

**African Americans Make Contact
with Gandhi: The 1930s**
Worksheet

Instructions:

Fill out the questions below. Notice that some questions have multiple parts, so make sure to answer each part. The section of the reading is always given, so that you know where to look for the answer. However, information for the answer is spread throughout the entire section: so make sure to keep adding to your answer as you read the section.

Questions:

1. *Thinking About Strategy:* How did Gandhi interpret Jesus's teaching of "turning the other cheek?" Why did Gandhi think this teaching could overcome division, and create unity?

The Mahatma and the Scientist

2. *Thinking About Science:* In what way was George Washington Carver's scientific research dedicated to supporting impoverished African American farmers?

3. *Thinking About Strategy:* Why did both Gandhi and George Washington Carver consider farming and nutrition to be an important part of fighting for freedom?

Gandhi's Disciple, Mirabehn

4. *Thinking About Strategy:* When Gandhi's disciples met with African Americans, why did they focus on discussing Christianity? Why did they emphasize that Jesus was "Asiatic?"

The Pilgrimage of Friendship

5. *Thinking About Global Context:* Why did African Americans and the people of India want to support each other? And why did the English want to prevent this?
6. *Thinking About Strategy:* Why did many Indians doubt that African Americans would be useful allies in the struggle against racial oppression?
7. *Thinking About Religion:* How did Howard Thurman respond to the Indian criticisms of African American Christians?

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

11. *Thinking About Strategy*: Why did Gandhi believe that nonviolent resistance needed to “consider the welfare of the opponent,” and never humiliate the opponent?

12. *Thinking About Strategy*: According to Gandhi, why could a small and oppressed minority successfully use nonviolent resistance against an overwhelming majority?