

Write Your History Day Thesis

Name: Jenny Lopez Class Period: 8

Topic: The Montgomery Bus Boycott

Task: Use your notes to answer the questions below. Summarize your information into a two sentence thesis. The first sentence should be a summary of the 5W's of your topic. The second sentence should explain the impact your topic had in history.

Question:	Answer:
<u>Who</u> was involved/ <u>Who</u> was affected?	Rosa Parks, residents of Montgomery, the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA), Civil Rights Movement leaders, city officials, Martin Luther King, Jr.
<u>What</u> happened?	After Parks was arrested, Civil Rights leaders organized the MIA to lead the bus boycott, which economically hurt the city. A lawsuit followed that went to the Supreme Court, which ruled segregation as unconstitutional.
<u>Where</u> did it take place?	Montgomery, Alabama
<u>When</u> did it happen?	The boycott began December 5, 1955 and lasted 381 days.
<u>Why</u> did it happen? What caused it?	Civil Rights leaders wanted to overturn segregation laws on public transportation and boycotted by organizing ride shares and fundraising to support each other. King and others used a boycott to gain support through non-violence.
<u>Why</u> is it important? <u>How</u> did it change history? Think about your theme connection!	The boycott and lawsuit eventually caused the city and Supreme Court to end bus segregation. This success helped set the stage for other Civil Rights efforts to end segregation throughout the country.

Thesis Sentence 1: Summarize the 5W's.

Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, leading to a year-long bus boycott.

Thesis Sentence 2: So what? How did your topic change history?

The success of this nonviolent protest against segregation was a turning point in strategies used during the Civil Rights Movement that opened the door to other victories.

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Thesis Sentence 2: So what? How did your topic change history?
