

Literacy Homework



Martin Luther King, Jr.



Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15th, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. Martin's father was a pastor. His mother had been a teacher. Martin had one older sister, Willie Christine, and a younger brother, Alfred Daniel. Young Martin loved to play sports. He often played in his backyard with his friends. One day he was told that two of his friends could no longer play with him, because they were white and he was black. Martin cried. He didn't understand why the color of his skin should matter to anyone. Martin loved school. He loved to read, especially about black leaders. He was a good student, too. He finished high school two years early and started college at just fifteen! At college, Martin decided to become a minister. Martin wanted equality for all people. He led many peaceful rallies, including the March on Washington in 1963. It was there he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Martin's peaceful protest's, and love for all people helped end racist and unfair laws. "White only" signs were taken down, and Martin's dream of helping to end hate, prejudice and violence became a reality.

Fluency & Comprehension - Please answer each question in complete sentences.

1) Complete five 1 minute reads, and record your words per minute score.

Read #1: _____ Read #2: _____ Read #3: _____ Read #4: _____ Read #5: _____

2) What did Martin's father do for a living?

3) Why did Martin cry as a young boy?

4) How old was Martin when he started college?

5) What is the name of Martin's famous speech from the March on Washington?

Comprehension Common Questions

Name _____

1) What **genre** is this passage?

Fiction or
Non-Fiction?

Traditional Literature Realistic Fiction Science Fiction Historical Fiction Informational Biography Poetry Mystery Fantasy Folktale

2) What **point of view** is this passage?

First Person

Second Person

Third Person

(The author says "I" a lot)

(The author says "you" a lot)

(The author says "he, she or they" a lot)

3) What was the **author's purpose** for writing this passage?

Inform (Facts)

Persuade (To change your mind)

Entertain (Fun)

Explain (How to...)

4) What is the **setting** of this passage? Where does it take place?

5) Write a *complete sentence* stating the **main idea** or topic of this passage.

6) If possible, list a **main character**. List *one word* that could describe that character.

Character:

Adjectives:

7) If possible, list one **contraction** (ex: I am = I'm) and one **compound** word (ex: back + pack = backpack).

Contraction:

Compound:

8) If possible, list one **two-syllable** word, and one **three-syllable** word.

Two-syllable:

Three-syllable:

9) What **event** happened first in this passage?

10) What **event** happened last in this passage?
