



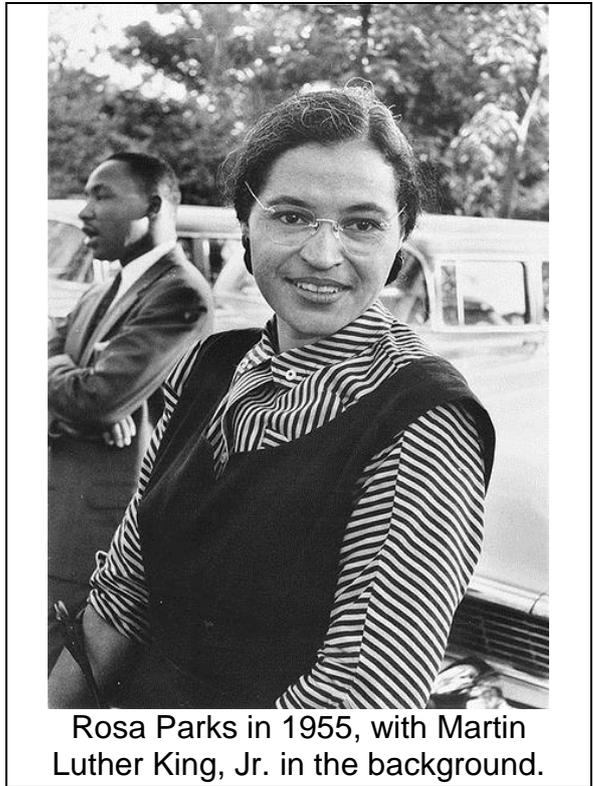
In 1955, Rosa Parks lived in Alabama in the USA. One day she got on a bus. She sat in the middle of the bus. Some white people got on the bus. They sat at the front of the bus.

Later, some more white people got on. There were no seats left. The driver told Rosa to stand up and give her seat to the white people. This was the law; black people had to give their seats to white people. But Rosa refused to give up her seat.

The bus driver called the police. They arrested Rosa and took her to the police station. The next Monday, she had to go to court.

Black leaders gave out 35,000 leaflets. They asked everyone to stay off the buses. The leaflet said: "You can afford to stay out of school for one day. If you work, take a taxi, or walk. But please, children and grown-ups don't ride on the bus at all on Monday. Please stay off the buses on Monday."

It rained that day, but the people did not go on the buses. Some rode in cars with friends, some travelled in taxis, but most walked. Some walked as far as 20 miles.



Rosa Parks in 1955, with Martin Luther King, Jr. in the background.



Rosa Parks and U.S. President Bill Clinton

This was called a boycott. They boycotted the buses.

In court, Rosa was found guilty and she was fined \$10. But the boycott did not stop. The boycott lasted for 381 days. No-one used the buses. No-one paid the bus company. The bus company lost a lot of money.

In the end the law was changed. Black people didn't have to give up their seats to white people. They could sit anywhere they wanted on buses.

Rosa Parks refused to stand up and give her seat to a white person.

Ask five friends:

Have you ever refused to do something? What was it?

Write down what your friends refused to do.

Now write about yourself. Write about something you refused to do.



Talk about this passage with some friends. Decide which words fit in each space:

One day in 1955 Rosa Parks was sitting in a bus. Some white people got on the bus.

There were no seats left. The \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ told Rosa to give her seat to the white people. This was the \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_. Black people had to give their seats to white people. But Rosa \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ to give up her seat.

The bus driver called the police. They \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Rosa and took her to the police station. The next Monday, she had to go to \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_.

Black \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ gave out 35,000 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_. They said: "You can \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ to stay out of school for one day. If you work, take a taxi, or walk. But please, children and grown-ups please stay off the buses on Monday." It rained that day, but the people did not go on

the buses. Some rode in cars with friends, but most walked.

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They could sit anywhere they wanted on buses.



afford	boycotted	driver	leaflets
arrested	changed	law	refused
boycott	court	leaders	