

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Iota Kappa Omega Chapter
Theme: African Americans and Labor

2025 Black History Quiz Bowl Essay Prompts

Essays are due by January 31, 2025 at 5pm. Submissions should be sent to
iotakappaomega.bhqb@gmail.com

2025 Black History Quiz Bowl Essay Prompts

Theme: African Americans and Labor

Grades K-5 (1/2 page – 1 page; at least 200 words)

- How did enslaved African-American people help build America and what kinds of work did they do?
- What was the Great Migration, and how did it help African-American families find new jobs in the North?
- How did African-American workers help fight for equal rights and better working conditions during the Civil Rights Movement?
- What kinds of jobs did African-American women have in history, and how did they help improve working conditions for everyone?
- What kinds of jobs did African-American children do in the past, and how did they help their families?

Grades 6-8 (1-2 pages; at least 500 words)

- What is a labor union, and why was it important for African-American workers to join unions?
- How did the Great Migration change the lives of African-American families in America? What were the economic opportunities and challenges they faced in northern cities?
- Who are some famous African-American leaders who fought for better jobs and fair treatment at work, and what did they do?
- What role did African-American women play in the workforce during the 20th century, and how did their experiences differ from those of African-American men and white women?
- What are some of the challenges African-American workers face today in the labor market? How can the lessons of history help us create fairer workplaces for everyone?

Grades 9-12 (2-3 pages; at least 750 words)

- What was the Great Migration, and how did it change the lives of African-American families in the North?

- How did African-American workers play a role in the Civil Rights Movement, and why was economic justice important to the movement?
- How did World War II create new job opportunities for African-American workers, and what challenges did they face during this time?
- How did African-American women contribute to the workforce in the 20th century, and what unique challenges did they face at work?
- What are some of the challenges that African-American workers face today in the labor market, and how can we work to create more equal opportunities for everyone?

Essay Guidelines

- All essays must be typed using a 12-point font, must be double spaced, and must utilize the conventions of standard written English. No cover sheet will be required. This will follow MLA guidelines for presentation. In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, list your name, Black History Quiz Bowl Essay, Grade ____, and the date. Again, be sure to use double-spaced text.
- Double space again and center the title. Do not underline, italicize, or place your title in quotation marks. Write the title in Title Case (standard capitalization), not in all capital letters.
- Left align your paper. Be sure to indent at the first sentence of every paragraph.

See sample below:

Bonnie Belle
Black History Quiz Bowl Essay Grade 5
28 February 2025

My Favorite African-American Artist
(be sure to use your own original title)

The first line of every paragraph is indented. The rest of the lines of the paragraph are aligned with