

Name _____

Date _____

Voting Rights Act & Selma March - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. Poll taxes, literacy tests and grandfather clauses were _____.

- A. fair voting practices that marchers in Selma wanted the government to guarantee
- ☒ B. used to prevent African Americans from voting
- C. used by northern states to register thousands of voters
- D. not used until after the Voting Rights Act was passed

2. In Selma, Alabama, _____ prevented African Americans from voting.

- A. unfair voting practices
- B. hate groups including the Ku Klux Klan
- C. the sheriff and a deputized posse of citizens
- ☒ D. all of the above

3. Which of the following describes the correct order of events?

- ☒ A. 1. African Americans are denied the right to vote.
2. African Americans organize marches for voting rights in Alabama.
3. The Voting Rights Act is signed.
- B. 1. The Voting Rights Act is signed.
2. African Americans are denied the right to vote.
3. African Americans organize marches for voting rights in Alabama.
- C. 1. African Americans are denied the right to vote.
2. The Voting Rights Act is signed.
3. African Americans organize marches for voting rights in Alabama.
- D. 1. The Voting Rights Act is signed.
2. African Americans organize marches for voting rights in Alabama.
3. African Americans are denied the right to vote.

4. The marchers planned to go from Selma to _____.

- A. Jackson, Mississippi
- B. Atlanta, Georgia
- ☒ C. Montgomery, Alabama
- D. Raleigh, North Carolina

5. What happened to the first march?

- A. The sheriff allowed the marchers to cross the bridge and leave Selma.
- ☒ C. The sheriff and his posse beat the marchers and stopped them from leaving Selma.
- B. The march was canceled because of a storm.
- D. The sheriff tried to stop the marchers but didn't arrive in time to do so.

6. True or false: The nation didn't learn about the events of Bloody Sunday until 1968 because it wasn't televised.

- A. True
- ☒ B. False

7. The Voting Rights Act _____.

- ☒ A. protected African Americans' right to vote through federal law
- C. made it legal for African Americans to march peacefully
- B. made it legal for African Americans to vote for the first time
- D. was deemed unconstitutional and repealed in 1966

8. Who signed the Voting Rights Act?

- A. President John F. Kennedy
- C. President Richard M. Nixon
- B. President Dwight D. Eisenhower
- ☒ D. President Lyndon B. Johnson

9. What is one thing the Voting Rights Act did?

- A. required more grandfather clauses
- C. banned absentee voting
- ☒ B. banned literacy tests
- D. automatically registered all adults to vote

10. What happened as a result of the Voting Rights Act?

- ☒ A. the number of registered black voters increased by hundreds of thousands
- C. a large number of white people moved to the South
- B. election day was changed to a Wednesday
- D. the number of white voters decreased by hundreds of thousands

