

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 eventually caused the city to overturn segregation laws. The boycott drew national attention and put King in the spotlight, giving him the ability to organize similar protests using nonviolent resistance.

Thesis Sentence 1: Summarize the 5W's.

After Rosa Parks' 1955 arrest for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger, Montgomery residents organized a boycott of city buses.

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

Using mutual aid and nonviolence as diplomatic strategies, they shifted the debate over segregation and established nonviolent resistance as a successful strategy for Civil Rights activists.

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