

Kantonsschule Alpenquai Luzern

Fach **Englisch**

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Anweisungen zur Lösung der Prüfung sind alle im vorliegenden Dokument enthalten.

Anzahl erreichbarer Punkte	Part	Time (minutes)	Points	Page
	Reading	~ 15		2
1	Comprehension	~ 30	44	3
2	Vocabulary	~ 15	30	5
3	Essay	~ 60	60	6
4	Grammar	~ 30	50	7
5	Translation	~ 15	16	10
	Reading over	~ 15		
	Total	180	200	

Anzahl Seiten (inkl. Titelblatt) 10

Viewpoint: Ferguson and a new civil rights fight

By Ellis Cose (American journalist)

From: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-30284312> - 2 December 2014, edited



The civil rights movement in the 1960s fought unjust laws. Can a modern movement brought on by the events in Ferguson, Missouri, take on a more ambiguous target? Journalist Ellis Cose examines the modern struggles of those protesting for racial equality.

We have been here far too many times - police confront black males, something goes horribly awry, and racial tensions alarm the nation. All that changes are the details.

In this case, Michael Brown ended up dead as his companion ran in fear. Always, after the event, there is agony and confusion as a community rises up demanding change that never fully comes.

Over the past half century or so, we have seen the pattern repeated countless times. So many of the riots¹ of the 1960s - those uprisings that came to characterise the so-called long hot summers - were set off by encounters between police and civilians of colour. Those incidents continue to occur all too frequently, and all too frequently they end in death.

The journalism group ProPublica recently revealed that young black men were 21 times more likely than young white men of being gunned down by police.

One obvious reason for the disparity is that blacks are more likely to live in high-crime neighbourhoods; so law enforcement officials are especially likely to feel threatened and therefore to draw their guns. An even more obvious reason is that black youths are more likely to be perceived² as hulking³ brutes.

The election of Barack Obama gave rise to much talk of a post-racial society, of an America where blacks, Latinos, and other people of colour were no longer judged or hindered by race. There is something to that notion. Yet we continue to perceive race and racial differences in the same way we perceive differences - and make judgments - about other aspects of appearance and status. As a number of studies have made clear, even when job applicants present exactly the same qualifications, whites tend to be preferred.

This is not to say that race always rules. If someone looking like Barack Obama happened to be walking down a city street, virtually no police officer would see him as a threat worth shooting. His expensive suit and middle-aged status would merit a measure of deference. But for a young black man in casual clothes on a dark street in a presumably dangerous neighbourhood, reality would be quite different.

1) riot = violent and uncontrolled protest

2) to perceive = to see

3) hulking = very large

This country has a history of providing such men with an almost mythical aura of menace.

To get some sense of how this plays out, one need only review the grand jury testimony of Darren Wilson, who defended killing Michael Brown by describing Brown as an inhuman, unstoppable beast. "It looked like he was almost bulking up to run through the shots, like it was making him mad that I'm shooting at him."

This stereotype of the hulking black brute, immune to pain, capable of crushing strong white men with a single slap of his massive hand, has been with us for a very long time.

More than a century ago, Clifton R Breckinridge, a former congressman who had been President Grover Cleveland's minister to Russia, observed that the black race was "the most negative and tractable⁴ of which we have any considerable knowledge" and went on to declare, "When it produces a brute, he is the worst and most ever-hungry brute that exists in human form."

Much as things have changed in America - and they have changed hugely since that analysis was published in 1900 - the image of the hulking, menacing black brute still haunts us; and it is getting young black men killed.

As rational human beings, we need to attack that stereotype with the same determination that Officer Wilson brought to his encounter with Michael Brown. Perhaps the protests caused by Brown's death and Wilson's grand-jury exoneration⁵ are a sign that some among us are prepared to do just that.

But this movement is much more complicated than the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

What it shares with that movement is a sense that we have arrived at a moment when something has to change. Brown's death, after all, did not occur in a vacuum. It occurred on the heels of several arguably unjustified killings of black men by police or self-declared enforcers of order. Eric Garner was killed in Staten Island after being caught selling untaxed cigarettes. Trayvon Martin was shot by a gun-toting vigilante simply because he seemed suspicious.

