Name _____ Date _____

Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Growing Up in Atlanta

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. His father and his mother's father were both pastors of Ebenezer Baptist Church. Martin grew up under **segregation**. Laws and customs kept Black people and white people apart. They had separate schools, separate seats on buses and even separate water fountains. Martin was a gifted student who loved words and ideas. At 15, he started at Morehouse College in Atlanta. Later he studied at Boston University. In 1955, he earned a doctorate there. That is why he is called Dr. King.



1. Martin entered Morehouse College at age ___ **26** **18** **15**

2. Segregation kept Black Americans and white Americans apart. **true** **false**

3. Name two places where segregation kept people apart.

_____

_____

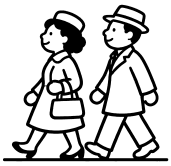
4. Why is he called Dr. King?

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

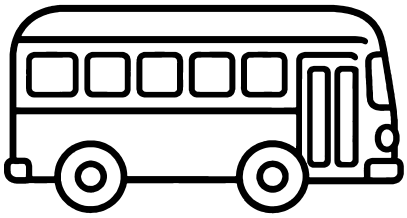


Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott

In 1954, King became the pastor of a church in Montgomery, Alabama. There, Black riders had to sit at the back of city buses. When the front filled up, they had to give up their seats to white riders. On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat, and she was arrested. Four days later, Black residents began a **boycott** of the city buses. Dr. King, then 26, was chosen to lead it. For 381 days, people walked, shared rides and set up car pools instead of riding. In November 1956, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that segregated buses broke the Constitution. In December, the buses were integrated, and the boycott ended. It had worked.



1. The boycott began ____ after Rosa Parks was arrested. **four days** **one year** **381 days**

2. Dr. King was 26 when he was chosen to lead the boycott. **true** **false**

3. How did people get around during the boycott?

_____

_____

4. What ended the boycott? Use details from the text.

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____



Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The Power of Nonviolence

Dr. King believed in **nonviolence**. It means working for change without hitting back, even when others use violence. He learned from the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi, who had led peaceful protests in India. In 1959, Dr. King traveled to India to learn more. Nonviolent protest took many forms. People marched, boycotted stores and sat at lunch counters that served only white customers. In 1957, Dr. King helped start a group of leaders called the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. It planned protests across the South. Dr. King was arrested many times, but he never gave up.



1. Dr. King learned about nonviolence from the ideas of ___

Abraham Lincoln **Mahatma Gandhi** **Rosa Parks**

2. In 1959, Dr. King traveled to India. **true** **false**

3. What does nonviolence mean? Use the text.

_____

_____

4. Name two forms of nonviolent protest from the text.

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

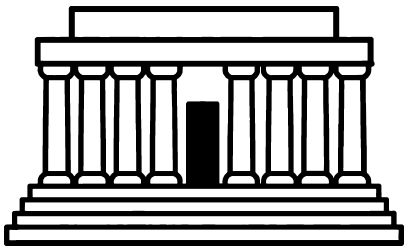


Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The March on Washington

On August 28, 1963, about 250,000 people came to Washington, D.C., for the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. At the Lincoln Memorial, Dr. King gave a speech now known as "I Have a Dream." He described his dream of a country where people of every race would be treated as equals. The next year, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It made segregation in public places, such as restaurants, hotels and theaters, against the law. That same year, at age 35, Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize. In 1965, after marches from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, the Voting Rights Act protected the right of Black Americans to vote.



1. About how many people came to the March on Washington? **250,000** **25** **2,500**

2. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 made segregation in public places against the law. **true** **false**

3. What did Dr. King describe in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial?

_____

_____

4. What did the Voting Rights Act of 1965 protect?

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Remembering Dr. King

In 1968, Dr. King went to Memphis, Tennessee. Sanitation workers there were on strike for fair pay and safer work, and he went to support them. On April 4, 1968, he was shot and killed. He was 39 years old. Soon after, people began to ask for a national holiday in his honor. His widow, Coretta Scott King, led the effort, and more than six million people signed **petitions**. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed the law that made the holiday. It was first held on January 20, 1986. It falls on the third Monday in January, close to his birthday. In 1994, Congress made it a national day of service, a day for people to help their communities.



1. Dr. King went to Memphis to support ____ **bus drivers** **sanitation workers** **students**

2. Who led the effort to create the holiday? **Mahatma Gandhi** **Coretta Scott King** **Rosa Parks**

3. The first Martin Luther King Jr. Day was observed in 1983. **true** **false**

4. Why do many people spend the holiday helping others?

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____



Martin Luther King Jr.

