

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

## Answer Key: Civil Rights Relay Quiz for Graders 9

Tackle 10 questions on grassroots legal battles and the nonviolent strategies that dismantled Jim Crow laws.

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**1. Which 1948 executive order by President Harry Truman served as a major precursor to the 1960s Civil Rights Movement by desegregating the U.S. military?**

**Answer:** B) Executive Order 9981

Executive Order 9981 abolished racial discrimination in the United States Armed Forces and eventually led to the end of segregation in the services.

**2. The \_\_\_\_\_ were a group of students who integrated Clinton High School in Tennessee in 1956, marking the first integration of a public high school in the South under a court order.**

**Answer:** A) Clinton Twelve

The Clinton Twelve were the first African American students to integrate a state-supported high school in the Southeast following the Brown decision.

**3. The 24th Amendment to the Constitution made it illegal to require a poll tax in federal elections.**

**Answer:** A) True

Ratified in 1964, the 24th Amendment removed financial barriers like poll taxes that were used to prevent low-income Black citizens from voting.

**4. Before the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott, who was the 15-year-old girl arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus?**

**Answer:** C) Claudette Colvin

Claudette Colvin refused to move nine months before Rosa Parks; however, civil rights leaders felt Parks was a more suitable face for the litigation.

**5. Which organization was founded by Ella Baker and student activists to give younger African Americans more of a voice in the civil rights movement?**

**Answer:** C) SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee)

SNCC (pronounced 'snick') was formed to mobilize students and coordinate sit-ins and voter registration drives.

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**6. The 1961 protest aimed at forcing the desegregation of all public facilities in a specific Georgia city was known as the \_\_\_\_ Movement.**

**Answer:** D) Albany

The Albany Movement was a desegregation coalition formed in Albany, Georgia, which taught activists valuable lessons about unity and strategy.

**7. The 'Letter from Birmingham Jail' was written as a response to local white clergymen who criticized the timing of protests.**

**Answer:** A) True

The letter defended the strategy of nonviolent resistance and argued that people have a moral responsibility to break unjust laws.

**8. Who was the chief counsel for the NAACP who later became the first African American Supreme Court Justice?**

**Answer:** A) Thurgood Marshall

Thurgood Marshall argued the Brown v. Board of Education case and was later appointed to the Supreme Court by Lyndon B. Johnson.

**9. The \_\_\_\_ Summer of 1964 was a volunteer campaign to register as many African American voters as possible in Mississippi.**

**Answer:** C) Freedom

Freedom Summer was organized by COFO and brought hundreds of Northern college students to Mississippi to help with voter registration.

**10. The 1965 Watts Riots in Los Angeles were sparked by tensions over police brutality and housing discrimination.**

**Answer:** A) True

The Watts Riots signaled a shift in the movement as focus moved toward economic inequality and systemic issues in Northern and Western cities.