

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/01/martin_luther_king_day.html

CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Listening / Reading Gap Fill	5
Choose the Correct Word	6
Multiple Choice	7
Spelling	8
Put the Text Back Together	9
Scrambled Sentences	10
Discussion	11
Student Survey	12
Writing	13
Homework	14

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a U.S. holiday that celebrates the birth date of one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. Dr. King's date of birth is January 15th, but the actual holiday is on the third Monday in January. The holiday recognizes the great achievements Martin Luther King made to American society. His leadership in the campaign to achieve equal rights for black Americans changed America forever. His focus on non-violent protests led to new laws that ended racial discrimination in America. The USA became a more equal society. The holiday is only one of four national holidays in America to commemorate a person. This shows just how important Martin Luther King was – one of the greatest Americans ever.

Dr. King was assassinated in 1968. Just 15 years later, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan signed this holiday into U.S. law. People first observed the holiday three years later, in 1986. At first, the holiday was not popular with all American states. Some didn't like the name and so they called it "Civil Rights Day". However, in the year 2000, all 50 states observed the holiday using its correct name. The musician Stevie Wonder helped the campaign for the holiday. He released a hit single called "Happy Birthday" in 1980. The song made millions of Americans aware of the campaign. Six million people signed a petition for the American Congress to create the holiday. It is still the largest petition in U.S. history in favour of an issue.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. one of America's greatest civil | a. violent protests |
| 2. The holiday recognizes the | b. rights leaders |
| 3. the campaign to achieve | c. commemorate a person |
| 4. His focus on non- | d. great achievements |
| 5. new laws that ended racial | e. equal rights |
| 6. four national holidays in America to | f. discrimination |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Dr. King was assassinated | a. three years later |
| 2. People first observed the holiday | b. its correct name |
| 3. At first, the holiday | c. aware of the campaign |
| 4. all 50 states observed the holiday using | d. in 1968 |
| 5. The song made millions of Americans | e. in U.S. history |
| 6. the largest petition | f. was not popular |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a U.S. holiday _____ birth date of one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. Dr. King's date of birth is January 15th, but the actual holiday _____ Monday in January. The holiday _____ achievements Martin Luther King made to American society. His leadership in the campaign _____ rights for black Americans changed America forever. His focus on non-violent protests led to new laws that ended racial discrimination in America. The USA _____ society. The holiday is only one of four national holidays in America to commemorate a person. This _____ important Martin Luther King was – one of the greatest Americans ever.

Dr. King was assassinated in 1968. _____, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan signed this _____. People first observed the holiday three years later, in 1986. At first, the holiday was not _____ American states. Some didn't like the name and so they called it "Civil Rights Day". However, in the year 2000, all 50 states observed the holiday _____ name. The musician Stevie Wonder helped the campaign for the holiday. He released a hit single called "Happy Birthday" in 1980. The song made millions of Americans aware of the campaign. Six million people _____ for the American Congress to create the holiday. It is still the largest petition in U.S. history _____ issue.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a U.S. holiday that _____ the birth date of one of America's greatest civil rights _____. Dr. King's date of birth is January 15th, but the actual holiday is on the _____ Monday in January. The holiday recognizes the great achievements Martin Luther King made to American _____. His leadership in the campaign to achieve equal rights for black Americans changed America _____. His focus on non-violent protests led to new laws that ended _____ discrimination in America. The USA became a more equal society. The holiday is only one of four national holidays in America to commemorate a _____. This shows just how important Martin Luther King was – one of the greatest Americans _____.

racial
third
forever
ever
celebrates
society
person
leaders

Dr. King was assassinated in 1968. Just 15 years _____, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan signed this holiday into U.S. law. People first _____ the holiday three years later, in 1986. At first, the holiday was not _____ with all American states. Some didn't like the _____ and so they called it "Civil Rights Day". However, in the year 2000, all 50 states observed the holiday _____ its correct name. The musician Stevie Wonder helped the campaign for the holiday. He released a hit _____ called "Happy Birthday" in 1980. The song made millions of Americans aware of the campaign. Six million people signed a _____ for the American Congress to create the holiday. It is still the largest petition in U.S. history in favour of an _____.

popular
using
later
petition
name
issue
observed
single

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a U.S. holiday that *celebrating / celebrates* the birth *date / dates* of one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. Dr. King's date of birth is January 15th, but the *actually / actual* holiday is on the third Monday in January. The holiday recognizes the *great / grate* achievements Martin Luther King made to American society. His leadership in the campaign to achieve *equals / equal* rights for black Americans changed America forever. His focus on non-violent protests led to new laws that ended *racially / racial* discrimination in America. The USA became a more equal society. The holiday is only *one / once* of four national holidays in America to commemorate a person. This shows just how *importance / important* Martin Luther King was – one of the greatest Americans ever.