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

segregation	having the same rights and worth as others
civil rights	refusing to use or buy something in order to bring about a change
boycott	working for change without hitting back
protest	the rights every person should have to be treated fairly under the law
nonviolence	a written request signed by many people
petition	to show in public that you disagree with something
equal	laws and customs that kept people of different races apart

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Name _____ Date _____



Martin Luther King Jr.

Draw a line from each cause to its effect.

Cause		Effect
Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat and was arrested.	●	● He led protests that used nonviolence.
The Supreme Court ruled that segregated buses broke the Constitution.	●	● In 1983, a law made a holiday in his honor.
Dr. King learned from Gandhi's ideas.	●	● The buses of Montgomery were integrated.
Sanitation workers in Memphis went on strike for fair pay.	●	● Black residents of Montgomery began a bus boycott.
Coretta Scott King and millions of others worked for years to ask for a holiday.	●	● Dr. King went to Memphis to support them.

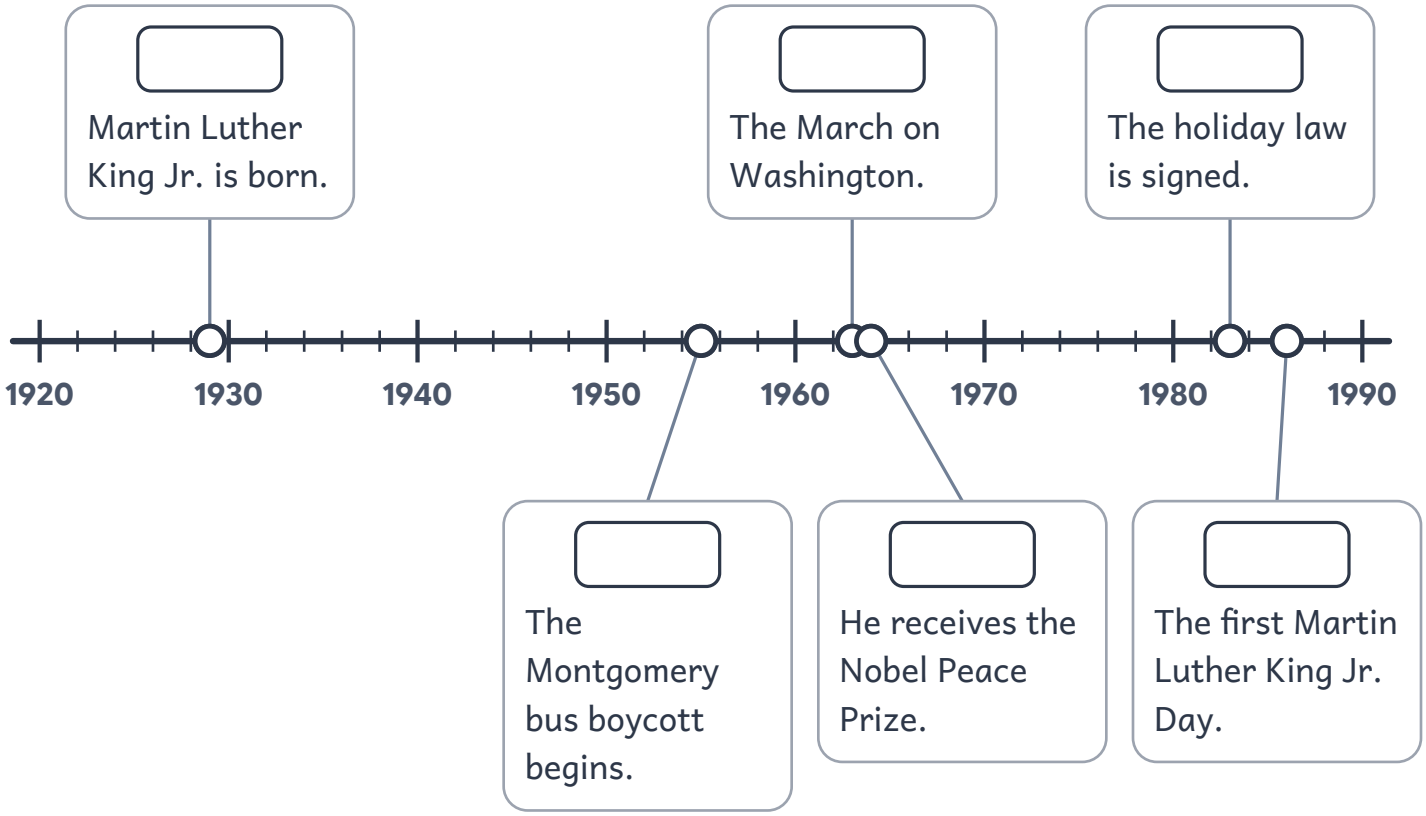
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Name _____ Date _____

Martin Luther King Jr.

