

FULL NAMES:

Hour:

2nd Read of "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"

This letter is a great example of how to state and then overcome objections. GROUPS 1-4 / Write Neatly and Proof

Base answers on **THIS LETTER** and **NOT** your background knowledge

1. Dr. King refers to the criticism that he was considered an "outsider coming in" to Birmingham. Why did he come in and **not** consider himself an outsider. Be specific (see p 1)
2. In addition, why does he feel compelled to work for justice OUTSIDE of his home town? (see p 1)
3. What types of acts of racism existed in Birmingham? Be specific and detailed (see p 2)
4. What steps did Dr. King take BEFORE deciding to protest? (see p 2)

5. What did Dr. King hope would result from the protests and direct actions his group took? (see p 3)

6. In YOUR OWN WORDS explain why Dr. King didn't give the new administration time to act and make the needed changes. (see p 3-4)

7. Now find a quote from the bottom of page 4 that in your opinion best describes Dr. King's views regarding the sense of urgency to take action. Answers will vary and there are several sentences that will be acceptable. Your citation should be (King 4).

8. Explain how Dr. King overcomes the objection that he shouldn't break the laws. (see pages 5-6) Be **specific and develop** giving a couple of EXAMPLES of some laws that should be broken and why they should be broken.

9. Dr. King says that injustice and prejudice are strengthened not only by extremists like KKK members but also by **moderates** who are just uncomfortable with the tensions and conflicts that result from the equal rights movement. IN YOUR OWN WORDS explain what he says to these people. Why does he explain protests are necessary? Be specific (see p 7)

10. On page 8 he addresses whether all extremists are bad or not. List some of the specific extremists he mentions and summarize how he feels about them overall. Does he identify with them or not?

11. Overall Dr. King was disappointed w/ the leadership of the white churches. Explain why he was even disappointed with some of the white leaders who asked their congregation members to comply with desegregation. What more did he want from them? (p 10-12)

12. Finally, Dr. King takes issue with people who complimented the Birmingham police. Explain some of the things the police did that he thinks were harsh and unjust. (see p 13) Be sure you are basing it on **THIS letter** and NOT your background knowledge.

13. How would you summarize his overall message in one or two sentences?

Note #9 and #11 were very difficult for many students.

ALSO NOTE: this quiz is difficult!! RE-read the essay to ensure you're prepared!