1971 and died later that year.

Review Questions

1. What part of Bunche's career caused stress with his wife and children?
2. What is a trusteeship?
3. Where did Bunche teach while he was working on his Ph.D. at Harvard?

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** What caused Lucy Johnson to move Bunche and his two sisters to Los Angeles?
5. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** What caused an elementary school teacher to make Bunche stand in the corner?
6. **Sequencing Events** What event led up to the ticker tape parade in New York?



Rosa Parks

1913–2005

Civil Rights Activist

A Difficult Childhood

Rosa Parks was born Rosa Louise McCauley in Tuskegee, Alabama, in 1913. Her father, James, was a carpenter and farmer, and her mother, Leona, was a teacher. When her parents separated, she, her mother, and her younger brother moved to a rural area near Montgomery, Alabama, to live with her grandparents.

An Interrupted Education

Rosa lived with her mother until she was 11 years old. Then she went to live with her aunt in nearby Montgomery and enrolled in the Industrial School for Girls. For high school, Rosa went to the school run by the Alabama State Teachers College for Negroes. She was not to graduate, however. She had to drop out to care for her grandmother, and later, her mother, who had both become ill.

The 1930s

In 1932 Rosa McCauley married Raymond Parks, a barber in Montgomery. Raymond was a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He encouraged Rosa to finish her high school education, and she did.

The 1940s

In 1943 Rosa Parks joined the Montgomery chapter of the NAACP. She was soon elected secretary. During World War II Parks worked at nearby Maxwell Air Force Base, a federal facility where racial segregation was not allowed. Parks later said,

“You might just say Maxwell opened my eyes up.”

The 1950s

The early 1950s were a time of increasing turmoil in the civil rights arena. The U.S. Supreme Court had ruled that segregation was against the law on buses, trains, and other vehicles that traveled between states. However, this law did not apply to public vehicles that never left a state. Thus the city buses in Montgomery, Alabama, were still harshly segregated. Civil rights leaders in the community had been looking for a good case on which to base a challenge. They were soon to find the perfect one.

Riding the Bus in Montgomery

- * The front rows of bus seats were reserved for whites.
- * The back section was for “colored,” who made up more than 75 percent of bus riders.
- * The middle section could be used by “colored” until the white section was full; then all “colored” had to leave that section even if only one white person wanted a seat.

- ✦ If whites were already sitting in the front, black passengers had to enter the front door, pay the fare, leave the bus, and re-enter through the rear door.
- ✦ The middle and back sections were not fixed. The bus driver had the right to move the “colored” sign or remove it altogether.
- ✦ If the “colored” section became too full, passengers there had to get off the bus, even if there was room to sit or stand in the front or middle sections.

A Civil Rights Icon Is Born

Parks had worked a full day at her sewing job at a department store on Thursday, December 1, 1955. About 6 p.m. she boarded a bus and sat down in the middle section. In a few more stops, the white section filled up, the white driver demanded that Parks and the three other African Americans in the middle section leave their seats. The others left, but the quiet and dignified Parks did not. As she wrote,

“I didn’t give up my seat because I was tired . . . No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in.”

Parks’s decision was both brave and dangerous. African Americans had been arrested or even killed for disobeying bus drivers. Parks was arrested.



The Boycott

News of the situation spread quickly throughout the African-American community, and community leaders decided to launch a boycott of the bus system. Black churches announced the boycott on Sunday, and a front-page newspaper article helped spread the word. On Monday about 40,000 people boycotted the city buses. The boycott continued for 13 months. By that time the Supreme Court had ruled that bus segregation was illegal.

Tough Times

After the court decision, snipers fired into local buses. Terrorists bombed black churches and the homes of African-American leaders. Rosa Parks lost her job at the department store. Raymond Parks quit his job when his boss said he could not talk about his wife or the court case.