Write the year of each event. Then answer the questions.

Years: **1929** **1955** **1963** **1964** **1983** **1986**



1. How old was Dr. King when he received the Nobel Peace Prize? _____ years

2. How old would Dr. King have been on the first Martin Luther King Jr. Day? _____ years

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Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Growing Up in Atlanta

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. His father and his mother's father were both pastors of Ebenezer Baptist Church. Martin grew up under **segregation**. Laws and customs kept Black people and white people apart. They had separate schools, separate seats on buses and even separate water fountains. Martin was a gifted student who loved words and ideas. At 15, he started at Morehouse College in Atlanta. Later he studied at Boston University. In 1955, he earned a doctorate there. That is why he is called Dr. King.



1. Martin entered Morehouse College at age ___ **26** **18** **15**

2. Segregation kept Black Americans and white Americans apart. **true** **false**

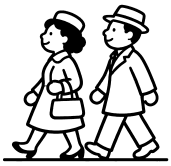
3. Name two places where segregation kept people apart.

Schools and buses (also restaurants and water fountains).

4. Why is he called Dr. King?

He earned a doctorate from Boston University in 1955.

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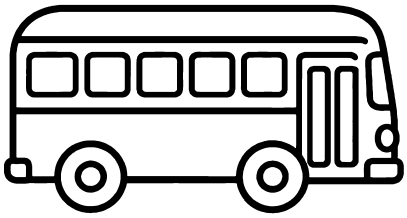


Martin Luther King Jr.

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1. The boycott began ____ after Rosa Parks was arrested.

four days **one year** **381 days**

2. Dr. King was 26 when he was chosen to lead the boycott.

true **false**

3. How did people get around during the boycott?

They walked, shared rides and set up car pools.

4. What ended the boycott? Use details from the text.

The Supreme Court ruled that segregated buses broke the Constitution, and the buses were integrated.

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Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The Power of Nonviolence

Dr. King believed in **nonviolence**. It means working for change without hitting back, even when others use violence. He learned from the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi, who had led peaceful protests in India. In 1959, Dr. King traveled to India to learn more. Nonviolent protest took many forms. People marched, boycotted stores and sat at lunch counters that served only white customers. In 1957, Dr. King helped start a group of leaders called the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. It planned protests across the South. Dr. King was arrested many times, but he never gave up.



1. Dr. King learned about nonviolence from the ideas of ___

Abraham Lincoln **(Mahatma Gandhi)** **Rosa Parks**

2. In 1959, Dr. King traveled to India.

(true) **false**

3. What does nonviolence mean? Use the text.

Working for change without hitting back, even when others use violence.

4. Name two forms of nonviolent protest from the text.

Marches, boycotts and sitting at lunch counters (any two).

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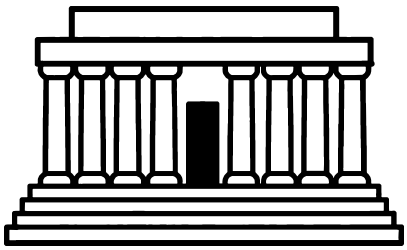


Martin Luther King Jr.

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1. About how many people came to the March on Washington? **250,000** **25** **2,500**

2. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 made segregation in public places against the law. **true** **false**

3. What did Dr. King describe in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial?

His dream of a country where people of every race would be treated as equals.

4. What did the Voting Rights Act of 1965 protect?

The right of Black Americans to vote.

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Martin Luther King Jr.

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Remembering Dr. King

In 1968, Dr. King went to Memphis, Tennessee. Sanitation workers there were on strike for fair pay and safer work, and he went to support them. On April 4, 1968, he was shot and killed. He was 39 years old. Soon after, people began to ask for a national holiday in his honor. His widow, Coretta Scott King, led the effort, and more than six million people signed **petitions**. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed the law that made the holiday. It was first held on January 20, 1986. It falls on the third Monday in January, close to his birthday. In 1994, Congress made it a national day of service, a day for people to help their communities.