Bloody Sunday, in which a civil rights march in Selma, Alabama, culminated in a police riot, led directly to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

It would be great if this movement could bring about something similarly concrete.

But how do you legislate against stereotypes, against people, some of them with uniforms and guns, acting on poisonous perceptions? Rather than the mid-century civil rights movement, this new movement is more akin to (and, indeed, can be seen as allied with) the Occupy Wall Street movement, or the anti-mass-imprisonment movement.

It is a growing and collective howl of outrage raised against some things that are seriously wrong in the American system.

That outrage, I like to believe, is registering in some deep part of the American consciousness and will ultimately lead to self-healing.

But unfortunately, this sickness has no immediate remedy.

(approx. 900 words)

4) tractable = easy to control

5) exoneration = declaring someone not guilty

1 Comprehension

(44 points)

1.1 True or false?

(16 points)

The following statements are either true or false with respect to the article you have just read. Mark those that are true with a **T**, and those that are false with an **F**. Also, indicate the line(s) where the information can be found in the text.

- 1) Confrontations between black people and the police in the 21st century – unlike those in the 1960s – no longer result in people getting shot.
-
- 2) The author believes that the election of Barack Obama was a sign that the discrimination against people of colour had diminished.
-
- 3) According to the author, the question whether or not black men are seen as dangerous by a white police officer has little to do with their age or the way they are dressed.
-
- 4) Clifton R Breckinridge's racist analysis can now be considered a thing of the past because America has changed so much.
-
- 5) Both Michael Brown's death and the fact that Officer Wilson was found not guilty by a grand jury made many people so angry that they began to protest and demand change.
-
- 6) Michael Brown's death was preceded by a number of similar incidents, all involving black men who lost their lives.
-
- 7) The author is convinced that the movement in the 21st century – like the civil rights movement in the 1960s – will produce clear results such as new laws in the near future.
-
- 8) The author hopes that the collective American mind hasn't remained untouched by the cries of protest against injustice.

1.2 Open comprehension questions**(23+5 points)**

Answer the following questions in your own words. **Do not copy whole passages from the article. Write your answers in full sentences on a separate sheet.**

Notice: Your language (grammar, vocabulary, style) will be assessed and carries up to five points!

1) Michael Brown's fate is relevant for the article. Describe the circumstances of this death, and describe what other aspect fuelled the anger of the black community. (4 points)

2) Apart from prejudice, what is the other reason that black men are more likely than white men to be shot by police officers according to the article? (2 points)

3) What do the underlined words from line 44 mean? "To get some sense of how this plays out, one need only review ...". (3 points)
Explain a) To get some sense b) this c) how (this) plays out

4) According to the article, what are the two parallels and the two differences between the civil rights movement in the 1960s and the modern movement after Michael Brown's death? (8 points)

5) What does the author want to say in lines 62 – 64? (2 points)

6) The author says that there is something "seriously wrong in the American system" (line 89).

a) What needs to change? Name two aspects. - (2 points)

b) Is the author more optimistic or pessimistic about this change? Justify your answer. (2 points)

2 Vocabulary

(30 points)

2.1 Word formation

(12 points)

In the following text, use **one** word that fits the gap and belongs to the same **word family** as the word in CAPITALS. See the first line for an example.

St Louis police investigate Michael Brown's stepfather

US police are investigating the stepfather of black shooting victim Michael Brown for activity during protests in Ferguson. INVESTIGATE
INCITE | LAW

Video footage of Louis Head shows him yelling "Burn this [place] down!" before last week's riots over perceived in the Missouri town. RACE | JUST

He spoke as a grand jury announced no charges for a white police officer who shot and killed the teenager.
The incident sparked a nationwide dialogue about race RELATE

St Louis County Police Brian Schellman told US media on Tuesday authorities want to talk to Mr Head about his comments amid a larger investigation into arson and looting during the Ferguson protests. SPEAK

Twelve commercial buildings were by fire that night, after the jury's was announced. DESTRUCTION
DECIDE

Family attorney Benjamin Crump has called Mr Head's recorded comments "raw emotion".
The officer who shot Brown in Ferguson, Darren Wilson, from the force over the weekend. RESIGNATION

The policeman said he had feared for his life, but Brown's said the teenager was attempting to surrender when he was shot. SUPPORT

Some witnesses said the 18-year-old, who was, had his hands up. ARM
The investigation into Mr Head comes one day after President Barack Obama requested \$263m (£167m) to improve police training, pay for body cameras and restore trust in policing.