Later Years

In 1957 Parks, her husband and her mother moved to Detroit, Michigan. In 1965 Parks went to work as an aide to Congressman John Conyers. She retired in 1988 and lived quietly until her death in 2005. Over the decades, Parks’s accomplishment gained more and more respect. When she died, her casket lay in the U.S. Capitol in Washington. She was the first woman and only the second African American to be so honored.

Review Questions

1. Where did Parks work in 1955?
2. How long did the Montgomery bus boycott last?
3. To what Northern city did Parks and her family move in 1957?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about the importance attached to Parks today because her casket lay in the U.S. Capitol?
5. **Recognizing Effects** What effect did family illnesses have on Parks’s education?
6. **Analyzing Motives** What motivated African-American leaders to organize a bus boycott after Parks was arrested?

UNIT 9 Modern Times: 1960 to Present

The years since 1960 have seen an explosive growth in the number and variety of important roles that African Americans have played nationally. Once shut out of mainstream America, they now play leading roles in all facets of national life.

Thurgood Marshall

1908–1993

Civil Rights Lawyer and
Supreme Court Jurist

Did You Know?

- ✦ Marshall decided to be a lawyer although his mother wanted him to be a dentist.
- ✦ He was U.S. Solicitor General when Lyndon Johnson appointed him to the Supreme Court.
- ✦ He was the first African American justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and served for more than two decades.

Did You Know?

- ✦ King was uncertain about becoming a minister when he was young.
- ✦ He became the leader of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
- ✦ He traveled more than 6 million miles and made more than 2,500 speeches in his lifetime.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

1929–1968

Minister and Civil
Rights Leader

Barbara Jordan

1936–1996

Trailblazing Congresswoman

Did You Know?

- ✦ Jordan grew up in a segregated neighborhood in Houston, Texas.
- ✦ She was noted for her public speaking ability.
- ✦ She was the first African-American woman to serve in Congress.

EVENTS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1960

- 1960** African Americans successfully integrate Greensboro, North Carolina, lunch counters after months of “sit-in” demonstrations.
- 1960** U.S. Congress passes Civil Rights Act despite attempts by Southern senators to block it.
- 1960** U.S. Supreme court rules that states cannot change city boundaries to exclude African-American voters.
- 1962** Federal marshals constantly guard Air Force veteran James Meredith for ten months as he integrates Univ. of Mississippi.

1975

- 1963** NAACP leader Medgar Evers, is murdered in doorway of home.
- 1963** Four schoolgirls die when bomb explodes at Birmingham, Ala. church during Sunday services.
- 1964** Atlanta’s Lester Maddox closes his restaurant rather than serve African-American customers. He becomes governor of Georgia three years later.
- 1965** Race riots in Watts section of Los Angeles lead to 34 deaths.
- 1967** Race riots erupt in 127 U.S. cities, with worst in Newark and Detroit.

- 1976** Alex Haley pens *Roots*.
- 1977** U.S. Supreme Court rules racial quotas can be used to draw boundaries of legislative districts.
- 1977** Andrew Young becomes U.S. ambassador to United Nations.
- 1980** U.S. Supreme Court rules Congress can use racial quotas when awarding government contracts to redress past discrimination.
- 1983** Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday becomes national holiday.
- 1989** Douglas Wilder becomes governor of Virginia.

EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

1960

- 1961** U.S. Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba ends in disaster for U.S.
- 1962** Cuban missile crisis almost brings world war.
- 1963** President John F. Kennedy is assassinated.
- 1964** President Lyndon Johnson launches national “war on poverty.”
- 1965** First U.S. combat troops deployed to Vietnam, and U.S. draft calls double.
- 1968** Sen. Robert Kennedy is assassinated.

1975

- 1968** Race riots sweep Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Kansas City, Newark, Washington, and elsewhere.
- 1969** U.S. astronauts walk on Moon.
- 1970** U.S. colleges close down during widespread anti-war demonstrations.
- 1974** President Richard Nixon resigns in disgrace, and Gerald Ford becomes president.

