

Name:

Day One

Tallahassee

Part 1: Silent read

→ You'll be reading a novel, *The Big Nothing*, that takes place in Tallahassee, Florida. What's special about Tallahassee and its history? Read silently.

Located near lakes and forests, Tallahassee is the capital city of Florida. Until the late 1960s, schools in the city were segregated. Schools for Black children had much less money. Black parents were upset that their children were kept separate. They organized protests. Finally, in 1967, most all-Black schools were closed, and many students were able to attend integrated schools.

In the past, neighborhoods in Tallahassee were also segregated. A teacher said, "When I was in school, the city was segregated. Now it is pretty common to see people living in integrated neighborhoods. This has improved life in the city."

Tallahassee is a city of colleges, including FAMU and FSU. FAMU, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, was founded more than 100 years ago. FAMU began as a teachers college for Black students. Today, about 80% of the students at FAMU are Black. Whites and other students are now enrolled at FAMU as well.

FSU, Florida State, is Tallahassee's other large university. About three-fourths of FSU students are White. Black, Latino, and Asian students also attend FSU but in smaller numbers. Students who want to study special subjects, like computer science, can do a combined program at both FSU and FAMU. Professors also may teach on both campuses.



Day One Tallahassee

// one minute

Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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53
61

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73
89
101

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113
124
138
153
154

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167
181
194
209
210

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What has changed in the city of Tallahassee?

What is the history of FAMU, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University?

Day One

Tallahassee

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.

Located near lakes and forests, / Tallahassee is the capital city of Florida. // Until the late 1960s, / schools in the city were segregated. // Schools for Black children had much less money. // Black parents were upset / that their children were kept separate. // They organized protests. // Finally, / in 1967, / most all-Black schools were closed, / and many students were able to attend integrated schools. //

In the past, / neighborhoods in Tallahassee were also segregated. // A teacher said, / "When I was in school, / the city was segregated. / Now it is pretty common / to see people living in integrated neighborhoods. // This has improved life in the city." //

Tallahassee is a city of colleges, / including FAMU and FSU. // FAMU, / Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, / was founded more than 100 years ago. // FAMU began as a teachers college for Black students. // Today, / about 80% of the students at FAMU are Black. // Whites and other students are now enrolled at FAMU as well. //

FSU, / Florida State, / is Tallahassee's other large university. // About three-fourths of FSU students are white. // Black, / Latino, / and Asian students also attend FSU / but in smaller numbers. // Students who want to study special subjects, / like computer science, / can do a combined program at both FSU and FAMU. // Professors also may teach on both campuses. //

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