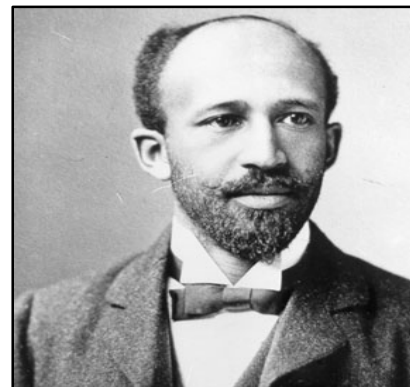


Name _____

Date _____

Who was the first African American to earn a PhD from Harvard?

William Edward Burghardt, or W.E.B Du Bois, is considered one of the most important African-American leaders during the first half of the 20th century. Du Bois was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts in 1868. Growing up in Massachusetts he encountered very little racism. When Du Bois moved to Tennessee where he attended Finch University he encountered for the first time the Jim Crow laws (laws that separated black and white people) and the racism that African-Americans faced throughout the south. After graduating from Finch University, Du Bois was accepted into Harvard University, and became the first African American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1895.

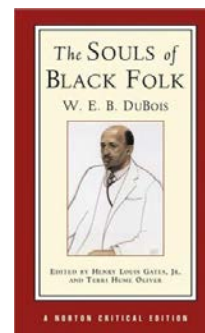


February, 1868 - August, 1963



Not long after graduating from Harvard, Du Bois began his prolific writing career focusing mostly on the African-American community. He published 19 books during his lifetime. His best known work, The Souls of Black Folk, was published in 1903. Du Bois was outspoken in his support of women's rights and a strong ally of Pan-Africanism which supported the independence of African colonies from their European masters.

W.E.B Du Bois also taught for years as a professor of history, sociology and economics at Atlanta University. In 1909, Du Bois co-founded the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, commonly known as the NAACP. Over a hundred years later, the NAACP still remains an important and respected organization. Du Bois was also a leader of the Niagara Movement, a party of African-American activists who fought for equal rights for black people.



NAACP

W.E.B Du Bois died in Ghana, Africa in 1963 while researching the movement of people from Africa to all parts of the world, known as the African diaspora. He was 95 years old at the time of his death. One year after his death, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 passed congress which was an important step in the efforts to end racism in America.

Answer These Questions

1. What organization did Du Bois co-found?

- A. Minutemen
- B. NASA
- C. NAACP
- D. Atlanta University



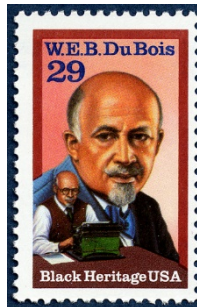
2. Which of the following is a book written by Du Bois?

- A. The Lord of the Rings
- B. The Souls of Black Folk
- C. Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry
- D. To Kill A Mockingbird



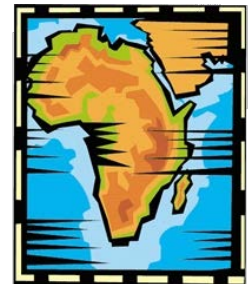
3. Which University did Du Bois attend?

- A. Princeton
- B. Yale
- C. Harvard
- D. Columbia College



4. Where did Du Bois Die?

- A. United States
- B. Mexico
- C. Europe
- D. Africa



5. In the final paragraph is the word diaspora. Which of the following could be part of the diaspora?

- A. Slaves being brought from Africa to the United States
- B. The invention of the steamboat
- C. George Washington elected President of the United States
- D. The migration of the African elephant