

Rules Shape Lives

Trace how segregation changed opportunities and daily choices in Virginia.

VS.8.f "analyzing the effects of segregation and "Jim Crow" laws on life in Virginia."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details that show how segregation or unfair voting rules affected Black Virginians' daily lives, education, or power. Number the effects 1, 2, and 3 so you can use them as evidence.

Life Under Segregation

- ① After the Civil War, Virginia built a public school system. But white and Black children were required to attend separate schools. Schools for Black students often received less money, had older buildings, and lacked supplies. This meant many Black children had fewer chances to learn in safe, well-equipped classrooms, even though education was important to their futures.
- ② In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Jim Crow laws made segregation part of daily life. In many Virginia towns, Black and white people had separate waiting rooms, train cars, restaurants, and parks. These rules limited where Black Virginians could sit, eat, travel, or relax. Families had to plan ordinary trips around unfair rules and signs.
- ③ Segregation was supported by unfair voting rules, too. Virginia's 1902 constitution used poll taxes and literacy tests that kept many Black men from voting. Without equal voting power, Black Virginians had less influence over leaders, school funding, and laws. Segregation also sent a harmful message that people should be treated differently because of race. Black communities resisted by building organizations, businesses, and schools.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did separate schools affect many Black children in Virginia?

2 Name two daily activities that segregation limited for Black Virginians.

3 How did poll taxes and literacy tests affect Black men's voting power?

4 Why did having less voting power make it harder for Black Virginians to change unfair conditions?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that a town requires Black and white families to use separate public swimming pools. Write three sentences explaining one immediate effect on a Black family and one longer-term effect of this rule.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three details that show how segregation or unfair voting rules affected Black Virginians' daily lives, education, or power. Number the effects 1, 2, and 3 so you can use them as evidence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did separate schools affect many Black children in Virginia?	Many Black children had fewer chances to learn in safe, well-equipped classrooms because their schools often had less money, older buildings, and fewer supplies.
2	Name two daily activities that segregation limited for Black Virginians.	Answers include sitting, eating, traveling, or relaxing.
3	How did poll taxes and literacy tests affect Black men's voting power?	They kept many Black men from voting, so Black Virginians had less voting power.
4	Why did having less voting power make it harder for Black Virginians to change unfair conditions?	With less voting power, Black Virginians had less influence over leaders, school funding, and laws.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A Black family could not use the same pool as white families. The rule would separate neighbors during a summer activity. Over time, it would send the harmful message that people should be treated differently because of race.

Accept answers that explain a realistic immediate limitation and a longer-term harmful effect of segregation. Students may use different public places if their explanations clearly show how segregation affected daily life and equal treatment.