

8th Grade Social Studies Civil Rights Movement Unit Components

Essential Question

To what extent was the Civil Rights Movement effective in securing equal rights for African Americans?

Central Texts

- Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream"
- Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"
- Malcolm X's "The Ballot or the Bullet"
- Lyndon B. Johnson's "We Shall Overcome"
- John F. Kennedy's "Civil Rights Address"
- Langston Hughes' "I, Too, Sing America"

Culminating Task

Write an argumentative essay in which you make a case for which leader of the Civil Rights Movement made the strongest argument to promote racial equality. Consider each leader's use of claims, counterclaims, reasons, evidence, and methods when making your determination and cite examples and support from the texts.

Primary Common Core Standards for Literacy in Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

- **RH.6-8.1** Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
- **RH.6-8.2** Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- **RH.6-8.6** Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).
- **WHST.6-8.1** Write arguments focused on *discipline-specific content*,
 - a. Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
 - b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
 - c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
 - d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
 - e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Social Studies Content Key Ideas- 8th Grade Scope and Sequence

- Civil Rights Movement
 - Key groups (African-Americans, women, Native Americans, individuals with disabilities) *1.4d, 2.4c, 5.2e, 5.4a, 5.4b, 5.4c*
 - Key leaders (Martin Luther King, Jr., John F. Kennedy, Malcolm X, Rosa Parks, Lyndon Johnson) *1.3b, 2.4a, 2.4c*
 - Non-violent movement *1.3b*