

Name:

Day One

The King of Pop

Part 1: Silent read

➔ What happened to Michael Jackson's skin color? Read silently.

Michael Jackson wowed listeners with hits like “Beat It.” But rumors flew around about his skin color. As a member of the Jackson Five, Michael’s skin was a rich brown. By the time the video for “Thriller” came out, Michael’s skin was almost white.

Many people thought Michael Jackson bleached his skin. He didn't! Michael Jackson actually had a skin disorder. It is called vitiligo. About one percent of the population has this problem. Vitiligo runs in the Jackson family, and people with a family history are more likely to develop the skin problem. People with vitiligo lose their skin coloring in small patches. The patches can spread and form large white areas on the face and body. Vitiligo stands out the most for people with darker coloring. But people of all skin tones can suffer from this skin problem. Since Michael Jackson had vitiligo on his face, he used a cream to make his skin tones match. The vitiligo was just one of many body issues that dogged Michael.

Even as the King of Pop, Michael was teased about his skin. People with this skin disorder often have problems with self-esteem. They may be targeted by bullies. They may have trouble making and keeping friends. Although vitiligo does not directly affect learning, teens with vitiligo can struggle in school. Whispers and slams can distract teens from learning.



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// one minute

Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Even as the King of Pop, Michael was teased about his skin. People with this skin 186
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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Why did Michael Jackson’s skin color change?

What kinds of social problems do teens with vitiligo face?

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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.

Michael Jackson wowed listeners with hits like “Beat It.” // But rumors flew around about his skin color. // As a member of the Jackson Five, / Michael’s skin was a rich brown. // By the time the video for “Thriller” came out, / Michael’s skin was almost white. //

Many people thought Michael Jackson bleached his skin. // He didn’t! // Michael Jackson actually had a skin disorder. // It is called vitiligo. // About one percent of the population has this problem. // Vitiligo runs in the Jackson family, / and people with a family history are more likely to develop the skin problem. // People with vitiligo lose their skin coloring in small patches. // The patches can spread and form large white areas / on the face and body. // Vitiligo stands out the most for people with darker coloring. // But people of all skin tones can suffer from this skin problem. // Since Michael Jackson had vitiligo on his face, / he used a cream to make his skin tones match. // The vitiligo was just one of many body issues that dogged Michael. //

Even as the King of Pop, / Michael was teased about his skin. // People with this skin disorder often have problems with self-esteem. // They may be targeted by bullies. // They may have trouble making and keeping friends. // Although vitiligo does not directly affect learning, / teens with vitiligo can struggle in school. // Whispers and slams can distract teens from learning. //

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