

Name:

Day One

Left Behind on the South Side

Part 1: Silent read

➔ What's it like to live on the South Side of Chicago? Read silently.

Brastell Travis was a resident of Chicago's South Side. Travis lacked the resources to attend college. He earned a certificate as a welder, instead. Yet Travis still could not find a full-time job near the South Side. Travis said, "there's not as many resources as there are in other neighborhoods."

Travis avoided jobs in some areas of the South Side because of gang violence. Travis also lacked a car to commute to areas with more jobs. Advocates worry that, like Travis, many South Side residents lack opportunities. Chicago is a prosperous city. However, these neighborhoods are isolated from the best jobs.

The South Side is an area of Chicago that includes multiple neighborhoods. Because of segregation in the past, most residents of the South Side are African American. For many decades, Black people were barred from half of Chicago's neighborhoods. The South Side also has significant Jewish and Mexican-American populations.

Originally, the South Side offered great opportunities for African Americans. There were manufacturing plants providing thousands of good jobs. When these plants shut down in the 60s and 70s, it damaged the area. Middle class people departed the South Side to find better jobs. Many businesses shut down, and schools and parks declined. Investors viewed the South Side as an area of poverty and did not invest money there.

Now, advocates hope to revitalize the area. Leaders have called for renewed investment. As one example, the new Barack Obama Presidential Library will be on Chicago's South Side.

Source: "Chicago's Awful Divide," *The Atlantic*, March 28, 2018.



Day One

// one minute

Left Behind on the South Side

Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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49
50

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66
82
94
101

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115
130
143
150

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162
175
192
205
219

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233
247

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Why did the South Side go into decline?

What did Brastell Travis train to be?

Day One

Left Behind on the South Side

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.

Brastell Travis was a resident / of Chicago’s South Side. // Travis lacked the resources / to attend college. // He earned a certificate as a welder, / instead. // Yet Travis still could not find a full-time job / near the South Side. // Travis said, / “There’s not as many resources / as there are in other neighborhoods.” //

Travis avoided jobs in some areas of the South Side / because of gang violence. // Travis also lacked a car / to commute to areas with more jobs. // Advocates worry that, / like Travis, / many South Side residents lack opportunities. // Chicago is a prosperous city. // However, / these neighborhoods are isolated from the best jobs. //

The South Side is an area of Chicago / that includes multiple neighborhoods. // Because of segregation in the past, / most residents of the South Side are African American. // For many decades, / Black people were barred / from half of Chicago’s neighborhoods. // The South Side also has / significant Jewish and Mexican-American populations. //

Originally, / the South Side offered great opportunities / for African Americans. // There were manufacturing plants / providing thousands of good jobs. // When these plants shut down in the 60s and 70s, / it damaged the area. // Middle class people departed the South Side / to find better jobs. // Many businesses shut down, / and schools and parks declined. // Investors viewed the South Side as an area of poverty / and did not invest money there. //

Now, / advocates hope to revitalize the area. // Leaders have called for renewed investment. // As one example, / the new Barack Obama Presidential Library / will be on Chicago’s South Side. //

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