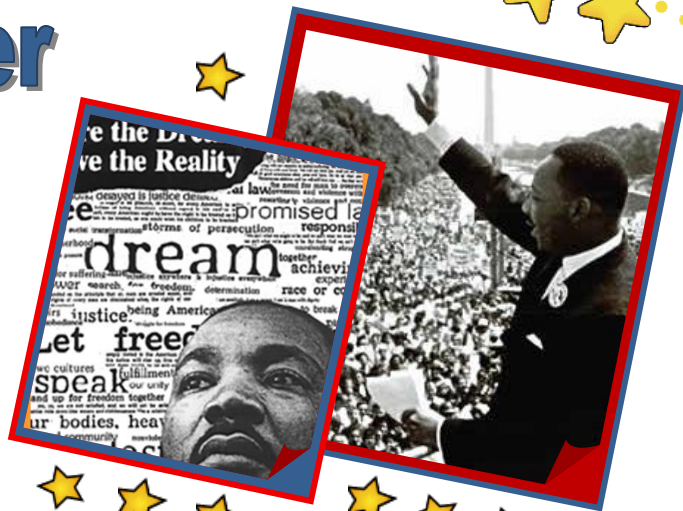


Martin Luther King's Day

READING

A. Have you ever heard of Martin Luther King Jr? What did he do to become known worldwide? Read the text and find out. Choose the right option on the left.



1. MLK's birthday is on

- a) 15 January
- b) 28 August
- c) 4 April

2. He was a ... student at school

- a) bad
- b) good
- c) very good

3. On the bus, there were seats

- a) for blacks
- b) for whites
- c) for both

4. King became a

- a) teacher
- b) pastor
- c) bus driver

5. In 1955 king went to

- a) jail
- b) Washington
- c) JMemphis

6. King won the ...Prize.

- a) USA
- b) Golden
- c) Nobel Peace

Martin Luther King Jr was born on January, 15th, 1920, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was a precious child and was often top of his class. One day, while on the bus to school, some white passengers got on. There were no seats free, and the driver forced Martin and his friends to give up their seats. "I don't think I have ever been so angry in my life," King later recalled. At that time there were not only separate bus seats for blacks and whites, but also separate drinking fountains, bathrooms and seats in restaurants.

While King was studying Theology at university, he was impressed by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. King was convinced that the only way to fight against injustice was non-violence and non-resistance. Just before receiving his degree, he became a pastor, like his father, of a Baptist church in Alabama.

In 1955, an African-American woman was arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white person. King organized a year-long boycott of the buses and formed a car pool of 300 cars to take black people to work. Soon King was imprisoned for conspiracy to boycott a business. Some months later, the Supreme Court of the United States freed King – his formula of passive resistance had won.

After this incident King travelled and delivered speeches demanding equal treatment for all peoples of the United States. King founded a movement which secured black people's right to vote, and ended the segregation of public facilities in the South. He went on to organise the massive march on Washington, where he gave his famous "I have a dream" speech on August 28th, 1963. The following year King became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Early in 1968, King began to plan a multi-racial poor people's march on Washington to demand an end to all discrimination. But he was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on 4 April 1968, perhaps by the paid agent of FBI conspirators or white extremists. Riots and demonstrations in 125 cities protested against his killing – 46 people died and over 20,000 were arrested.

B. Now answer these questions on the text.

1. What was Martin Luther King's nationality? _____

2. Where was he born? _____

3. What did he study at the university? _____

4. Why did King go to prison? _____

5. What was his most famous speech? _____

6. When did he make that speech? _____

7. Why did he win the Nobel Peace Prize? _____

8. How did he die? _____

9. What happened after his death? _____

C. Say what/who these words refer to in the text.

1. his (1st parag. Line 4) _____ 2. their (1st parag. Line 4) _____

3. I (1st parag. Line 4) _____ 4. her (3rd parag. Line 1) _____

5. where (4th parag. Line 4) _____ 6. he (5th parag. Line 2) _____

D. Now find equivalents for these words in the two last paragraphs of the text.

1. episode _____ 2. the same _____

3. won/obtained _____ 4. huge _____

5. next _____ 6. murdered _____

7. maybe _____ 8. traitors _____