

Name:

Day One

Ku Klux Klan Murders

Part 1: Silent read

➔ The Ku Klux Klan is a racist hate group. Read silently.

In June 1964, Ku Klux Klan members killed three men. These men were civil rights workers. They were in Mississippi to help Black people vote. A policeman pulled them over for speeding. The policeman was a Ku Klux Klan member. He kept them from getting out of town. This gave others enough time to plan their murder. Two of the men killed were White, and one was Black.

The Ku Klux Klan, or KKK, is a hate group. They believe that White people are better. They want only White people to have power. The first KKK group started in the U.S. after the Civil War.

In the 1960's, the KKK fought against the civil rights movement. They did not want African Americans to have the same rights. They tried to scare people away from creating change. The KKK used beatings, bombings, and shootings. They wanted to scare people away from voting or speaking up.

In the 1960s, southern governments often refused to punish KKK members. Even when there was a trial, it was hard to find witnesses. Some people supported what the KKK did. Others were afraid to speak up.

June 21, 2005 was forty-one years after the KKK murders in Mississippi. On that day, Edgar Ray Killen was finally found guilty of the three murders. He was sentenced to 60 years in prison. He died in 2018.

Source: "The KKK Kills Three Civil Rights Activists," History.com, November 13, 2009.



Day One

// one minute

Ku Klux Klan Murders

Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

In June 1964, Ku Klux Klan members killed three men. These men were civil rights workers. They were in Mississippi to help Black people vote. A policeman pulled them over for speeding. The policeman was a Ku Klux Klan member. He kept them from getting out of town. This gave others enough time to plan their murder. Two of the men killed were White, and one was Black.

The Ku Klux Klan, or KKK, is a hate group. They believe that White people are better. They want only White people to have power. The first KKK group started in the U.S. after the Civil War.

In the 1960's, the KKK fought against the civil rights movement. They did not want African Americans to have the same rights. They tried to scare people away from creating change. The KKK used beatings, bombings, and shootings. They wanted to scare people away from voting or speaking up.

In the 1960s, southern governments often refused to punish KKK members. Even when there was a trial, it was hard to find witnesses. Some people supported what the KKK did. Others were afraid to speak up.

June 21, 2005 was forty-one years after the KKK murders in Mississippi. On that day, Edgar Ray Killen was finally found guilty of the three murders. He was sentenced to 60 years in prison. He died in 2018.

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How did the Ku Klux Klan try to keep people from supporting the civil rights movement?

How long did it take to get justice for the murdered men?

Day One

Ku Klux Klan Murders

Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

In June 1964, / Ku Klux Klan members killed three men. // These men were civil rights workers. // They were in Mississippi / to help Black people vote. // A policeman pulled them over for speeding. // The policeman was a Ku Klux Klan member. // He kept them from getting out of town. // This gave others enough time / to plan their murder. // Two of the men killed were White, / and one was Black. //

The Ku Klux Klan, / or KKK, / is a hate group. // They believe that White people are better. // They want only White people / to have power. // The first KKK group / started in the U.S. / after the Civil War. //

In the 1960's, / the KKK fought against / the civil rights movement. // They did not want African Americans / to have the same rights. // They tried to scare people away / from creating change. // The KKK used beatings, / bombings, / and shootings. // They wanted to scare people away from voting / or speaking up. //

In the 1960s, / southern governments / often refused to punish KKK members. // Even when there was a trial, / it was hard to find witnesses. // Some people supported what the KKK did. // Others were afraid to speak up. //

June 21, / 2005 / was forty-one years / after the KKK murders in Mississippi. // On that day, / Edgar Ray Killen / was finally found guilty / of the three murders. // He was sentenced / to 60 years in prison. // He died in 2018. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.