- 1977** Jimmy Carter becomes president.
- 1978** First gambling casinos outside of Nevada open in Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- 1980** Ronald Reagan is elected president.
- 1981** President Reagan survives assassination attempt.
- 1981** First space shuttle, *Columbia*, is launched.
- 1981** Sandra Day O’Connor becomes first woman on U.S. Supreme Court.

EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

1960

- 1961** Berlin Wall is erected.
- 1962** After a trial, Israel hangs Nazi death-camp leader Adolf Eichmann.
- 1964** Jawaharlal Nehru dies after 17 years as prime minister of India.
- 1964** South Africa sentences Nelson Mandela to life in prison.
- 1968** Vietcong and North Vietnamese stage Tet offensive.

1975

- 1968** South Africa’s Dr. Christiaan Barnard performs world’s first successful heart transplant.
- 1968** Soviets invade Czechoslovakia to end liberalization efforts.
- 1972** “Bloody Sunday” riots and deaths in Northern Ireland lead to general strike.

- 1975** Saigon falls to North Vietnamese forces.
- 1975** Spain’s Francisco Franco dies, ending 36-year dictatorship.
- 1976** Riots in South Africa start process that will end apartheid.
- 1976** Worst earthquake in modern history kills 655,000 in China.
- 1978** Camp David accord brings peace between Egypt and Israel.
- 1979** Revolution shakes Iran, and terrorists take more than 60 people hostage in the U.S. Embassy in Teheran.

1990

- 1989** David Dinkins is elected mayor of New York City.
- 1989** Colin Powell becomes chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- 1990** Whoopi Goldberg wins best supporting actress Oscar for *Ghost*.
- 1991** Videotape shows Los Angeles police beating unarmed African-American motorist Rodney King.
- 1991** Clarence Thomas becomes U.S. Supreme Court justice.
- 1992** Carol Moseley-Braun is elected to U.S. Senate.
- 1993** Toni Morrison wins Nobel Prize in literature.
- 2001** Colin Powell becomes U.S. Secretary of State.
- 2001** Denzel Washington wins best actor Oscar for *Training Day*.
- 2001** Halle Berry wins best actress Oscar for *Monster's Ball*.
- 2004** Oprah Winfrey becomes first African-American billionaire.
- 2005** Condoleezza Rice becomes U.S. Secretary of State.
- 2005** Hurricane Katrina destroys lives of many poor African Americans and others who live in New Orleans.
- 2006** Building site announced for Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African-American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

1990

- 1986** *Challenger* space shuttle explodes on liftoff.
- 1986** *Phantom of the Opera* opens on Broadway.
- 1989** *Exxon Valdez* runs aground and creates huge oil spill on Alaskan coast.
- 1992** Bill Clinton defeats George H.W. Bush in presidential election.
- 1992** Hurricane Andrew leaves 250,000 homeless in Florida.
- 1995** Terrorists bomb federal building in Oklahoma City.
- 1996** Bill Clinton wins reelection as president.
- 2001** George W. Bush becomes president after disputed election.
- 2001** Terrorists destroy World Trade Center and attack Pentagon.
- 2001** Enron bankruptcy becomes largest in U.S. history.
- 2004** George W. Bush wins reelection.
- 2005** Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma strike Gulf Coast.
- 2006** Deaths of 12 coal miners in West Virginia lead to calls for greater mine safety.