1. Dr. King went to Memphis to support ____

bus drivers **sanitation workers** **students**

2. Who led the effort to create the holiday?

Mahatma Gandhi **Coretta Scott King** **Rosa Parks**

3. The first Martin Luther King Jr. Day was observed in 1983.

true **false**

4. Why do many people spend the holiday helping others?

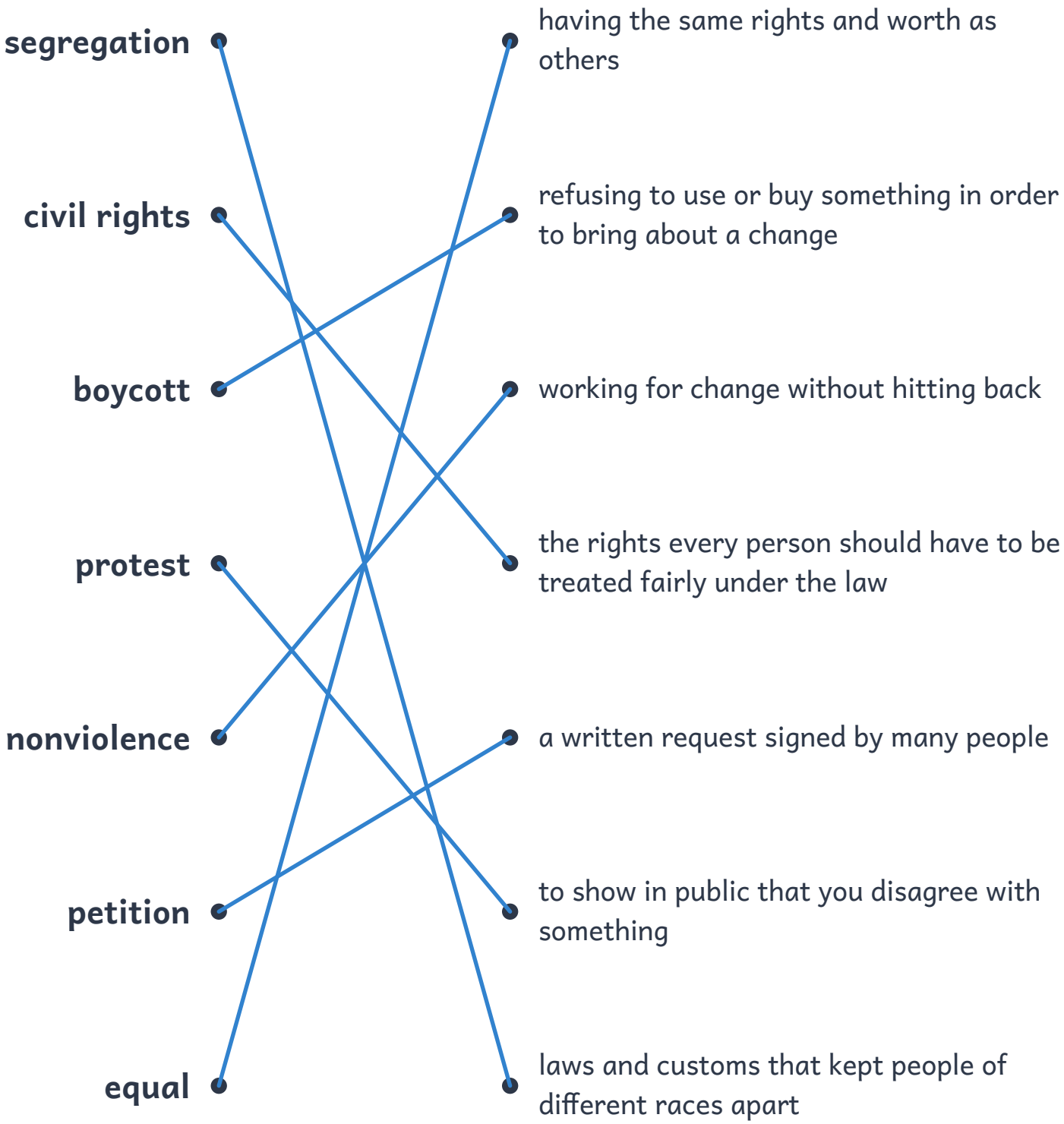
In 1994, Congress made it a national day of service.

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Martin Luther King Jr.

Draw a line from each word to what it means.



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Martin Luther King Jr.

Draw a line from each cause to its effect.

