

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

## Analyzing Data: Comparing Education Resources for Blacks and Whites in Mississippi

*Instructions:* With your group, review each chart and answer the questions that follow. Be prepared to share your findings with the rest of the class.

### Chart 1

Chart 1 shows the investment in school property per pupil in Mississippi.

School Year	White	Black	Difference
1913-1914	\$8.00	\$1.00	
1921-1922	\$18.00	\$4.00	
1935-1936	\$147.00	\$11.00	
1949-1950	\$175.00	\$11.00	

- Calculate the difference between investment in school property per black pupil and per white pupil for each school year. (Hint: subtract black pupil amount from white pupil amount.) Write your answers in the chart above.
  - Which school year had the greatest difference in funding for school property? What is the difference?

### Chart 2

Chart 2 shows Mississippi school expenditures for each pupil by race.

School Year	White	Black	Black Funding as a Percentage of White Funding
1913-1914	\$8.20	\$1.53	
1929-1930	\$31.33	\$5.94	
1940-1941	\$38.96	\$4.97	
1949-1950	\$122.93	\$32.55	

- Calculate the percentage of expenditures a black pupil received compared to a white pupil for each school year. (Hint: divide black per pupil expenditure by white per pupil expenditure and multiply by 100.) Write your answers in the chart above.
  - In which years did the percentage of funding for black pupils come the closest to funding for white pupils?

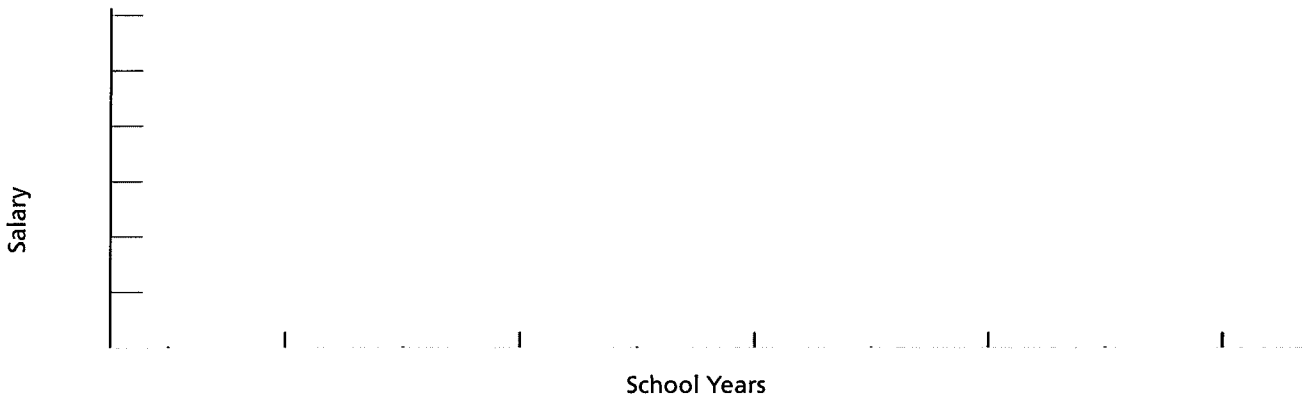
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**Chart 3**

Chart 3 shows Mississippi school teacher salaries by race. Salaries earned by black teachers were often less than they could earn as cooks or handymen.

Year	White	Black
1885-1886	\$125	\$110
1890-1891	\$130	\$90
1912-1913	\$323	\$173
1939-1940	\$750	\$237
1945-1946	\$1,211	\$426

- Create line graphs of the salaries for white teachers and for black teachers. Focus on general trends, not precisely graphing the numbers. Be sure to label your graph.
  - What does the changing distance between the two lines show?



**Chart 4**

Chart 4 shows black and white illiteracy rates in Mississippi. Illiteracy means unable to read or write.

Year	White	Fraction	Black	Fraction
1900	8.2%		49.1%	50/100
1910	5.2%		35.6%	
1920	3.6%		29.3%	
1930	2.7%		23.2%	

1. Sometimes it is helpful to express statistics in different ways. For example, in 1900, 49.1% of blacks in Mississippi were illiterate. Another powerful way to express this statistic is to say that in 1900, nearly one out of two blacks in Mississippi were illiterate. You can arrive at this calculation by making the percentage into a fraction (see example) and then reducing as much as possible. Sometimes you might need to round off the percentage into a number easily divisible into 100. For example, for the black illiteracy rate in 1900, you can round off 49.1 to 50.

- Write the fractions for each year in the space provided.
- Express the statistic for white illiteracy in 1910 in a different way. In 1910, about one in \_\_\_\_\_ whites in Mississippi were illiterate.
- Express the statistic for black illiteracy in 1930 in a different way. In 1930, about one in \_\_\_\_\_ blacks in Mississippi were illiterate.

All data is from *Dark Journey: Black Mississippians and the Age of Jim Crow* (University of Illinois Press, 1990) by Neil R. McMillen.