

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929–1968) was an American Baptist minister and arguably the famous leader in the Civil Rights Movement. We now celebrate his life, work, and the movement he stood for every third Monday in January. King is the only non-president to have a national holiday in his name.

Problem 1: At what age did Martin Luther King, Jr begin college? What famous boycott did Martin Luther King Jr. help lead, bringing him into the national spotlight. [*Hint: This involves another famous Civil Rights Figure.*]

Problem 2: How did Martin Luther King Jr. die?

Problem 3: How long after Martin Luther King Jr.'s death was it before MLK Day was officially signed into law as a national holiday? When did the last US state recognize and observe this holiday by name?

Though Martin Luther King Jr. died, the Civil Rights Movement continued on. The next few questions address the (only a few) reasons why the Civil Rights Movement was needed, what problems it was trying to address, and why the movement continues to this day.

Problem 4: What was Plessy v. Ferguson? What Supreme Court decision overturned it? Did this end segregation?

Problem 5: What were Jim Crow laws? Give some examples.

Problem 6: What are anti-miscegenation laws? What do they have to do with Mildred and Richard Loving?

Problem 7: Who were Emmett Till, Jesse Washington, Mary Turner, and James Byrd? What happened to them? [Warning: Answering this question involves reading graphic details one may find disturbing.]

Problem 8: What is the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement? What does it have to do with the issues above?