

Read the text from 2015 about an incident in the life of an American politician. Then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question (1-6). Put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Congressman John Lewis

He thought it was over. It was Sunday, March 7, 1965, and a voting-rights march from Selma to Montgomery had barely begun when Alabama state troopers charged a line of nonviolent demonstrators led by the twenty-five-year-old John Lewis. Trapped between asphalt and his uniformed attackers at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, inhaling tear gas and reeling from two billy-club blows to his head, Lewis felt everything dimming. He could hear screams and racial slurs and the clop-clop-clop of the troopers' horses. His skull fractured, his vision blurred, Lewis believed the end had come. "People are going to die here," he said to himself. "I'm going to die here." Yet for Lewis there was, strangely, no sense of panic, no gasping, no thrashing, no fear: He was at peace.

The world around him on that day, though, was at war, and the television cameras were whirring. Images of the Alabama troopers' attack on Lewis and his fellow marchers ran that evening; ABC broke into the broadcast premiere of *Judgment at Nuremberg* to show the footage. What had begun as an ordinary day in a small Southern town was soon to be known as Bloody Sunday, and the scene at the bridge became that rarest of things: a crossroads in the long story of civilization. "At times, history and fate meet at a single time in a single place to shape a turning point in man's unending search for freedom," President Lyndon B. Johnson told the Congress. "So it was at Lexington and Concord. So it was a century ago at Appomattox. So it was last week in Selma, Alabama." Within months came the Voting Rights Act of 1965, a landmark victory in the decades-long battle against Jim Crow.

Today, fifty years on, John Lewis, who is beginning his fifteenth term representing Georgia's fifth congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives, is older and heavier, but he still embodies the spirit of Bloody Sunday: His was—is—a vision of nonviolent social change that has more in common with the martyrs of old than with the politics of a given hour. "At the moment when I was hit on the bridge and began to fall," Lewis recalls, "I really thought it was my last protest, my last march. I thought I saw death, and I thought, 'It's okay, it's all right—I am doing what I am supposed to do.'" Which was to dramatize the injustice of segregation and to call white America to redemption—not through violent confrontation but through courageous witness.

Born in 1940 to sharecropper parents, Lewis overcame a childhood stutter by preaching to chickens on the family farm in Pike County, Alabama. After the Montgomery bus boycott catapulted Martin Luther King, Jr., to fame, Lewis sought out the emerging civil-rights icon, became chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and began a fabled life in the movement. Lewis was beaten and arrested across the South, including on the epochal Freedom Rides; spoke at the March on Washington in 1963; and was leading the Selma-to-Montgomery voting-rights effort when he and his colleague Hosea Williams crested the Pettus Bridge and spotted a line of troopers on that March Sunday.

0 John Lewis

- A marched at the front of the protesters.
- B deliberately provoked the police.
- C fell under the feet of a horse.
- D was shot in a fight with the police.

- 1 **In the face of death, Lewis felt**
 - A desperate.
 - B angry.
 - C calm.
 - D excited.

- 2 **The incident in Selma**
 - A got little media attention.
 - B was soon given a special name.
 - C became part of a German documentary.
 - D took place at a street crossing.

- 3 **As a consequence of the incident in Selma,**
 - A police rights were cut back.
 - B some protesters stood trial.
 - C laws for elections changed.
 - D troops marched on Selma.

- 4 **Lewis stands for the idea of**
 - A suffering for your faith.
 - B African-American progress.
 - C political compromise.
 - D peaceful resistance.

- 5 **At a young age, Lewis**
 - A talked to animals to practice speaking.
 - B wanted to become a preacher.
 - C worked for a local farmer.
 - D intended to be a bus driver.

- 6 **John Lewis was at university when he**
 - A became a political activist.
 - B made a famous speech at Selma.
 - C was sentenced to years in prison.
 - D helped King boycott public transport.

Congressman John Lewis

| 0 | A | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Von der
Lehrperson
auszufüllen

richtig falsch

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