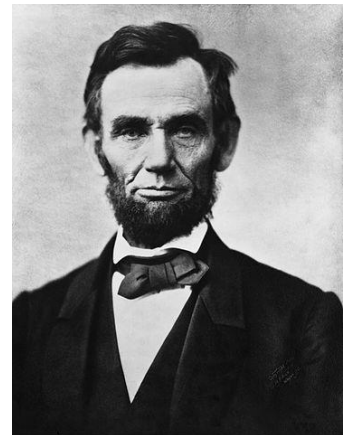


Use the word in brackets to form a new word that fits into each blank.

There are about 40 million African Americans in the USA, roughly 13 per cent of the population. The majority are \_\_\_\_\_ **(DESCEND)** of slaves "imported" from Africa to work on the plantations in the south of the USA. President Lincoln abolished \_\_\_\_\_ **(SLAVE)** in 1865 after the Civil War. Many former slaves moved north, east and west to the big cities in search of work, becoming the first blacks to live in urban ghettos.



Abraham Lincoln - 16th  
President of the United  
States of America

Although government efforts to fight \_\_\_\_\_ **(SEGREGATE)** and prevent \_\_\_\_\_ **(DISCRIMINATION)** against blacks were at a standstill for decades, some progress was made in certain areas. It was not until the 1950s and 1960s however, that black leaders like Martin Luther King were able to mobilise large sections of both the black and white population and launch the Civil Rights \_\_\_\_\_ **(MOVE)**. Thanks to public sympathy for blacks and to non-violent marches and \_\_\_\_\_ **(DEMONSTRATE)**, laws became necessary. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed, which aimed at \_\_\_\_\_ **(RACE)** desegregation by granting blacks \_\_\_\_\_ **(EQUAL)** in all political and social fields.

### Positive changes of the past decades:

- Race is no longer the issue it was before and during the 1950s and 60s.
- Interracial \_\_\_\_\_ **(MARRY)** has gained widespread \_\_\_\_\_ **(ACCEPT)**.
- A black middle class has emerged, and black millionaires or politicians are no longer \_\_\_\_\_ **(COMMON)**. In 2008 Barack Obama became the first African American president in America's 200-year history.
- Racism is on the decline. The racial strife of the 60s on one hand and white supremacist groups like the Ku Klux Klan on the other are elements of the past.
- Besides continuing to play a major role in the \_\_\_\_\_ **(ENTERTAIN)** sector, African Americans have also come to dominate certain areas of sport, e.g. boxing, basketball, track and field etc...
- As a result of the integration of an \_\_\_\_\_ **(INCREASE)** number of middle-class blacks into formerly white \_\_\_\_\_ **(RESIDE)** areas, there are now many racially mixed suburban communities.

- Segregation no longer exists in public schools and has also \_\_\_\_\_ **(APPEAR)** from playgrounds, restaurants and hotels. Blacks enjoy greater racial equality and are confronted with fewer racial barriers than in the past.

### **Problems still facing African Americans:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **(HIDE)** discrimination of blacks still exists in some fields like housing or law.
- Black and white colleagues who treat each other in a friendly way at work sometimes lead separate social lives at home.
- Despite \_\_\_\_\_ **(IMPROVE)** in politics, blacks still remain underrepresented in Congress.
- The most urgent problem is the black underclass. There is now a great \_\_\_\_\_ **(PARITY)** in income and social standing between successful middle-class blacks and the underclass. Most of them live in inner-city ghettos, the centres of drug-trafficking and the scene of gang-warfare between rival black or Hispanic groups. Nearly half of these people live below the \_\_\_\_\_ **(POOR)** line and are \_\_\_\_\_ **(DEPEND)** on welfare, food stamps and Medicaid benefits.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ **(EMPLOY)** rate of blacks is above average. About one third of black teenagers drop out of high school. The infant \_\_\_\_\_ **(MORTAL)** rate among blacks is double that of whites. Remedies are needed if the underclass is not to become alienated from the rest of American society.

## KEY

There are about 40 million African Americans in the USA, roughly 13 per cent of the population. The majority are **descendants (DESCEND)** of slaves "imported" from Africa to work on the plantations in the south of the USA. President Lincoln abolished **slavery (SLAVE)** in 1865 after the Civil War. Many former slaves moved north, east and west to the big cities in search of work, becoming the first blacks to live in urban ghettos.

Although government efforts to fight **segregation (SEGREGATE)** and prevent **discrimination (DISCRIMINATION)** against blacks were at a standstill for decades, some progress was made in certain areas. It was not until the 1950s and 1960s however, that black leaders like Martin Luther King were able to mobilise large sections of both the black and white population and launch the Civil Rights **Movement (MOVE)**. Thanks to public sympathy for blacks and to non-violent marches and **demonstrations (DEMONSTRATE)**, laws became necessary. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed, which aimed at **racial (RACE)** desegregation by granting blacks **equality (EQUAL)** in all political and social fields.

### Positive changes of the past decades:

- Race is no longer the issue it was before and during the 1950s and 60s.
- Interracial **marriage (MARRY)** has gained widespread **acceptance (ACCEPT)** .
- A black middle class has emerged, and black millionaires or politicians are no longer **uncommon (COMMON)**. In 2008 Barack Obama became the first African American president in America's 200-year history.
- Racism is on the decline. The racial strife of the 60s on one hand and white supremacist groups like the Ku Klux Klan on the other are elements of the past.
- Besides continuing to play a major role in the **entertainment (ENTERTAIN)** sector, African Americans have also come to dominate certain areas of sport, e.g. boxing, basketball, track and field etc...
- As a result of the integration of an **increasing (INCREASE)** number of middle-class blacks into formerly white **residential (RESIDE)** areas, there are now many racially mixed suburban communities.
- Segregation no longer exists in public schools and has also **disappeared (APPEAR)** from playgrounds, restaurants and hotels. Blacks enjoy greater racial equality and are confronted with fewer racial barriers than in the past.

## Problems still facing African Americans:

- **Hidden (HIDE)** discrimination of blacks still exists in some fields like housing or law.
- Black and white colleagues who treat each other in a friendly way at work sometimes lead separate social lives at home.
- Despite **improvements (IMPROVE)** in politics, blacks still remain underrepresented in Congress.
- The most urgent problem is the black underclass. There is now a great **disparity (PARITY)** in income and social standing between successful middle-class blacks and the underclass. Most of them live in inner-city ghettos, the centres of drug-trafficking and the scene of gang-warfare between rival black or Hispanic groups. Nearly half of these people live below the **poverty (POOR)** line and are **dependent (DEPEND)** on welfare, food stamps and Medicaid benefits.
- The **unemployment (EMPLOY)** rate of blacks is above average. About one third of black teenagers drop out of high school. The infant **mortality (MORTAL)** rate among blacks is double that of whites. Remedies are needed if the underclass is not to become alienated from the rest of American society.