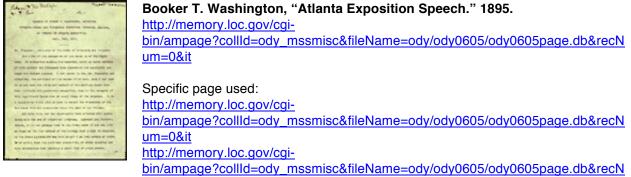
## **Teaching with Primary Sources Lesson Outline**

 Grade Level:
 High School (9-10)

 Standard(s) or
 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.3: Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.

 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.5: Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter).

#### Library of Congress or Morris Special Collections Resources:



### **Topic Background:**

um=5

Born in Virginia in the mid-to-late 1850s, Booker T. Washington put himself through school and became a teacher. In 1881, he founded the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama (now known as Tuskegee University), which grew immensely and focused on training African Americans in agricultural pursuits. A political adviser and writer, Washington clashed with intellectual W.E.B. Du Bois over the best avenues for racial uplift.

Excerpted from: http://www.biography.com/people/booker-t-washington-9524663

### Source(s) Used:

Booker T. Washington was already a popular educator and speaker when he gave this speech in Atlanta. The speech catapulted him into national prominence. In the text he challenged both races to adjust to post-emancipation realities. He stated that the races could work together as one hand while socially remaining as separate as the fingers. At the time, Washington's statement, offering reconciliation between the races, pleased most Americans. Increasingly, however, as racial violence and discrimination against blacks escalated at the turn of the century, African American leaders began to believe that the speech represented not a compromise but a capitulation.

Excerpted from: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aaohtml/exhibit/aopart6.html#0605

#### **Answer Key:**

Question 1: B Question 2: A

> Created as part of the Assessing with Primary Sources Project Teaching with Primary Sources @ Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL

# Booker T. Washington, "Atlanta Exposition Speech." 1895. [Excerpt]

One third of the population of the South is of the Negro race. No enterprise seeking the material, civil or moral welfare of this section can disregard this element of our population and reach the highest success. I but convey to you, Mr. President and Directors, the sentiment of the masses of my race, when I say that in no way have the value and manhood of the American Negro been more fittingly and generously recognized, than by the managers of this magnificent Exposition at every stage of its progress. It is a recognition which will do more to cement the friendship of the two races than any occurrence since the dawn of our freedom.

Not only this, but the opportunity here afforded will awaken among us a new era of industrial progress. Ignorant and inexperienced, it is not strange that in the first years of our new life we began at the top instead of the bottom, that a seat in Congress or the State Legislature was more sought than real-estate or industrial skill, that the political convention, or stump speaking had more attractions than starting a dairy farm or truck garden.

...The wisest among my race understand that the agitation of questions of social equality is the extremest folly and that progress in the enjoyment of all the privileges that will come to us, must be the result of severe and constant struggle, rather than of artificial forcing. No race that has anything to contribute to the markets of the world is long in any degree ostracized. It is important and right that all privileges of the law be ours, but it is vastly more important that we be prepared for the exercise of these privileges. The opportunity to earn a dollar in a factory just now is worth infinitely more than the opportunity to spend a dollar in an opera house.

## **Questions:**

- 1) Which of the following statements best explains Washington's belief that economic success would bring equality between the races? (CCSS-RI9-10.3)
  - a. Washington believed that social equality and privileges was the key to racial equality.
  - b. Washington believed that industrial skill and agricultural businesses would bring African Americans into the marketplace and create equality.
  - c. Washington believed that the Atlanta Exposition, which recognized African American achievements, would create a better relationship between white and black Americans.
  - d. Washington believed that African Americans should focus on working in factories.
- 2) Why are lines 1-3 important to Washington's speech? (CCSS-RI9-10.5)
  - a. They show that Americans and businesses needed to engage with the significant population of African Americans in order to be a successful society.
  - b. They show that the number of African Americans was relatively small within the U.S. population, and therefore, would not greatly impact society and the economy.
  - c. They show that one third of the population in the South included African Americans who worked in factories during the industrial revolution.
  - d. They show that one third of the population in the South included African Americans who worked in agriculture during the industrial revolution.