



Is One Month Enough?

Read the passage and answer the questions. (CEFR B1–B2)

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

❶ When Carter G. Woodson launched Negro History Week in 1926, he did not imagine Black history as a separate subject. He insisted that people should study the Negro in history, not Negro history, meaning that Black Americans belonged inside the national story. The special week was a tool for reaching that goal, not the goal itself.



❷ A century later, that distinction is at the center of a lasting debate. Critics argue that a single month can turn history into a short list of famous heroes, repeated every February and then forgotten. Others worry that the month lets people feel they have done enough, even if nothing changes for the rest of the year. In 2005, the actor Morgan Freeman called the month ridiculous, saying that Black history is American history.

❸ Supporters respond that, in practice, many classrooms would not cover these stories at all without a dedicated time. For them, the month works as a reminder and a starting point, encouraging schools and libraries to build resources they can use all year. Perhaps the most useful question is not whether the month should exist, but whether it leads to learning that continues in March and beyond.

Comprehension

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Black History Month should be moved from February to March.
- (B) People disagree about the month, and the key question is whether learning continues after it.
- (C) Morgan Freeman started a new kind of history class.
- (D) Carter G. Woodson wanted Black history to be taught only in February.

2. According to the passage, what did Woodson mean by the Negro in history, not Negro history?

- (A) Black history should be a separate school subject.
- (B) History books should be written only by Black historians.
- (C) Black Americans belong inside the national story.
- (D) History should focus only on the 1920s.

3. Which of the following is NOT given as a worry of critics?

- (A) The month can turn history into a short list of heroes.
- (B) People may feel they have done enough.
- (C) The stories may be forgotten after February.
- (D) Schools may not have enough money for events.

4. What can we infer about supporters of the month?

- (A) They believe many teachers would not teach these stories without a set time.
- (B) They think Black history is not part of American history.
- (C) They want the month to replace all other history lessons.
- (D) They agree completely with Morgan Freeman.

5. In paragraph 3, the word dedicated in a dedicated time is closest in meaning to ...

- (A) free
- (B) set aside for a special purpose
- (C) very long
- (D) decided by the government

6. Why does the writer mention March in the last sentence?

- (A) To suggest a better month for the celebration
- (B) To explain when Woodson was born
- (C) To show that the real test is whether learning continues after February
- (D) To point out that March is Women's History Month



Vocabulary, Paraphrase & Summary

Match the words with the definitions. Then rewrite and summarize.

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|----------------|---|
| 1. launch | a. something useful, such as books or materials, that you can use to help you |
| 2. insist | b. continuing for a long time |
| 3. distinction | c. to start something new, such as a plan or an event |
| 4. critic | d. to say something firmly, especially when others may not agree |
| 5. ridiculous | e. a clear difference between two similar things |
| 6. dedicated | f. a person who says what is wrong with something |
| 7. resource | g. very silly or unreasonable |
| 8. lasting | h. used only for one particular purpose |

Paraphrase — say it in your own words

1. “The special week was a tool for reaching that goal, not the goal itself.”

Hint: Start with The special week was not ..., and use helped instead of a tool for.

2. “Critics argue that a single month can turn history into a short list of famous heroes, repeated every February and then forgotten.”

Hint: Use Some people say and only one month, and break it into two sentences.

3. “Supporters respond that, in practice, many classrooms would not cover these stories at all without a dedicated time.”

Hint: Use If there were no special time and teachers.

Summary

Summarize the passage in about 50 words.



Debate & Opinion Essay

Prepare for a debate. Then write your opinion (100–150 words).

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Motion: Schools should stop having special history months and teach these histories all year instead.

FOR 賛成

- A special month can make the history of one group look separate from the main national story.
- Students may only remember a few famous names that are repeated every year.
- Teaching these stories throughout the year shows that they are part of everyone's history.

Add your own reason:

AGAINST 反対

- Without a set time, many busy schools may not teach these stories at all.
- A special month makes libraries, museums, and media create new resources that teachers can use all year.
- The month gives students and communities a chance to celebrate together, which a normal lesson cannot do.

Add your own reason:

Opinion	<i>I believe / I think that ...</i>
Reason 1	<i>First, ... For example, ...</i>
Reason 2	<i>Second, ... In fact, ...</i>
Counter	<i>Some people say ... However, ...</i>
Conclusion	<i>In conclusion, ...</i>