

Choices Bring Change

Trace how actions and events led to change in Montgomery.

S.USI.f “determining and explaining cause-and-effect relationships;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that cause an event, and circle details that happen because of a cause. This will help you trace how one event led to another.

A Bus Boycott in Montgomery

- ① In Montgomery, Alabama, Black riders had to sit in the back of city buses and give up seats to white riders when buses became crowded. On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks was arrested after she would not give up her seat. Her arrest upset many Black residents because the bus rules were unfair. Community leaders met to decide how to protest.
- ② Leaders asked Black residents not to ride the city buses. Instead, many people walked, shared cars, or used Black-owned taxis. This boycott began on December 5 and lasted more than a year. Because so many riders stayed off buses, the bus company lost fare money. The boycott also showed that Black residents could organize peacefully and work together for change.
- ③ At the same time, lawyers challenged bus segregation in federal court. In 1956, the Supreme Court let a lower-court ruling against segregated buses stand. Montgomery had to end its bus segregation rules. Black and white riders could then sit where seats were open. The boycott's economic pressure and the court case both helped bring this change to the city.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What two conditions led community leaders to plan a protest?

2 How did the boycott cause the bus company to lose money?

3 What happened after the court ruling against segregated buses was allowed to stand?

4 What two causes helped bring an end to bus segregation in Montgomery?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine a town has an unfair local rule. Write three sentences that name the rule, explain why people take peaceful action, and tell one effect of their action.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that cause an event, and circle details that happen because of a cause. This will help you trace how one event led to another. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two conditions led community leaders to plan a protest?	Black riders faced unfair bus rules, and Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat.
2	How did the boycott cause the bus company to lose money?	Many Black residents stopped riding the buses, so the company received less fare money.
3	What happened after the court ruling against segregated buses was allowed to stand?	Montgomery had to end its bus segregation rules, so Black and white riders could sit where seats were open.
4	What two causes helped bring an end to bus segregation in Montgomery?	The boycott's economic pressure and the federal court case helped end bus segregation.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In a town, the library says only adults may borrow history books. Students ask the town council to change the rule because they need books for school projects. Because many families support the request, the council allows students to borrow the books.

Accept answers that correctly connect a cause to an effect using passage evidence. For the open response, accept any realistic peaceful action and logical effect.