1990

- 1980** Poland's Solidarity, with 10 million members, becomes first independent labor union in Soviet bloc.
- 1985** Mikhail Gorbachev becomes leader of Soviet Union.
- 1985** Islamic terrorists attack Madrid, Athens, Frankfurt, Rome, Vienna, and elsewhere.
- 1989** Japan's Emperor Hirohito dies after 62-year reign.
- 1989** Demolition of Berlin Wall begins.
- 1990** Iraq invades Kuwait and sets off worldwide reaction.
- 1991** Soviet Union collapses.
- 1994** Nelson Mandela becomes president of South Africa.
- 1995** Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is assassinated.
- 2002** More than 1,250 sq. miles of Antarctic ice shelf disintegrates.
- 2002** Eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in Congo leaves 400,000 homeless.
- 2003** Terrorists bomb Chechnya, Riyadh, Casablanca, Moscow, Mumbai, and Istanbul.
- 2004** Terrorists bomb Madrid commuter trains.
- 2004** Earthquake in Indian Ocean and resultant tsunamis kill almost 230,000.
- 2005** Terrorists bomb London.
- 2005** Massive earthquake rocks Pakistan.
- 2006** Israel and Hezbollah battle in northern Lebanon.

UNIT 9 Answer Key

Thurgood Marshall, p. 85

Review Questions

1. Marshall's grandfather was a soldier in the Union Army.
2. The word *inherently* means to be an inseparable or essential part of something.
3. Marshall's mother pawned her wedding ring.

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Effects** The landmark case legally ended segregation in all public places.
5. **Making Inferences** President Johnson believed it was time that this ethnic group be represented on the U.S. Supreme Court.
6. **Analyzing Evidence** Marshall earned the nickname by doing such things as writing dissenting opinions in more than 150 death penalty cases alone.

Martin Luther King, Jr., p. 87

Review Questions

1. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.
2. King's many other duties had made it impossible for him to continue in the role of Dexter's pastor.
3. The Poor People's Campaign was created to address issues of economic justice.

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** King was the leader of the Montgomery bus boycott and thus had become the major symbol of the effort to end segregation there.
5. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that King believed the strike was important and well worth his time to travel to Memphis to participate.
6. **Analyzing Effects** Television had the effect of showing people across the country, on a daily basis, the injustice that was being suffered by protestors in Birmingham.

Barbara Jordan, p. 89

Review Questions

1. Jordan spent her childhood in an African-American neighborhood of Houston, Texas.
2. The word *remedial* means to correct or improve a skill.
3. Jordan attended law school at Boston University in Massachusetts.

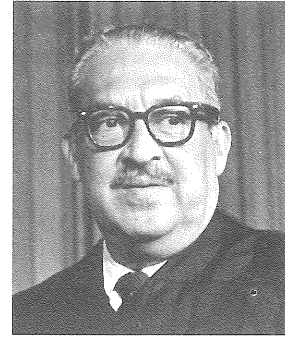
Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** It can be concluded that Jordan took her role so seriously because African-Americans had had to fight so long and hard to see that the rights and duties of the U.S. Constitution applied to them.
5. **Recognizing Point of View** Jordan believed that immigration was a core concept of American society.
6. **Making Inferences** It can be inferred that the campaign viewed Jordan as a much greater asset and asked her to perform much more significant duties once they realized her enormous skills.

Thurgood Marshall

1908–1993

Civil Rights Lawyer and Supreme Court Jurist



A Common Ancestry

Thurgood Marshall's ancestry reflected much of the African-American experience.

- * His great-grandfather was kidnapped in Africa and forced into slavery.
- * His grandfather was a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War.
- * His father was a waiter on Pullman railroad cars before becoming steward at an exclusive, all-white Maryland country club.

The U.S. Constitution as Punishment

Marshall described himself as a “hell-raiser” in school. It was the custom at his elementary school to send misbehaving students to the basement, along with a copy of the U.S. Constitution. Once there the offender had to memorize various passages. Marshall later said,

“I made my way through every paragraph.”

Sacrificing for an Education

Although both parents worked, the family was still short of money. However, they believed that education was important and worth sacrificing for.

- * After college Marshall's mother wanted him to become a dentist, which was a safe career, but Marshall was determined to be a lawyer. His mother pawned her wedding ring to pay tuition.
- * He attended Howard University Law School but could not afford to live on campus. Instead he made the long daily commute to school in Washington, D. C., from the family home in Maryland.

