

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Events Leading Up to the Boycott

6. *Thinking About National Context:* In what way did the Supreme Court outlawing segregated schools in 1954 contribute to the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955?

7. *Thinking About Strategy:* Why did E.D. Nixon feel that Claudette Colvin was not the right person to build a legal case around?

Organizing the Boycott

8. *Thinking About Strategy:* Describe the role that Jo Ann Robinson and the Women's Political Council played in starting the boycott, and why they were able to be so effective.

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9. *Thinking About Strategy:* Why did E.D. Nixon think that the ministers needed to be organized to make the boycott successful? Why did he offer Martin Luther King an important role in organizing the ministers?

The First Day of the Boycott

10. *Thinking About Strategy:* Describe the strategy of Rosa Parks' lawyer.

11. *Thinking About Gender:* Why were the ministers, rather than Rosa Parks and Jo Ann Robinson, chosen to become the leaders of the boycott?

12. *Thinking About Public Presentation:* Describe the image of Rosa Parks that was presented to the public, and why this image was chosen.

The White Response

13. *Thinking About Strategy:* Describe the strategies used by the White Citizens Councils to enforce racial oppression, including why they disagreed with the Ku Klux Klan, and how they prevented white people from helping African Americans.

The Entrance of Bayard Rustin

14. *Thinking About Strategy:* Why did Bayard Rustin tell King that it was important that he didn't arm himself, even for protection? According to Rustin, why did King need to adopt nonviolence as a complete way of life?

15. *Thinking About Public Presentation:* Describe two reasons why Bayard Rustin, despite being a major influence on Martin Luther King, kept his role invisible to the public.

Mass Arrests

16. *Thinking About Strategy*: How did the African American community prevent themselves from looking like “guilty criminals” to the eyes of the world when they were arrested? Why were the mass arrests a major strategic error on the part of white Montgomery?

The Development of King’s Philosophy

17. *Thinking About Strategy*: Why did Martin Luther King believe that *agape* was a revolutionary kind of love?

18. *Imagine You Were There*: Imagine you were in the crowds listening to Martin Luther King speaking about revolutionary love. How would you have reacted? Would you have agreed with him? Why or why not?

19. *Thinking About Strategy*: Why did King choose to use the term “noncooperation with evil,” instead of the term “boycott”? What was positive about one term, and negative about the other?

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20. *Making Connections Between Past and Present:* What did Martin Luther King mean by “negative peace” and “positive peace?” Do you think “negative peace” exists in your community today? Please explain.

21. *Thinking About Strategy:* What did Martin Luther King mean by “internal violence of spirit?” Why did the Montgomery movement need to prevent this “internal violence,” and how did they prevent it?

22. *Thinking About Strategy:* Why did Martin Luther King feel it was important for white Americans to feel a sense of shame?

Rosa Parks After the Boycott

23. *Thinking About Strategy:* In what ways did Rosa Parks disagree with Martin Luther King, and why?

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24. *Thinking About Perspectives*: What did Rosa Parks think of the phrases “Black is Beautiful” and “Black Power?”