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Civil Rights People & Events Quiz

In honor of the May 17, 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Board of education of Topeka, KS, this month's quiz features key historical African American personalities and events.

1. In what year were the first African slaves brought to the English colonies in North America? Where did they land? _____
2. Who was the black potter killed at the Boston Massacre in 1773? _____
3. Who was the leader of a slave rebellion in Virginia in 1831? _____
4. Who were the couple that escaped slavery in Kentucky, were captured by fugitive slave hunters in Detroit in 1831, but escaped to Canada? _____
5. Name two famous women leaders of the Underground Railroad: _____

6. Name the escaped slave who became an Abolitionist leader in the mid-19th century:

7. Who led the anti-slavery raid on Harpers Ferry? When? Who captured him?

8. Which amendments were known as the "Civil War Amendments?" Briefly state what each of them did:

9. What were "Jim Crow" laws? _____

10. Name the 1896 Supreme Court case that states segregation was legal:

11. In Detroit in 1925 a black homeowner was charged with murder during a racial disturbance outside his home. Who was the homeowner? _____
12. Who was the first African American to become a major league baseball player? When? Name the team.

13. Who was the first African American to win the Nobel Prize? _____

14. What was the name of the 1954 Supreme Court case that declared school segregation was unconstitutional:

15. Who refused to give up her seat in 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama? _____
16. Who wrote "Letters from a Birmingham jail"? _____
17. Name the high school that was integrated under the supervision of federal troops ordered there by President Eisenhower? _____
18. Who wrote "A Raisin in the Sun" _____
19. When did the first major lunch room sit-ins in the civil rights movement occur? When?

20. Who wrote "The Fire Next Time"?

21. What was the purpose of the Selma to Montgomery March? When did it occur?

22. Name the Federal judge from Detroit, serving on the Third District Court of Appeals, who ruled against President Nixon in a wiretapping case and later against President George Bush, in a case about secret deportation hearings of terrorism suspects.

- 23.. Name the first African American President of the United States? In what year was he first elected? _____
24. Who was the first African American elected Vice President? What other nationality did she represent?

25. Who was the civil rights leader, beaten on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, who served in Congress for many years, dying in 2020? _____

*For answers, visit <https://www.teachinghistoryinmi.org>
then click on "Newsletters and Awards"*

Answers for Civil Rights People & Events Quiz

1. 1619 Jamestown
2. Crispus Attucks
3. Nat Turner
4. Thornton and Lucie Blackburn. (For a great story, read "I've got a Home in Gloryland" A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad" by Karolyn Smarz Frost.)
5. Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth; also Laura Haviland
6. Frederick Douglass
7. John Brown, Dates: Oct 16,-18,1859; Captured by U.S. Army forces led by Robert E. Lee, he was tried, convicted and executed by the State of Virginia. He is buried on his family farm near Lake Placid, NY.
8. Also known as the Reconstruction Amendments, they are the XIII, XIV, and XV Amendments to the U.S. Constitution
 - *Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except for those duly convicted of a crime
 - *Fourteenth Amendment defined citizenship and guaranteed rights to all
 - *Fifteenth Amendment prohibits discrimination in voting rights of citizens on the basis of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude".
9. Jim Crow laws were state and local laws that enforced racial segregation
10. Plessy v. Ferguson
11. Ossian Sweet. For more on this incident, read "Arc of Justice: A Saga of race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age" by Kevin Boyle.
12. Jackie Robinson, 1947- Brooklyn Dodgers
13. Ralph Bunche in 1950 for peace mediation in the Middle East
14. Brown v. Board of education of Topeka, Kansas
15. Rosa Park
16. Martin Luther King, Jr.-June 12, 1963

17. Little Rock High School, in Little Rock, Arkansas
18. "A Raisin in the Sun" was written by Lorraine Hansberry and debuted on Broadway in 1959. The title comes from the poem "Harlem" by Langston Hughes.
19. Greensboro, North Carolina, 1960
20. James Baldwin 1963
21. The March was organized to call attention to voter rights as part of the civil rights movement. March 7, 1965
22. Damon J. Keith "Democracies die behind closed doors." Learn more about Judge Keith by visiting the Keith Center for Civil Rights, Wayne State University Law School, at <https://law.wayne.edu/keith-center>
For teacher lessons, visit. (Are lesSONS StiLL AVAILABLE?)
23. Barack Obama, 2008, taking office on January 20, 2009
24. Kamala Harris. South Asian (Indian) American
25. John Lewis

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