An Important Relationship

At Howard Law School, Marshall met a man who would change his life: Charles Hamilton Houston. At the time Houston was vice dean of the Howard law school, and later he would serve as chief counsel for the NAACP. Houston pushed his Howard students to see the law as a tool they could use to attack racism in the United States.

By 1936 “Charlie” Hamilton was chief counsel for the NAACP. He offered Marshall a job on the organization's legal staff in New York with a starting salary of \$2,600 per year. Marshall took the job. Two years later Hamilton returned to Washington, and Marshall became chief counsel.

Ending School Segregation

Marshall and Hamilton set a long-range goal of ending school segregation. At the time the NAACP usually went to court to see that all-black schools had resources and facilities equal to those of white institutions. However, Marshall and Hamilton

convinced the organization to take only cases that challenged the fact of segregation itself. The policy was controversial, and several lawyers resigned. Marshall was forced to travel as many as 50,000 miles a year and handle 450 cases at a time. Always famous for his wit, he later remarked,

“I was on the verge of a nervous breakdown for a long time, but I never quite made the grade.”

A Landmark Decision

In the early 1950s the NAACP took the case of Linda Brown, a black third-grader in Topeka, Kansas. Although she lived four blocks from an all-white school, she had to walk several blocks and then take a bus to an all-black school. The lawsuit asked that Brown be allowed to attend the neighborhood school closest to her home.

Marshall represented Brown, and the case went to the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1954 the Court’s nine members all agreed, “Separate educational facilities are **inherently** unequal.” The case of *Brown v. Board of Education* had demolished the legal basis for racial segregation in all public places in America.

inherently inseparably or essentially

Serving in Government

In 1961 President John F. Kennedy appointed Marshall to be a judge on the Second Court of Appeals. This is one of the most high-ranking courts in the nation. Marshall made 112 rulings while on the court. None of them was ever overturned.

In 1965 President Lyndon Johnson appointed Marshall to be United States Solicitor General. This role made Marshall the person who presented the federal government’s position in cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. In his two years as Solicitor General, Marshall won 14 of the 19 cases he argued for the government.

A Racial Pioneer

In 1967 President Johnson appointed Marshall to the U.S. Supreme Court, making him the first African American to serve there. Marshall remained on the Court for more than two decades. Over the years, later appointees to the Court were more conservative than Marshall, and he came to hold minority positions on many decisions. His nickname became “the great **dissenter**” because he disagreed with so many conservative opinions of the Court. In fact he wrote more than 150 dissenting opinions just in cases where the Court had refused to hear death penalty appeals.

dissenter one who disagrees

Despite not being one of the justices whose legal opinions most often prevailed, Marshall was revered by all. Everyone appreciated his sense of humor too. When he retired in 1991 due to ill health, a reporter asked him what was wrong. Marshall replied,

“What’s wrong with me? . . . I’m getting old and coming apart!”

Review Questions

1. How was Marshall’s grandfather involved in the Civil War?
2. Give a definition for the word *inherently*.
3. How did Marshall’s mother help him pay for law school?

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyzing Effects** What effect did *Brown v. Board of Education* have on American society?
5. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about President Johnson’s decision to appoint an African American to the Supreme Court?
6. **Analyzing Evidence** What evidence does the passage give of how Marshall earned the nickname “the great dissenter” while he was on the Supreme Court?

Martin Luther King, Jr.

1929–1968

Minister and Civil Rights Leader



A Family of Preachers

Martin Luther King, Jr., came from a long line of Baptist ministers. His grandfather, A.D. Williams, moved to Atlanta in 1893 and became pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church there. His father, Martin Luther King, Sr., became leader of Ebenezer Baptist in 1931 when Williams died. In February of 1948 Martin Luther King, Jr., became associate pastor there. However, he had not always planned to be a minister.

