

Labor History Month

# CESAR CHAVEZ

## READING COMPREHENSION

NO-PREP &


EDITABLE



**RESISTANCE AND SACRIFICE**


### CESAR CHAVEZ

Cesar Chavez was born in March 1927 in Yuma, Arizona, to migrant farmworker parents. Growing up in poverty and witnessing the hardships endured by farmworkers, Chavez developed a deep sense of empathy and a passion for social justice. Inspired by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., Chavez dedicated his life to organizing farmworkers and fighting for their rights.



**FOUNDING THE UNITED FARM WORKERS**

In 1952, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), which merged the United Farm Workers (UFW) with the National, Agricultural, Industrial, Organizational District Union of America (NAIOA). Chavez led the UFW's organizing efforts, including the famous 1965-1966 Delano grape strike, which brought national attention to the plight of farmworkers and led to the passage of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act in 1975.



**THE DELANO GRAPE STRIKE AND BOYCOTT**

One of Chavez's most significant achievements was the Delano grape strike and boycott in 1965. Thousands of farmworkers, led by Chavez, went on strike to protest against unfair wages and working conditions. The strike led to a nationwide boycott of grapes, which put the growers' profits at risk and put their employees in a difficult position. The strike eventually led to the signing of a new contract with the United Farm Workers, which provided for better wages and working conditions for farm workers.

### CHAVEZ

CHAVEZ

...and country for

...dedication to social

...and Martin Luther

...a powerful member of

...in 1965

READING COMPREHENSION  
MCQ'S  
QUESTIONS  
ANSWER KEY

## READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

# CESAR CHAVEZ

Cesar Chavez was born on March 31, 1927, in Yuma, Arizona, to migrant farm-worker parents. Growing up in poverty and witnessing the hardships endured by farmworkers, Chavez developed a deep sense of empathy and a passion for social justice. Inspired by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., Chavez dedicated his life to organizing farmworkers and fighting for their rights.



### FOUNDING THE UNITED FARM WORKERS

In 1962, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), later renamed the United Farm Workers (UFW), with Dolores Huerta, Gilbert Padilla, and others. Chavez led the UFW in organizing strikes, boycotts, and protests to

demand fair wages, better working conditions, and union recognition for farmworkers, who were among the most exploited and marginalized workers in the country.

### THE DELANO GRAPE STRIKE AND BOYCOTT

One of Chavez's most significant achievements was the successful Delano Grape Strike of 1965, which saw thousands of farm workers walk off the fields to protest low wages and poor working conditions. Chavez and the UFW organized a nationwide boycott of grapes, rallying support from consumers, labor unions, and civil rights organizations. The five-year boycott ultimately led to the signing of historic labor contracts between the UFW and major grape growers, improving conditions for farm workers across California.

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### NONVIOLENT RESISTANCE AND SACRIFICE

Central to Chavez's activism was his commitment to nonviolent resistance and civil disobedience. He led by example, fasting for extended periods to draw attention to the plight of farm workers and to protest injustice. Chavez's fasts, including a 25-day Fast in 1968 and a 38-day Fast in 1969, garnered national and international attention, highlighting the moral urgency of the farm workers' cause.

### LEGACY AND IMPACT

Cesar Chavez's legacy continues to inspire generations of activists and labor organizers around the world. His advocacy for workers' rights, environmental justice, and immigrant rights laid the groundwork for broader social movements and helped elevate the voices of marginalized communities. Chavez's vision of dignity, respect, and equality for all workers remains as relevant today as it was during his lifetime.



### CONCLUSION

As we honor Labor History Month, let us remember and celebrate the enduring legacy of Cesar Chavez, a visionary leader who dedicated his life to fighting for justice and dignity in the fields. Chavez's commitment to nonviolent resistance, grassroots organizing, and solidarity serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative potential of collective action and the enduring power of the human spirit in the pursuit of justice.

READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W  
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# CESAR CHAVEZ

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. When was Cesar Chavez born?
  - A) March 3, 1927
  - B) April 1, 1932
  - C) June 5, 1910
  - D) September 22, 1923
2. What inspired Cesar Chavez's dedication to social justice?
  - A) The teachings of Albert Einstein
  - B) The works of William Shakespeare
  - C) The teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr.
  - D) The philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche
3. What organization did Cesar Chavez co-found in 1952?
  - A) United Auto Workers (UAW)
  - B) National Farm Workers Association (NFWA)
  - C) International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT)
  - D) Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
4. What event marked one of Chavez's significant achievements in 1965?
  - A) The signing of labor contracts with grape growers
  - B) The founding of the United Farm Workers (UFW)
  - C) The Delano Grape Strike and Boycott
  - D) The nationwide boycott of lettuce
5. What method did Chavez emphasize in his activism?
  - A) Violent resistance
  - B) Economic sanctions
  - C) Nonviolent resistance and civil disobedience
  - D) Political lobbying

## SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. When and where was Cesar Chavez born?
2. What organization did Chavez co-found?
3. What event marked one of Chavez's achievements in 1965?
4. What method did Chavez emphasize in his activism?
5. What aspect of Chavez's leadership is highlighted in the text?

6. What did Chavez's focus shift to in the 1970s?
  - A) Labor contracts negotiation
  - B) The plight of farm workers and their families
  - C) Environmental degradation
  - D) Immigration policies

7. What was the duration of Chavez's fast in 1968?
  - A) 10 days
  - B) 25 days
  - C) 30 days
  - D) 75 days

8. What aspect of Chavez's legacy is highlighted in the text?
  - A) His dedication to family life
  - B) His commitment to environmental sustainability
  - C) His advocacy for workers' rights and social justice
  - D) His influence on national and international movements

9. What broader social movements did Chavez help lay the groundwork for?
  - A) Women's rights movement
  - B) LGBTQ+ rights movement
  - C) Animal rights movement
  - D) Environmental justice movement

10. What does the conclusion suggest about Chavez's enduring legacy?
  - A) It is a symbol of modern activism
  - B) It emphasizes the transformative power of collective action
  - C) It is limited to a specific geographic region
  - D) It is primarily focused on labor issues

## ANSWER KEY

MCQ'S

1. A) March 3, 1927
2. C) The teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr.
3. B) National Farm Workers Association (NFWA)
4. C) The Delano Grape Strike and Boycott
5. C) Nonviolent resistance and civil disobedience
6. B) The plight of farm workers and justice
7. B) 25 days
8. C) His advocacy for workers' rights and social justice
9. D) Environmental justice movement
10. B) It emphasizes the transformative power of collective action

## SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Cesar Chavez was born on March 3, 1927, in Yuma, Arizona.
2. National Farm Workers Association (NFWA)
3. The successful Delano strike of 1965-66.
4. Nonviolent resistance and civil disobedience.
5. His advocacy for workers' rights and social justice.

10 - MCQ'S & 5 QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

**READY TO PRINT**

**NO-PREP !**

**JUST PRINT AND GO!**



**EASY EDITING**

**EDITABLE**

**\* FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

