

# Black Leaders and Reformers Quiz

*Source: <https://www.infoplease.com/take-quiz/bhm1>*

*by Ann-Marie Imbornoni*

**Question 1:** Which landmark Supreme Court case represented an important victory for the civil rights movement in 1954?

- Plessy vs. Ferguson
- Dred Scott vs. Sandford
- Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka

**Question 2:** Noted African–American intellectual and civil rights activist W.E.B. DuBois was a founding member of which organization in 1909?

- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- The National Negro Business League
- Southern Christian Leadership Conference

**Question 3:** The 15th Amendment, which granted African Americans the right to vote, was passed on which date?

- February 3, 1870
- July 14, 1889
- November 19, 1910

**Question 4:** Which of the following propelled Martin Luther King, Jr. to national prominence as a leader of the civil rights movement?

- He led the boycott (1955 - 56) by African Americans in Montgomery, Alabama, against the segregated city bus lines.
- He organized the massive March on Washington (1963), at which he gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.
- He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (1964) for his philosophy of nonviolent resistance.

**Question 5:** What key event in the civil rights movement happened in 1964?

- Thurgood Marshall became the 1st African American appointed to the US Supreme Court.

- Congress passed the Civil Rights Act.
- The Black Panther Party was formed.

**Question 6:** The National Rainbow Coalition, a political organization uniting various minority groups, was formed in 1986 by which African–American political leader?

- General Colin Powell
- Louis Farrakhan
- Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr.

**Question 7:** Which civil rights activist gained notoriety in the late nineteenth century for her scathing editorials denouncing racial injustice?

- Sojourner Truth
- Zora Neale Hurston
- Ida B. Wells

**Question 8:** On June 11, 1963, President Kennedy ordered the National Guard to ensure the enrollment of two African American students, Vivian Malone and James Hood, at which university?

- University of Mississippi
- University of Chicago
- University of Alabama

**Question 9:** Who is generally considered the mother of the civil rights movement?

- Harriet Tubman
- Susan B. Anthony
- Rosa Parks

**Question 10:** Which former slave and noted abolitionist edited and published The North Star, an abolitionist newspaper?

- Phillis Wheatley
- Benjamin Banneker
- Frederick Douglass

## Black Leaders and Reformers Quiz - Answers

**Question 1:** Which landmark Supreme Court case represented an important victory for the civil rights movement in 1954?

**Correct Answer:** Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka

*The Supreme Court ruled unanimously that legal segregation in public schools was unconstitutional, thus overturning Plessy vs. Ferguson. Plessy vs. Ferguson (1896) had resulted in the "separate but equal" policy that underpinned the Jim Crow laws in the South.*

**Question 2:** Noted African–American intellectual and civil rights activist W.E.B. DuBois was a founding member of which organization in 1909?

**Correct Answer:** National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

*DuBois was the only black founding member; he edited the NAACP's magazine, the Crisis. Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute (1881), organized the National Negro Business League in 1900. The SCLC was organized by Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1957.*

**Question 3:** The 15th Amendment, which granted African Americans the right to vote, was passed on which date?

**Correct Answer:** February 3, 1870

**Question 4:** Which of the following propelled Martin Luther King, Jr. to national prominence as a leader of the civil rights movement?

**Correct Answer:** He led the boycott (1955 – 56) by African Americans in Montgomery, Alabama, against the segregated city bus lines.

*He achieved a major victory, and the Montgomery buses began to operate on a desegregated basis in 1956. King did organize the March and give his immortal speech, but he was already a prominent civil rights leader. King was already a prominent leader of civil rights movement when he was awarded the Nobel prize.*

**Question 5:** What key event in the civil rights movement happened in 1964?

**Correct Answer:** Congress passed the Civil Rights Act.

*Considered the most important piece of civil rights legislation since the Civil Rights Act of 1875, the bill was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson. Marshall was appointed in 1967. Huey Newton and Bobby Seale organized the Black Panther Party, a revolutionary group that advocated violence as a means of self-defense, in 1966.*

**Question 6:** The National Rainbow Coalition, a political organization uniting various minority groups, was formed in 1986 by which African–American political leader?

**Correct Answer:** Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr.

*The organization has since been merged with Operation PUSH (founded in 1971) to form the National Rainbow/PUSH Coalition.*

**Question 7:** Which civil rights activist gained notoriety in the late nineteenth century for her scathing editorials denouncing racial injustice?

**Correct Answer:** Ida B. Wells

*Wells was the editor and part owner of the Memphis Free Speech. An illiterate freed slave, Truth traveled widely throughout the North preaching emancipation and women's rights. A trained anthropologist, Hurston also wrote fiction, including two novels.*

**Question 8:** On June 11, 1963, President Kennedy ordered the National Guard to ensure the enrollment of two African American students, Vivian Malone and James Hood, at which university?

**Correct Answer:** University of Alabama

*Governor George Wallace had physically blocked the students' entrance to the registration building, prompting Kennedy to take action the same day.*

**Question 9:** Who is generally considered the mother of the civil rights movement?

**Correct Answer:** Rosa Parks

*Her refusal to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger triggered the 1955-1956 Montgomery bus boycott. An escaped slave, Tubman became a successful "conductor" on the Underground Railroad. Anthony is generally considered the mother of the women's rights movement.*

**Question 10:** Which former slave and noted abolitionist edited and published The North Star, an abolitionist newspaper?

**Correct Answer:** Frederick Douglass

*Douglass also published his Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass in 1845.*