An Atlanta Boyhood

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1929. He was a smart boy and skipped a grade in school. In 1944 when he was 15 years old, he entered Morehouse College in Atlanta. Although he came from a family of ministers, King began questioning religion when he was a teenager. He decided to major in **sociology**.

sociology the scientific study of human social behavior

A Career Decision

At Morehouse, King met Dr. Benjamin Mays, who had been president of Morehouse since 1940. Mays was a distinguished religious scholar and an articulate and outspoken critic of segregation. He became a **mentor** to the young man, and the two became lifelong friends. Watching Mays convinced King that a religious career was the right thing for him after all.

mentor a wise and trusted counselor or teacher

King graduated from Morehouse in 1948 and entered Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania later that year. He was elected student body president and was valedictorian of his graduating class in 1951. That fall he began work on a Ph.D. degree at Boston University in Massachusetts.

Church Pastor

In September of 1954 King became pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Life was busy as King completed work for his Boston University degree, worked as Dexter's pastor, and became active in local civil rights efforts.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks set off one of the most powerful civil rights efforts in history when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white man. Within days the Montgomery Improvement Association had been formed with King as its president. A bus boycott lasting more than a whole year began.

As leader of the effort, King became the focus of white hatred.

- ✦ On the afternoon of January 26th he was arrested.
- ✦ On January 30th his house was bombed. His wife and two tiny children were in the house but escaped injury.

In 1956 the U.S. Supreme Court ordered that Montgomery buses be desegregated. The boycott's success became apparent when King and several allies boarded a bus in front of King's home and sat in any seats they wished.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference

In early 1957 King and others founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). The goal was to build on the success of Montgomery events and use non-violent civil disobedience to gain civil rights for African Americans elsewhere. King was chosen as the group's leader. Soon this and other activities took up so much of his time that he had to resign as pastor of Dexter Avenue Church. During the next 11 years King traveled more than 6 million miles, made more than 2,500 speeches, and wrote five books.

Birmingham, Alabama

Birmingham in 1963 was Alabama's largest and wealthiest city. It was also one of America's most humiliating and degrading cities for African Americans. That spring local African-American leaders asked King and the SCLC to organize a protest against segregated facilities and job discrimination.

The protest lasted 32 days and involved thousands of black protesters, including school children. All this was on the nightly TV news, and Americans across the country watched in horror as children and others were attacked by police dogs and knocked down by the force of high-pressure water hoses. King was criticized for his tactics, but they succeeded. He was also jailed and wrote "Letter from Birmingham Jail" to refute his critics.

The March on Washington

In August of 1963 some 250,000 people assembled at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., to peacefully demonstrate for additional civil rights for all Americans. At the event King made his "I Have a Dream Speech." Today that speech is one of the most famous in American history.

A Broader Platform

For his work to end segregation and discrimination King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. At age 35 he was the youngest person to win the award. However he believed he still had work to do. In the middle 1960s he and millions of other Americans became increasingly opposed to the Vietnam War. King spoke out forcefully against American policy in Vietnam, and he began to create a plan to end poverty among all Americans of any race. In 1968 King and the SCLC organized the "Poor People's Campaign" to address issues of economic justice. Some people supported him, but others came to oppose him.

A Tragic End

In April of 1968 King went to Memphis, Tennessee, to support striking garbage workers in the city. On the evening of April 4 he was assassinated as he stood on the balcony of his motel room.

Review Questions

1. What worldwide prize was King awarded in 1964?
2. Why did King resign as pastor at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church?
3. What was the goal of the Poor People's Campaign?

Critical Thinking

4. **Recognizing Cause and Effect** What caused terrorists to bomb King's home in 1955?
5. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about King's view of the Memphis garbage strike by his decision to go there?
6. **Analyzing Effects** What effect did television have on the protests in Birmingham, Alabama?

