

Name _____

Date _____

Malcolm X - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. What was Malcolm X's birth name?

- A. Malcolm X
- B. Malcolm Little
- C. James Malcolm
- D. el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz

2. After his father died, Malcolm X

- A. lived with his mother until high school.
- B. was placed in foster care.
- C. went to boarding school.
- D. became homeless.

3. Why did Malcolm X drop out of school?

- A. He joined the Nation of Islam during tenth grade.
- B. His grades were poor, and he was at risk of failing.
- C. His teacher told him he could not become a lawyer.
- D. He was arrested at school and wasn't allowed to return.

4. Which of the following is **not** true of Malcolm X's time in prison?

- A. He read constantly in an effort to educate himself.
- B. He was sentenced to 10 years and was paroled in 1952.
- C. He was introduced to the teachings of the Nation of Islam.
- D. He wrote and edited his entire autobiography in his prison cell.

5. What does the "X" in Malcolm X represent?

- A. his lost culture
- B. his father's name
- C. his middle initial
- D. his status as an ex-convict

6. As he rose to prominence, white people in power saw Malcolm X as a(n)

- A. ally.
- C. threat.
- B. hero.
- D. politician.

7. True or False: Both Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. initially believed that black people should separate from white society.

- A. True
- B. False

8. Which of the following best describes Malcolm X's early approach to self-defense?

- A. Protect yourself by any means necessary.
- B. Protect yourself through targeted legal action.
- C. Protect yourself through diplomacy and debate.
- D. Protect yourself through non-violent means only.

9. After Malcolm X's pilgrimage to Mecca, he returned home with a new perspective. He then

- A. rejoined the Nation of Islam as president.
- C. preached a more tolerant version of Islam.
- B. studied to become an imam at a mosque.
- D. graduated from college and became a professor.

10. Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965. Since then, his _____ has served as a firsthand account of his teachings and a lasting record of his legacy.

- A. diary
- C. book of poetry
- B. travelogue
- D. autobiography