"This is not a problem just of Ferguson, Missouri. This is a national problem, Mr Obama said.
"But it's a problem." SOLUTION

BBC-website, 2 December, 2014 (adapted)

2.2 Antonyms**(8 points)**

Find the word/phrase that is **opposite in meaning** to the word **in bold** print and that can be used in the original sentence.

- 1) ended up dead as his **companion** ran in fear (line 9)
- 2) there is agony and **confusion** (line 10)
- 3) incidents continue to occur all too **frequently** (line 16)
- 4) As **rational** human beings (line 62)
- 5) But this movement is much **more complicated** (line 67)
- 6) bring about something similarly **concrete** (line 81)
- 7) It is a growing and **collective** howl (line 88)
- 8) in some **deep** part (line 90)

2.3 Synonyms**(10 points)**

Find a word / phrase that means **the same** as the word **in bold** print and that can be used in the original sentence.

- 1) brought on by the **events** (line 2)
- 2) take on a more ambiguous **target?** (line 3)
- 3) something goes horribly **awry** (line 7)
- 4) there is **agony** (line 10) and confusion
- 5) brought to his **encounter** (line 15)
- 6) The journalism group ProPublica recently **revealed** (line 18)
- 7) people of colour were no longer judged or **hindered** (line 28)
- 8) and they have changed **hugely** (line 59)
- 9) What it **shares** (line 69) with that movement
- 10) in some **deep** (line 90) part

3 Essay**(60 points)**

Choose one of the following topics for an essay (300-400 words).

- 1) Invent a story beginning as follows: *Never before had the colour of my skin been a problem. But now, ...*
- 2) Discuss the following statement: "When given a chance, many people single out and degrade others to improve their own standing and/or self-perception."
- 3) Choose a literary work written in English in which one or several of the characters are discriminated against because of their skin colour, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. Describe how these characters deal with their situation and how successful their strategy is.

4 Grammar

(50 points)

4.1 Re-phrasing sentences

(20 points)

Complete the second sentence so that it has a **similar meaning** to the first sentence, using the word given. Do **not** change the word given. You must use **between three and six words per gap**, including the word given. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

-
- 0) When does the next exam begin? **tell**
 Could *you tell me when* the next exam begins?
-
- 1) Susan couldn't get to the date because of the heavy rain. **prevented**
 The heavy rain to the date.
-
- 2) It looks as if he's forgotten about the meeting again. **to**
 He the meeting again.
-
- 3) John was not in the habit of sleeping after meals. **use**
 John after meals.
-
- 4) The Irish man was determined to pay for our drinks. **on**
 The Irish man our drinks.
-
- 5) It was bad of you to use my mobile without my permission. **ought**
 You my permission.
-
- 6) They say this incident has sparked the riots. **said**
 This incident the riots.
-
- 7) "I haven't done anything wrong," Darren Wilson said. **having**
 Darren Wilson anything wrong.
-
- 8) It is extremely unlikely that Darren Wilson acted in self-defence. **have**
 Darren Wilson in self-defence.
-
- 9) It was too dark for the witnesses of the shoot-out to give the police more detailed information. **so**
 If , the witness of the shoot-out
 more detailed information.
-
- 10) We need to tackle national stereotypes urgently. **high**
 It is national stereotypes.
-

4.2 Gap-filling**(30 points)**

Complete the following text by putting the verbs in *brackets* into the correct form. Include any preposition that may be required. Where there is no verb given, think of one word which best fits the gap.

