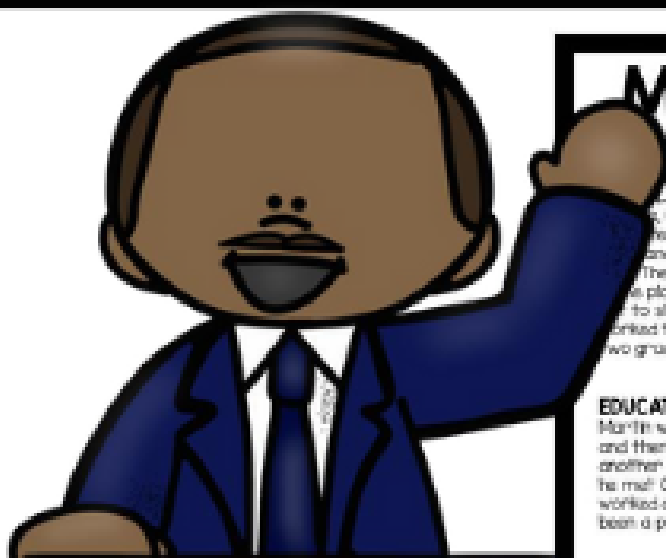


# Biography

# MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

## READING COMPREHENSION



### Martin Luther King Jr.

#### LIFE

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. His dad was a preacher, and his mom was a teacher and musician. When he was growing up, Black and white people were kept apart by segregation. They couldn't go to the same schools or use the same places, like libraries. Martin's parents taught him to stand up to shop where they were treated badly. They wanted to end segregation. Martin was smart, skipped two grades, and was a great speaker.



#### EDUCATION

Martin went to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, and then to a college in Boston, Massachusetts, to become a preacher. He went to another college to get a doctorate in theology, the study of God. He met Coretta Scott, and they got married, having four kids. He worked as a minister of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta and became a preacher.



#### PEACEFUL PROTEST

Martin Luther King Jr. believed in equality. He was inspired by Gandhi from India, who used peaceful protests to get independence. In 1955, Martin led a peaceful protest in Montgomery, Alabama, called the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It lasted 381 days. African Americans didn't ride the bus to protest segregation. The Supreme Court said bus segregation was illegal, and after that, everyone could sit anywhere. It was a big win for civil rights.

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## Martin Luther King Jr.

### EARLY LIFE

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. His dad was a preacher, and his mom was a teacher and musician. When he was growing up, black and white people were kept apart by segregation laws. They couldn't go to the same schools or use the same places, like libraries. Martin's parents taught him not to stop when they were treated badly. They worked to end segregation. Martin was smart, skipped two grades, and was a great speaker.



### EDUCATION

Martin went to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, and then to a college in Boston, Massachusetts, to become a minister. Later, he went to another college to get a doctorate in theology, the study of God and religion. In Boston, he met Coretta Scott, and they got married, having four kids. After college, Martin worked as a pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, where his grandfather had been a preacher.



### PEACEFUL PROTEST

Martin Luther King Jr. believed in non-violent protest to get equality. He was inspired by Gandhi from India, who used boycotts and marches to get independence. In 1955, Martin led a peaceful protest in Montgomery, Alabama, called the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It lasted 381 days. African Americans didn't ride the bus to protest segregation. The Supreme Court said bus segregation was illegal, and after that, everyone could sit anywhere. It was a big win for civil rights.

### CIVIL RIGHTS

Martin became famous for his protests and was the face of civil rights. He traveled around the U.S., spoke to many people, got arrested, and even faced violence. In 1963, he led a peaceful march in Washington, D.C., where thousands heard his "I Have a Dream" speech. In 1964, he became the youngest man to get the Nobel Peace Prize.

### LEGACY

Martin Luther King Jr. was shot and killed on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee, at only 39. He wanted change, and used peaceful protests to make a difference. He's remembered as a great leader. His birthday is a national holiday, and many cities have schools, parks, or streets named after him.

READING COMPREHENSION

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VERSIONS INCLUDED

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

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

# Martin Luther King Jr.

## Comprehension Questions

Directions: Choose the right answer.

1. Where was Martin Luther King Jr. born?

- a. Boston, Massachusetts
- b. Montgomery, Alabama
- c. Atlanta, Georgia
- d. Washington, D.C.

2. What inspired Martin Luther King Jr. to believe in non-violent protest for equality?

- a. Malcolm X
- b. Nelson Mandela
- c. Mahatma Gandhi
- d. Rosa Parks

3. What significant event took place in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955, led by Martin Luther King Jr.?

- a. Selma to Montgomery March
- b. March on Washington
- c. Montgomery Bus Boycott
- d. Birmingham Campaign

4. In which year did Martin Luther King Jr. lead a peaceful march in Washington, D.C., delivering his famous "I Have a Dream" speech?

- a. 1955
- b. 1963
- c. 1964
- d. 1962

5. How did Martin Luther King Jr. contribute to civil rights?

- a. Through violent protests
- b. By leading the Montgomery Bus Boycott
- c. By supporting segregation laws
- d. By working against peaceful demonstrations

## Answers Key

1. c. Atlanta, Georgia

2. c. Mahatma Gandhi

3. c. Montgomery Bus Boycott

4. b. 1963

5. b. By leading the Montgomery Bus Boycott



5 MCQ'S

ANSWER KEY  
INCLUDED

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## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. READING COMPREHENSION

**INCLUDES:**

- \*BIOGRAPHY
- \*LETTER FROM A BIRMINGHAM JAIL
- \*MARCH ON WASHINGTON
- \*"I HAVE A DREAM" SPEECH (HARD)
- \*MARCH FROM SELMA TO MONTGOMERY
- \*MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT
- \*SIT-INS
- \*MLK & THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

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### MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

### MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

Equality for All!

I Have a Dream

