

Rosa Parks

On December 1, 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks said “No!” to a white man. The white man was a bus driver. He asked Rosa Parks to move to the back of the bus because another white man wanted to sit down. Rosa Parks was a black woman. She had worked all day and she was tired. So, when the bus driver told her to move, she decided to say no.

The police came and took Rosa Parks to jail. Black people in Montgomery, Alabama became angry about this. So, they started a bus “boycott.” The bus company lost a lot of money because black people in Montgomery wouldn’t ride the buses. The bus boycott lasted 381 days. It was in newspapers all over America. Rosa Parks became a national hero.

Rosa Parks had been working for a long time to help black people before the police put her in jail. She was a secretary for a black organization in America called the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). She worked with black children in poor neighborhoods, too. She had been shouted at by white bus drivers before. But, on December 1, when Rosa Parks said “No!” to the white bus driver, the Civil Rights Movement in America began.

Rosa Parks resided in Detroit until she died at the age of 92 on October 24, 2005.



**READING COMPREHENSION**

ESL Lesson Plans - Mini-Bios - Rosa Parks

Answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1. What did Rosa Parks say to a white man? _____

2. When did Rosa Parks say “No!” to a white man? _____

3. Where did Rosa Parks live? _____

4. Was the white man a truck driver? _____

5. Why did he ask Rosa Parks to move? _____

6. Was Rosa Parks an Asian woman? _____

7. What did the police do to Rosa Parks? _____

8. When Rosa Parks was put in jail, many black people became angry. What did the black people do? _____

9. Why did the bus company lose a lot of money? _____

10. How long did the bus boycott last? _____

11. Did Rosa Parks become a national hero? _____

12. What black organization was Rosa Parks a secretary for? _____

13. What began when Rosa Parks said “No!” to the white bus driver? _____



VOCABULARY REVIEW

ESL Lesson Plans - Mini-Bios - Rosa Parks

Unscramble the words below from the story. Then write one original sentence for each word.

1. ridver _____

2. grany _____

3. ijla _____

4. rohe _____

5. tobyoct _____

6. sndiboghreho _____

7. derti _____

8. nemtovme _____

Now find the words from above in the Word Search below.

n u b o y c o t t i o y a
a h g a c t r i z e h a s
e t i r e d g a r a c d r
j o p r a v i c e n o r a
a a r t n e m e v o m e c
i a e r c e a s h d p s c
l a r v i o l r g h a i i
e n n t n t o i i e n c h
l g o d r b v e r t y r e
t r q e h e r r i e o d r
o y i g i t a n t e s i o
e t i b r h o s u e r t p
t e o l a r k i o s a o o
n n p s t e w m q i r v s

**ANSWER KEY - SCRAMBLE AND WORD SEARCH**

1. driver
2. angry
3. jail
4. hero
5. boycott
6. neighborhoods
7. tired
8. movement

ñ u b o y c o t t i o y a
a h g a c t r i z e h a s
e t i r e d g a r a c a r
j o p r a v i c e n o r a
a a r t n e m e v o m e c
i a e r c e a s h d p s c
l a r v i o l r g h a i i
e n n t n t o i i e n c h
l g o d r b v e r t y r e
t r q e h e r r i e o d r
o y i g i t a n t e s i o
d r i v e r o s u e r t p
t e o l a r k i o s a o o
n n p s t e w m q i r v s