STANDING UP FOR FREEDOM – An interview with **Rosa Parks**, Pioneer of Civil Rights, made on 2nd June, 1995, in Williamsburg, Virginia (abridged and slightly adapted)

Interviewer: *In 1955 you, Rosa Parks, 42 years old, (1: refuse) to give up your seat to a white passenger on a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Your act inspired the Montgomery bus boycott, the event historians call the beginning of the modern Civil Rights Movement. What exactly (2: happen) that day?*

Rosa Parks: *I (3: arrest) on December 1st, 1955 for refusing to stand up on the orders of the bus driver, after the white seats (4: occupy) in the front. And of course, I was not in the front of the bus as many people (5: write and say) ever since. I took a seat (6) was just back of (7) the white people (8: sit) It was, in fact, the last seat. We were undisturbed until about the second or third stop when some white people (9: board) the bus. One white man (10: leave) standing. And when the driver noticed him, he told (11) to stand up and let him have those seats. And when the other three people – after some hesitancy – stood up, he wanted to know if I (12: stand up), and I told him I was not. And he told me he would (13) me arrested. And of course, he did.*

I: *Didn't the public response begin really fast?*

Rosa Parks: *Well, yes. However, it (14: not begin) so fast if it (15: not announce) immediately in the papers that I (16: arrest) Mr. E.D. Nixon was the chairman of the Montgomery branch of the NAACP¹, making (17) phone calls during the night.*

I: *When you refused to stand up, did you have a sense of anger at (18: expect) to do that?*

¹ National Association for the Advancement of Colored People: an African-American civil rights organization in the United States, formed in 1909

Rosa Parks: I just remember feeling determined to take this as an (19) to let it (20: know) that I did not want to be treated in that (21) and that people (22: endure) it far too long.

I: What would you say to a kid in trouble now?

Rosa Parks: The reason we start with them when they're so young is to try to get them a good family life (23) they get into trouble. Of course there are those who may have strayed away, and I would certainly advise them not just to expect somebody else to help them but to find some means of helping (24) even if they (25: get) into some problems.

I: Did you feel Dr Martin Luther King had a special gift?

Rosa Parks: Well, when I (26) met him, it was before being arrested in 1955. I was very impressed with his delivery as a speaker and, of course, his genuine friendliness as a person. And his attitude, of course, was to work and do (27) he could in the community for the church to make a (28) to the way of life we had at that time. And I was really impressed by his leadership, because he seemed to be a very genuine and concerned person, and, I thought, a real Christian.

I: Did it surprise you when he became a national hero?

Rosa Parks: No, not really, because I just (29: feel) that he filled the position so well. He was the type of person (30) people really gravitated towards and they seemed to like him personally, as well as his leadership.

I: It has been an honour to sit with you here, today. Thank you so much for spending this time with us, Mrs. Parks.

Rosa Parks: Thank you.

5 Translation

(16 points)

Translate the following sentences into English.

- 1) Eine der wichtigsten Reden, die im Zusammenhang mit Rassismus je gehalten worden ist, ist die Rede von Martin Luther King, die er 1963 gehalten hat.

- 2) Als John F. Kennedy, der damals Präsident war, erstmals von den Plänen für eine Protestkundgebung gegen Rassismus hörte, war er besorgt, dass es nicht genügend Teilnehmer geben würde, um einen grossen Eindruck zu machen.

- 3) Glücklicherweise gelang es Martin Luther King und John F. Kennedy, die Unterstützung von zusätzlichen politischen und religiösen Organisationen zu erhalten.

- 4) Ungefähr eine viertel Million Leute nahmen an der Protestkundgebung „March on Washington“ teil. Beobachter schätzten, dass 75%-80% der Teilnehmer schwarz waren. MLK war einer der Hauptredner.

- 5) Anstatt seine Rede vorzulesen, begann King frei zu sprechen und zu improvisieren, weil er gebeten worden war, dem Publikum von seiner Vision zu erzählen.

- 6) Wenn die Rede „I have a dream“ nicht so beeindruckend gewesen wäre, hätte die Protestkundgebung trotz ihrer vielen Teilnehmer wohl kaum eine so grosse Wirkung gehabt.

- 7) Das Originaldokument „I have a dream“ ist jetzt in Besitz eines Mannes, der damals freiwilliger Sicherheitsmitarbeiter war und neben Martin Luther King gestanden hatte. Er heisst George Raveling.

- 8) Viele Leuten beneiden George Raveling seit jenem Tag um dieses Dokument, obwohl es die Worte „I have a dream“ nicht enthält.