

Name:

Day One

Thurgood Marshall: Fighting for Justice

Part 1: Silent read

→ Thurgood Marshall was the first African American on the Supreme Court. Read silently.

Thurgood Marshall gave a speech in the final year of his life. It was 1992, and Marshall was receiving an award at Independence Hall. He spoke about the racism and injustice still continuing in the U.S. He also described his hope for freedom and equality for all. Marshall said, “The legal system can force open doors ... But it cannot build bridges. That job belongs to you and me.” Thurgood Marshall spent his career working for equal rights. He sought to inspire all Americans towards unity and equality.

Thurgood Marshall was born in Maryland in 1908. His mother was a teacher, and his father was a waiter. Marshall’s family used to have debates every night about current events. When he decided to go to law school, his mother sold her wedding ring to help pay for it. Marshall went on to graduate first in his class at Howard University.

As a lawyer, Thurgood Marshall consistently worked to defend civil rights. He often took on cases where African Americans were treated unfairly. After accepting a job for the NAACP, Marshall traveled the South providing legal help. He became famous for his passion for equality of rights. He eventually argued 32 cases before the Supreme Court, winning 29 of them. Marshall later became a judge himself. In 1967, Thurgood Marshall became the first African American Supreme Court Justice. He never stopped fighting for justice for all.



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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What do you think was Thurgood Marshall’s biggest accomplishment?

What did Thurgood Marshall’s mother sell to help pay for law school?

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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.

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