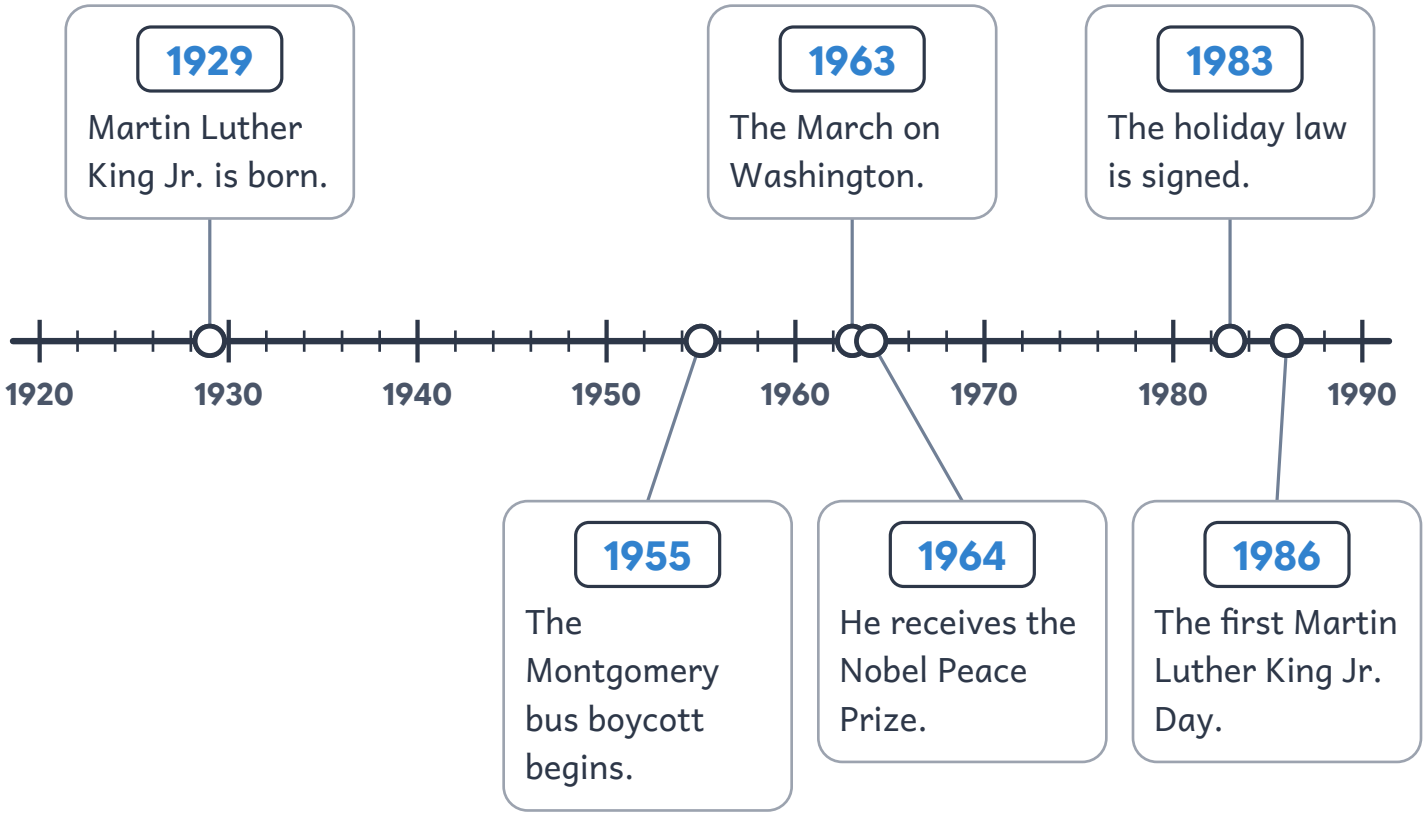
Cause	Effect
Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat and was arrested.	Black residents of Montgomery began a bus boycott.
The Supreme Court ruled that segregated buses broke the Constitution.	The buses of Montgomery were integrated.
Dr. King learned from Gandhi's ideas.	He led protests that used nonviolence.
Sanitation workers in Memphis went on strike for fair pay.	Dr. King went to Memphis to support them.
Coretta Scott King and millions of others worked for years to ask for a holiday.	In 1983, a law made a holiday in his honor.

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Martin Luther King Jr.

Write the year of each event. Then answer the questions.

Years: 1929 1955 1963 1964 1983 1986



1. How old was Dr. King when he received the Nobel Peace Prize? **35** years

2. How old would Dr. King have been on the first Martin Luther King Jr. Day? **57** years

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