

Listening Guide- Episode 1

“Letter From A Birmingham Jail”- Martin Luther King Jr.

“Dr. King Reaches Out of His Jail Cell to Touch the Heart of a Nation!”

1. Specifically, we’re going to be talking about the iconic letter that really moved a nation from apathy to _____, and that would be the “Letter from Birmingham Jail.”
2. It was written on April 16, _____, and famously addressed to “My Dear Fellow Clergymen.”
3. You know _____ wasn’t a real person; he was a character that was created by a famous white comedian in the 1850s.
4. They refer to legislation that specifically targeted African Americans to keep them from upward social _____ and really fully participating in American life with the rest of the mostly population.
5. After 1877, _____ ended partly because the North was exhausted from trying to enforce the rights guaranteed by the 14th and 15th amendments.
6. The _____ legislature passed a law that railroads had to provide equal but separate accommodations for black and white passengers.
7. Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas was the first southern school, high school, to attempt _____ in 1957.
8. He makes the point that entire _____ nations were being decolonized faster than American students were being allowed to integrate in their local schools.
9. Another thing to point out during his time in Boston, was that he met a rising star singing _____ by the name of Coretta Scott, and he fell in love with her.
10. A woman by the name of _____ is arrested for not giving up her seat to a white gentleman on a bus.
11. "A _____ passion is harnessed by directing that same passion into constructive channels."
12. On December 5, about _____ of Montgomery’s African American citizens stayed off the public buses.
13. “I want it to be known that we’re going to work with grim and bold determination to gain justice on the buses in this city. And we are not _____.”

14. _____ leaders of the boycott were jailed under an old law from the 1920s for a “conspiracy that interfered with lawful business.”
15. King’s house was _____ while he was at church.
16. He says you have the anger, then you can have the _____, then redemption, then love.
17. “Christ showed us the way, and _____ in India showed it could work.”
18. Well King moved forward, but it was slow, and he was absolutely fed up, speaking of slow, with the slow pace of the _____ court system.
19. _____ was the 100-year anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.
20. _____ was one of the most segregated cities in the United States- the entire city was an expression of Jim Crow.
21. _____ Connor played a very important role in disrupting segregation because he played the part of the villain so well and so predictably that King could plan on it.
22. Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth was one of the _____ of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama.
23. They would start these meetings by singing old negro songs and they called them _____ songs.
24. Every single volunteer was required to sign a _____ card, where they would pledge their body and soul to nonviolence in the face of violence.
25. Dr. King and Ralph Abernathy decided that on Good Friday, they would lead the demonstration and submit to being _____, as they most assuredly would be.
26. But he was in jail for _____ days, and it was during that time that a public letter was written to him and signed by 8 of the leading clergymen in Alabama.
27. “We do not believe that these days of new hope are days when _____ measures are justified in Birmingham.”
28. When Dr. King responds to these ministers, which we will notice in a minute, he makes it a point to cite _____ from each of the specific religious traditions that have attacked him.
29. “Like _____, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid.”
30. He’s going quote theologians in the Catholic tradition, the _____ tradition, and the Protestant tradition.