

# Year 9 Civil Rights in the USA Knowledge Organiser

**Rationale:** This unit explores race relations in the USA from 1954 - 75 and is intended to build on the learning completed on the slave trade and slavery in Year 8. It will also provide a point of comparison with race relations in Britain which is looked at in the following unit.

Key concept	
1. <b>Inference</b>	Working out things from a historical source that are not explicitly stated.
1. <b>Useful</b>	Whether a historical source is helpful for learning about a topic.
2. <b>Interpretation</b>	One view or opinion of an event or person.
Key people/groups	
3. <b>Ku Klux Klan</b>	A white supremacist group formed after the American Civil War
4. <b>White Citizens' Councils</b>	Groups set up after Brown v. Topeka to oppose school desegregation
5. <b>NAACP</b>	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. A group that focused on gaining civil rights through taking cases to court.
6. <b>CORE</b>	Congress on Racial Equality. A group that organised non-violent protests to gain civil rights.
7. <b>Black Power</b>	The name given to groups who promoted black nationalism and a more militant approach to gaining civil rights.
8. <b>Martin Luther King</b>	A Southern minister who became a leading figure in the fight for civil rights.
9. <b>President John F. Kennedy</b>	President of the USA, 1961 - 1963. Proposed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
10. <b>President Lyndon B. Johnson</b>	President of the USA, 1963 - 68. Passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
11. <b>Malcolm X</b>	A lead figure in the civil rights movement and a supporter of black nationalism.
12. <b>The Supreme Court</b>	The most powerful court in America. It decides whether the laws passed are legal.
Key events (by year)	
13. <b>1954</b>	Brown v. Topeka Board of Education (the Brown Decision)
14. <b>1955</b>	Murder of Emmett Till Montgomery Bus Boycott
15. <b>1957</b>	Little Rock Central High School
16. <b>1960</b>	Greensboro sit-ins
17. <b>1961</b>	Freedom Rides
18. <b>1963</b>	The Birmingham Campaign The Washington March
19. <b>1964</b>	The Civil Rights Act Freedom Summer
20. <b>1965</b>	March from Selma to Montgomery The Voting Rights Act

Key vocabulary	
21. <b>Segregation</b>	Separating people from each other (based on race of skin colour)
22. <b>Desegregation</b>	Ending segregation by giving to give people equal rights.
23. <b>Integration</b>	Uniting people of different races to give people equal rights.
24. <b>Discrimination</b>	Unfair treatment of people based on race, skin colour or gender.
25. <b>Civil rights</b>	The rights of people to political and social freedom and equality
26. <b>Federal government</b>	The national government led by the president. It makes laws for the whole country.
27. <b>State government</b>	Controls what happens in an individual state and can make some laws for that state.
28. <b>Inequality</b>	When groups in society are given unequal or unjust treatment and access to resources.
29. <b>Jim Crow laws</b>	A name for the segregation laws in the Southern states. They were enforced by state governments.
30. <b>Lynching</b>	A term used when a mob kill (often by hanging) someone accused of a crimes such as murder or rape.
31. <b>Separate but equal</b>	A legal justification for segregation which stated that segregation was legal as long as facilities for both races were of an equal standard.
32. <b>White supremacy</b>	The belief that white people are a superior race and should therefore dominate society.
33. <b>Boycott</b>	A form of protest where people refuse to use something e.g. Buses or shops to make their point.
34. <b>Peaceful protest</b>	Also known as non-violent resistance; protests that try to make a point without the use of violent.
35. <b>Sit-in</b>	A form of protest that involves people occupying an area and refusing to leave.
36. <b>Legislation</b>	The process of making laws.
37. <b>Literacy test</b>	A test that black Americans had to pass if they were to be allowed to register to vote.
38. <b>Black Nationalism</b>	Black people being proud of their African heritage and wanting to form a separate black nation.
39. <b>Militant</b>	Favouring violent methods in support of gaining civil rights.