

The KKK : the Ku Klux Klan

Read the text carefully:

Blacks gained more rights after the Civil War. But blacks and whites were still not equal. Groups were forming to fight back against some of the rights that blacks had gained after the Civil War. One of these groups was the Ku Klux Klan or KKK. This group was formed by six men in Tennessee in 1865.

The name came from the Greek word "kuklos," which means circle. At first, the group was supposed to be just a social group. Soon it turned to more violent.

The KKK saw the white race as the better race. Moreover, the rights that blacks had gained after the Civil War made members of the group angry. Most of the members were men who were once part of the Confederate army (*= they fought against the abolition of slavery during the Civil War*). Other members were plantation owners. Who was in the group was supposed to be a secret. To try to hide their identity, men would wear white robes and hoods.

The main goal of the group was to keep blacks from using the rights they had gained. The KKK wanted blacks to have as little power as possible. They used whatever means they could to achieve this goal. The KKK mainly attacked blacks. But anyone who didn't agree with the group could be attacked. Members of the group came in the middle of the night on horses. The members often pulled people from their homes. Some were lucky and lived. Others were killed by members of the KKK.

The killings made people in the North very angry. They called on President Grant to do something to stop the violence. Congress passed several acts. An act in 1870 banned bribery or violence against people to keep them from voting. Other laws were passed to get rid of the KKK. The army was also used to fight back against this group. The government started to arrest members of the KKK in different states. Soon, thousands of men who were members of the group found themselves in court.

But the group had achieved many of its goals. When the army left the South, there was even less protection for blacks. Whites felt in control again. Blacks still had the right to vote, but most of them didn't or couldn't. The South started new voting tests or taxes to keep blacks from voting. The KKK stayed quiet for many years. Unfortunately, it didn't disappear. Many years later the group would reappear. It would be as violent then as it was after the Civil War.

Now, tick the right answer or answer the following questions in English:

1. Who started the KKK?

Six women in New York

Six men in Tennessee

Six men in South Carolina

2. What does the Greek word "kuklos" mean?

Circle

Square

Oval



4. The KKK was supposed to be what kind of group?

A group of women A violent group A social group

5. The KKK wanted blacks to have as little power as possible.

True False

6. The KKK was founded in Tennessee; where is that state situated?

in the north of the USA in the south of the USA

Answer with a full sentence in English:

1. In what year did an act ban bribery or violence against people to keep them from voting?

2. Who was president of the United States at that time?

3. The KKK mainly wanted to prevent black people from _____

In the text, find the English for:

les droits = _____ *la Guerre de Sécession* = _____

de plus = _____ *propriétaire(s)* = _____

le but = _____ *n'importe quels moyens* = _____

(ne pas) être d'accord = _____ *souvent* = _____

certains = _____ *d'autres* = _____

interdire = _____ *corruption* = _____

des lois = _____ *bientôt* = _____

malheureusement = _____

CE : J'essaie de m'auto-évaluer...

		✓	Compréhension écrite (CE)
B1	😊😊		Lire des textes factuels directs sur des sujets relatifs à son domaine et à ses intérêts avec un niveau satisfaisant de compréhension.
A2	😊		Comprendre de courts textes simples sur des sujets concrets courants avec une fréquence élevée de langue quotidienne ou comprendre des textes courts et simples contenant un vocabulaire extrêmement fréquent, y compris un vocabulaire internationalement partagé.
A1	😞		Comprendre des textes très courts et très simples, phrase par phrase, en relevant des noms, des mots familiers et des expressions très élémentaires et en relisant si nécessaire.