

Black History America - Civil Rights

Expository Writing

- **Expository** = to explain or describe something.
- Need strong topic sentence or thesis.
- Use transition words between sentences and paragraphs: *next, because, then, first, however, for example, after, besides, begin, since, although, finally...*

Why is Black History America important?

It is important to remind ourselves what a country should never do: enslave others, discriminate, or be exclusive. America is about teamwork and giving everyone an equal chance – it's what we do best. When other countries study our success, it is important to show them we are a country that includes everyone. In fact, it's our secret to success: inclusiveness!



Martin L. King

- (1929 - 1968)
- Civil rights activist known for non-violent boycotts and peaceful means.
- Awarded Nobel Peace Prize and Medal of Freedom.

Essay #1: Dr. Martin Luther King was a powerful speaker. His words and peaceful protests gained many supporters, helping end some forms of racial discrimination. What does it take to be a good speaker so that others will follow you? Give two examples. **(14-18 sentences)**

Essay #2: In 1960 at age four, **Ruby Bridges** had already faced a lifetime of discrimination. Being the first black child in an all-white public school, Ruby was escorted to school by federal marshals, endured insults and objects thrown at her by hateful adults, threatened with poison, and had teachers who refused to work with her. But she did it and became a successful person. How would you handle a similar situation if you were Ruby? **(12-16 sentences)**



Rosa Parks

(1913 - 2005)

Essay #3: In 1955 Rosa Parks broke the law by refusing to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. She was arrested peacefully and fined \$4 by the judge. Her defiance became an important symbol of the Civil Rights movement. Part of the movement's success was their ability to protest non-violently, thereby illustrating inequality and mistreatment to the rest of America. Discuss why peaceful protesting was a good strategy for the Civil Rights movement. **(12-16 sentences)**