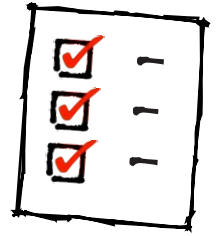


Name:



Day Two

Brown v. Board: A Close Case

Part 1: Tricky phrases and words

→ Read these phrases and words **out loud** to your partner.

- They argued that America’s “separate but equal” policy
- were probably leaning towards keeping segregation
- that the U.S. should move towards ending segregated education
- validating these angry people
- Though fully desegregating schools would take decades

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> segregation | seg rih GAY shun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> facilities | fuh SIL uh teez |
| <input type="checkbox"/> inherently | in HAYR unt lee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> desegregation | dee seg rih GAY shun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> potential | puh TEN chul |
| <input type="checkbox"/> unanimously | yoo NAN uh muss lee |



Decoding practice:

Circle the two base words in the compounds below. The first one is done for you.

classrooms

overturned

became

however

undercut

landmark



Day Two

// one minute

Brown v. Board: A Close Case

Part 2: Last read

WPM _____

Brown v. Board of Education ended segregation in schools. The case established that, “separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.” Few people know that the case almost went the other way.

Brown v. Board was a legal case brought by several African American families. Their children	45
were all educated in segregated classrooms. They argued that America’s “separate but equal”	58
policy must be overturned. The case made it all the way to the Supreme Court, the highest	75
court in the country.	79

In 1953, the nine Supreme Court justices heard the case. Four justices were planning to vote	95
in favor of desegregation, but they needed five votes. The other five justices were probably	110
leaning towards keeping segregation. Chief Justice Fred Vinson was among these five.	122

Unexpectedly, in September 1953, Chief Justice Vinson died of a heart attack. Earl Warren	136
became the new Supreme Court justice. Warren believed that the U.S. should move towards	150
ending segregated education. With Warren replacing Vinson, they had the votes they needed!	163

Warren was not satisfied, however. Many people, including Warren, worried about potential	175
violence after the case. Many White people in the South would be angry about desegregating	190
schools. Warren worried that a split 5-4 vote would undercut the decision, validating these	204
angry people. This could increase rioting and violence.	212

So, Warren convinced every one of his fellow justices to support him. The Supreme Court	227
voted unanimously to end the “separate but equal” policy. Though fully desegregating	239
schools would take decades, this was a landmark decision.	248

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Imagine if Chief Justice Vinson had lived and voted to keep segregation. How might things be different now?

Share your ideas with your partner. Write your partner’s ideas here.
