

## Unit 9: Civil Rights

In this unit, you will learn about the Civil Rights Movement and some of its leaders. You will learn about a landmark court case and the March on Washington. You will read about Maynard Jackson, Martin Luther King, Jr., Lester Maddox, and Andrew Young.

### KEY TERMS

**Albany Movement:** A coalition of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and activists from Albany, Georgia, that worked to end segregation. (H11b)

***Brown v. Board of Education:*** A landmark 1954 case in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled “separate but equal” and race-based segregation of public school students to be unconstitutional. (H11a)

**Civil Rights Movement:** A national movement undertaken by African Americans and their supporters in the 1950s and 1960s to end segregation and ensure equal rights for minorities. (H11a)

**Governor’s Race of 1946:** In 1946, Georgia’s governor-elect, Eugene Talmadge, died before taking office. The General Assembly voted his son, Henry Talmadge, into office. The newly elected lieutenant governor, Melvin Thompson, however, insisted that he was the new governor. The Georgia Supreme Court ultimately ruled that Thompson was the rightful acting governor until a special election could be held to replace the elder Talmadge. (H11a)

**Hamilton Holmes:** One of the first two African American students to enroll at the historically segregated University of Georgia. (H11b)

**Charlayne Hunter:** One of the first two African American students to enroll at the historically segregated University of Georgia. (H11b)

**Maynard Jackson:** Atlanta’s first African American mayor. He served three terms. (H11b)

**Martin Luther King, Jr.:** African American civil rights leader of the 1950s and 1960s who opposed segregation. He believed in nonviolence and organized the March on Washington. He received a Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968. Martin Luther King Day is a federal holiday honoring his date of birth. (H11a)

**Lester Maddox:** A segregationist who rose to fame after refusing to serve African Americans in his restaurant. He later became governor of Georgia and softened his views on civil rights. His administration saw improved conditions for minorities in the state, and he later served as lieutenant governor under Jimmy Carter. (H11b)

**March on Washington:** On August 28, 1963, approximately 250,000 people, mostly African American, gathered before the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., to demand equal protection under the law for African Americans. It was at this event that Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. (H11b)

**Benjamin Mays:** An African American minister, educator, and activist who was president of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, from 1940 until 1967. He was a mentor to Martin Luther King, Jr. (H11a)

**Sibley Commission:** A commission charged by Governor Ernest Vandiver, Jr., with studying segregation in the state of Georgia. The commission laid the groundwork for the end of state resistance to forced integration. (H11b)

**Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee:** An organization formed in 1960 to further the cause of equal rights for minorities. It is most famous for organizing sit-ins at universities and freedom rides into the South. (H11b)

**Henry Talmadge:** Governor of Georgia from 1948 to 1955, he was at the center of the “Three Governors Controversy” of 1946. (H11a)

**White Primary:** Primary elections in which only whites were allowed to vote. In 1944, the United States Supreme Court ruled them unconstitutional, and most Southern states ended the practice. (H11a)

**Andrew Young:** An African American minister and activist from Georgia who served as representative for Georgia’s fifth district, mayor of Atlanta, president of the National Council of Churches USA, and United States Ambassador to the United Nations. (H11c)

## Sample Item 15

### Item 15

**Who was the first African American mayor of Atlanta?**

- A. Benjamin Mays
- B. Maynard Jackson
- C. Herman Talmadge
- D. Martin Luther King, Jr.