Barbara Jordan

1936–1996

Trailblazing Congresswoman



Growing Up in the Segregated South

Barbara Jordan grew up in an African-American neighborhood in Houston, Texas. Opportunities for women were limited, and there was widespread discrimination against African Americans. Segregation by race was still the law in the South. From grade school through college, Jordan attended schools where all the students were African American. Even the ambitious young Texan doubted that the system would change any time soon. She later wrote,

“I did not think it right for blacks to be in one place and whites in another . . . but I also had those feelings that it was going to be this way for a long, long time, and that nobody was going to be able to do anything to change it.”

Even so, the young student was already laying plans for the future. At Phillis Wheatley High School, Jordan decided she wanted to become a lawyer, though at the time she was not clear what that was.

Entering the White World

In 1954 Jordan was in her junior year at Texas Southern University. That same year the Supreme Court decided, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, that separate was not equal when it came to education. However change came slowly to Texas and the rest of the South. When traveling in the South, Jordan’s college debate team had to pack their own food and stay at African-American motels. Jordan decided,

“Someone had to push integration along in a private way if it were ever going to come.”

To become that person, Jordan left Texas to attend Boston University Law School in Massachusetts. Jordan and Issie Shelton, a fellow Texan, were the only black women among just six women in their class.

Competing in the white male world of law school was not easy. Jordan felt that in three short years she had to accomplish “sixteen years of **remedial** work in thinking.” She also realized from her own experience that

remedial to correct or improve a skill

“The best training available in an all-black . . . university was not equal. Separate was not equal, no matter what face you put on it.”

A Career in Politics

After graduating from law school, Jordan returned to Texas. In 1960 she volunteered to work for the election campaign of Democrats John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. At first she addressed envelopes and licked stamps. Then one night she had to fill in for a speaker who was ill. Years of study and debate in law school had made her a gifted speaker. She later said,

“Right after that, they took me off licking and addressing.”

State Senator

After her work on the Kennedy campaign, Jordan decided to enter politics herself. In 1966 she was elected state senator in Texas. She was the first African American elected to serve in the Texas state senate since 1883. Reporters were curious to see how an African-American woman would manage in this white male stronghold. Jordan said,

“As it turned out, the capitol stayed on its foundations and the star didn’t fall off the top.”

A National Role

In 1972 Jordan won the first of three terms to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was the first African-American woman from the Deep South to serve in Congress. In 1974 she served on the Judiciary Committee that held hearings on the impeachment of President Richard M. Nixon. In the course of the hearings, she delivered a speech on the Constitution that drew the world’s admiration. She said in part,

“‘We the people’—it is a very eloquent beginning. But when the Constitution of the United States was completed on the seventeenth of September in 1787, I was not included in that ‘We the people.’ I felt for many years that somehow George Washington and Alexander Hamilton just left me out by mistake. But through the process of amendment, interpretation, and court decision, I have finally been included in ‘We the people.’”

Jordan went on to emphasize that she took the impeachment proceedings very seriously because she had so much faith in a Constitution that now included all Americans.

New Roles

Jordan returned to Texas in 1979 to teach at the University of Texas in Austin. She also developed **multiple sclerosis**. However she refused to let the disease keep her from public service. Just a year before she died in 1996, she chaired the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform. She asked Congress not to deny citizenship to children born in the United States to parents who were illegal immigrants. She said,

multiple sclerosis an incurable disease that causes muscle weakness and vision and speech problems

“It was immigration that taught us, it does not matter where you came from, or who your parents were, what counts is who you are.”

Review Questions

1. Where did Jordan spend her childhood?
2. Define the word *remedial*.
3. Where did Jordan attend law school?

Critical Thinking

4. **Drawing Conclusions** What can be concluded about why Jordan took her role in the Nixon impeachment proceedings so seriously?
5. **Recognizing Point of View** What was Jordan’s point of view about the importance of immigration to American society?
6. **Making Inferences** What can be inferred about the Kennedy campaign’s view of Jordan after she made a single speech?