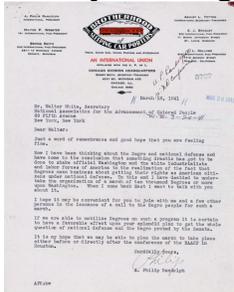


Assessing with Primary Sources

Grade Level: Middle School (6-8)
Standard(s) or Objectives: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.2 - Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

Library of Congress Resources:



Letter From A. Philip Randolph to NAACP Secretary Walter White, March 18, 1941.

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/naacp/world-war-ii-and-the-post-war-years.html#obj1>

Topic Background:

In the middle of the twentieth century, generations of resistance to segregation culminated in the Civil Rights movement, in which African Americans launched widespread demonstrations and other public protests to demand the rights and protections provided by the Constitution. As a result, a series of landmark court cases and new legislation in the 1950s and 60s, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act

Excerpted From:

http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/civil-rights/pdf/teacher_guide.pdf

Source Used:

In this letter labor leader A. Philip Randolph suggests to Walter White “a mass March on Washington” by thousands of African Americans to protest discrimination in defense industries and the armed forces. On June 18, A. Philip Randolph and Walter White met at the White House with President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of War Robert Paterson, and other officials. On June 25, the threat of the march prompted President Roosevelt to sign Executive Order 8802, which banned discrimination in defense industries receiving government contracts. The Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) was set up to investigate and monitor hiring

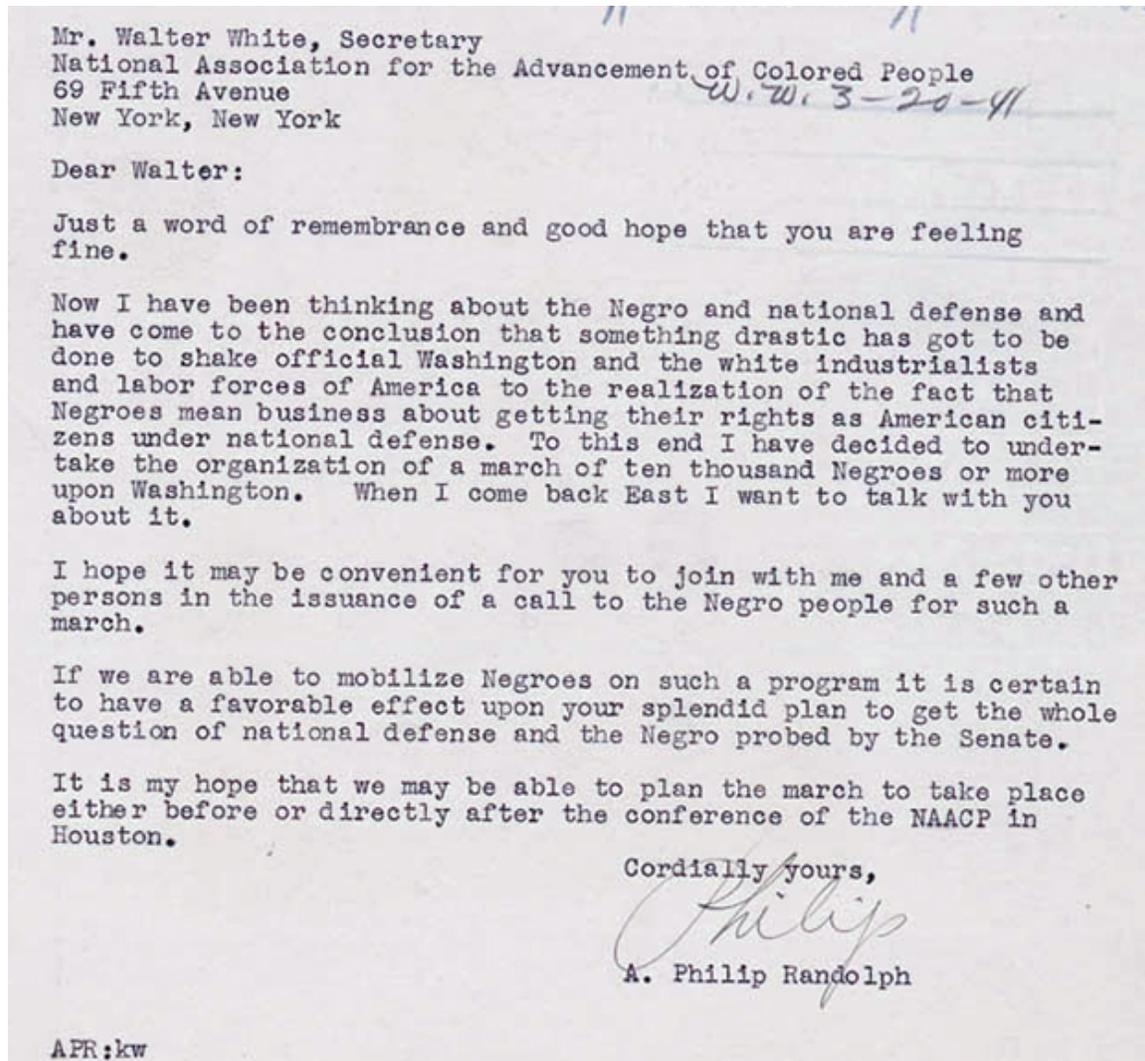
Excerpted from: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Indian.html>

Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – A

Early Civil Rights Activism (1941)

Letter from A. Philip Randolph to NAACP Secretary Walter White, March 18, 1941.



Question:

1) Which statement best represents the central idea A. Phillip Randolph is expressing in this letter? (CCSS-RI6.2)

- A. Randolph believes African Americans must stage a large scale march in order to show how serious they are about securing labor rights.
- B. Randolph is concerned about Walter Whites health and wants to make sure he is feeling fine.
- C. Randolph wants information about the NAACP conference in Houston.
- D. Randolph believes improved labor conditions and conditions in the national defense industry will help African Americans become more patriotic.