Dr. King was *assassinated / assassination* in 1968. Just 15 years later, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan *signal / signed* this holiday into U.S. law. People first observed the holiday three years later, in 1986. *At / On* first, the holiday was not *popular / popularity* with all American states. Some didn't like the name and so they called it "Civil Rights Day". However, in the year 2000, all 50 states *observe / observed* the holiday using its correct name. The musician Stevie Wonder helped the *campaign / campaigned* for the holiday. He released a hit single called "Happy Birthday" in 1980. The song made millions of Americans aware of the campaign. Six million people signed a *competition / petition* for the American Congress to create the holiday. It is still the largest petition in U.S. history in *against / favour* of an issue.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a U.S. holiday that (1) _____ the birth date of one of America’s greatest (2) _____ rights leaders. Dr. King’s date of birth is January 15th, but the actual holiday is on the third Monday in January. The holiday (3) _____ the great achievements Martin Luther King made to American society. His leadership in the campaign to achieve (4) _____ rights for black Americans changed America forever. His focus (5) _____ non-violent protests led to new laws that ended racial discrimination in America. The USA became a more equal society. The holiday is only (6) _____ of four national holidays in America to commemorate a person. This shows just how important Martin Luther King was – one of the greatest Americans ever.

Dr. King was assassinated in 1968. Just 15 years (7) _____, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan signed this holiday into U.S. law. People first observed the holiday three years later, in 1986. At first, the holiday was not (8) _____ with all American states. Some didn’t like the name and so they called it “Civil Rights Day”. However, in the year 2000, all 50 states observed the holiday (9) _____ its correct name. The musician Stevie Wonder helped the campaign (10) _____ the holiday. He released a hit single called “Happy Birthday” in 1980. The song made millions of Americans aware of the campaign. Six million people (11) _____ a petition for the American Congress to create the holiday. It is still the largest petition in U.S. history in favour of an (12) _____.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) celebration | (b) celebrates | (c) celebrated | (d) celebratory |
| 2. | (a) civil | (b) civilian | (c) civility | (d) civil war |
| 3. | (a) recognize | (b) recognition | (c) recognizes | (d) recognized |
| 4. | (a) equality | (b) equals | (c) equaled | (d) equal |
| 5. | (a) at | (b) in | (c) by | (d) on |
| 6. | (a) once | (b) ones | (c) one | (d) oneness |
| 7. | (a) earlier | (b) later | (c) time | (d) then |
| 8. | (a) popularity | (b) population | (c) popularize | (d) popular |
| 9. | (a) used | (b) used to | (c) using | (d) uses |
| 10. | (a) for | (b) by | (c) at | (d) at |
| 11. | (a) signed | (b) signature | (c) sign | (d) signs |
| 12. | (a) issued | (b) issue | (c) issues | (d) issuing |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. the brtih date
2. the clatu holiday is on the third Monday
3. American oesyct
4. changed America rrovfee
5. a more quela society
6. commemorate a psnroe

Paragraph 2

7. Dr. King was sdessaanista in 1968
8. Ronald Reagan indegs this holiday into U.S. law
9. not oaruppl with all American states
10. 50 states svdboeer the holiday
11. He rlaesdee a hit single
12. Six million people signed a npeiitto

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () millions of Americans aware of the campaign. Six million people signed a petition for the American Congress to
- () civil rights leaders. Dr. King's date of birth is January 15th, but the actual holiday is on the third Monday in
- () the campaign to achieve equal rights for black Americans changed America forever. His focus on non-violent
- () Dr. King was assassinated in 1968. Just 15 years later, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan signed this
- () popular with all American states. Some didn't like the name and so they called it "Civil Rights Day". However, in
- () how important Martin Luther King was – one of the greatest Americans ever.
- () society. The holiday is only one of four national holidays in America to commemorate a person. This shows just
- () create the holiday. It is still the largest petition in U.S. history in favour of an issue.
- () protests led to new laws that ended racial discrimination in America. The USA became a more equal
- (**1**) Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a U.S. holiday that celebrates the birth date of one of America's greatest
- () holiday into U.S. law. People first observed the holiday three years later, in 1986. At first, the holiday was not
- () the year 2000, all 50 states observed the holiday using its correct name. The musician Stevie Wonder helped
- () January. The holiday recognizes the great achievements Martin Luther King made to American society. His leadership in
- () the campaign for the holiday. He released a hit single called "Happy Birthday" in 1980. The song made

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. rights one America's civil leaders of greatest

2. actual on Monday the is third January holiday the in

3. campaign the rights equal achieve to

4. on - protests focus non violent His

5. equal The became more society USA a

6. Dr King assassinated 1968 . was in

7. three holiday the observed first People later years

8. American not states popular the with holiday all was

9. observed holiday its name the using correct

10. million Six petition a signed people

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.