

The Annual

Black365 Knowledge Bowl

Sponsored by Jamaal Brown and
the Black365 Calendar!



Study Guide

Review this study guide thoroughly. Familiarize yourself with the content in each paragraph.

The contest will feature two rounds with 4 categories in each round. This will be followed by a Final Knowledge Bowl question where teams can wager their points based on how confident they are with the topic.

The 8 topics are:

HBCUs, Black Hair, African American T.V. Shows, Who Am I? (photo category) Black Music, African Flags (photo category), From February in the 2021 Black365 Calendar, Inventions.

Each individual is free to study in any way they feel gives them the best chance for success.

If you are unable to find an answer or need clarification, feel free to contact me.

Jamaal Brown
CEO, Black365
661.609.8193
Jamaal@Black365.US



African people are the mothers and fathers of civilization. The world's first doctors, first lawyers and the first to create institutions of higher learning where people came from all over the globe to study our information but when they returned to their home - they claimed our information as their own. Thus began the theft of African philosophy, followed by the theft of African spirituality, followed by the worst theft - the theft of African people. Despite facing unparalleled tragedy in the form of the holocaust of enslavement, reconstruction, black codes, and Jim Crow there remain shining examples of greatness amongst us. There are several individuals of African descent who are doing good work and making Africans throughout the diaspora proud, and then there are some who are simply doing AMAZING work .

HBCU's

The first Historically Black colleges or university (HBCU) that many people learned about in the late 1980's and early 1990's was Hillman College, the fictional HBCU showcased on the hit show A Different World. Historically Black colleges and universities are institutions of higher learning that were established in the mid 1800's in order to educate individuals of African descent who were no longer enslaved. Another segment of people that HBCUs were formed for are individuals of African descent who were formerly enslaved and those never enslaved, but could not gain admission into segregated institutions. HBCU's makeup only 3% of the countries colleges and universities, but they produce nearly 20% of all African American graduates.

There were 121 HBCUs; however, today that number has dropped to 107. _____ University of Pennsylvania, which was founded in 1837 was the first HBCU; however, _____ University, which is located in Ohio was the first Black owned and operated HBCU.



In 2018 Dr. Ruth Simmons (Ph.D.) made headlines when this former Ivy League President (Brown University) became president at _____ A&M. West Virginia State University is an HBCU and the smallest land-grant institution in the country. _____ A&T State University has the largest undergraduate enrollment, at 10,341 undergrads. HBCUs are located in the middle of cities, rural areas and everything else in between.

It is thought that _____ graduates more African American men in a single day than any other place on the planet on a single day. This HBCU is the alma mater of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Samuel L. Jackson, Spike Lee and many other notable men. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s wife, Coretta Scott King, did her undergraduate work at an HBCU as well. She attended _____ University, located in New Orleans, Louisiana. This school is also where Khalid Muhammad, Andrew Young and P.B.S. Pinchback attended.

One can not mention HBCUs without acknowledging their positive social impact when it comes to the arts, culture, and society in general. Starting back in 1871 the _____ Singers began singing around the country, and eventually the world, in order to raise funds for their Nashville, TN school. This a cappella ensemble has sung at the some of the most prestigious venues throughout the United States and Europe. Also, in 2008 they received a National Medal of Arts, which is the highest honor given to artists and arts patrons by the United States government.

Speaking of music, Florida A&M University, affectionately known as FAMU is renowned for their world-famous marching band known as the _____. In 2018 they performed at the Rose Parade in Pasadena, CA. Their band is credited for innovating 30 marching band techniques that have become standard for high school and college bands across the globe. While there are no competitions that crown an official "best band" award, every year the Battle of the Bands takes place between Grambling State University and Southern University at an event known as



the Bayou Classic. The audience weighs in on who they thought won all year long until the next competition.

One HBCU, located in this nation's capital, is known as "the Mecca". _____ University is one of the most well funded HBCUs and it boasts such graduates as Chadwick Bosman, Taraji P. Henson, Anthony Anderson, Thurgood Marshall and Phylicia Rashad. Five of the historically Black Greek Lettered Organizations, known as the Divine Nine were founded on this campus. It also produces the most black doctorate recipients of any university.

What is the name of the HBCU that was the scene of the movie, The Great Debaters?

What is the name of the HBCU that The National Trust for Historic Preservation recently name a "national treasure"?

Black Hair

Black Hair, in particular Black women's hair, has long been a topic of discussion. It has been judged against the mainstream standards of beauty and at times, literally judged. There is even a book entitled, "The Politics of Black Women's Hair" that eloquently breaks all of this down. On September 15, 2016 the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a 2014 ruling that said that employers can legally refuse hiring someone who wears Locs! Locs (which are sometimes referred to as dreadlocks) is a hairstyle that can be traced all the way back to ancient Egypt. There are numerous pharaohs and common people depicted on the walls of Egypt wearing Locs. Braids, too, have been legislated. Currently there are 25 states that require some form of specialty license for braiders, or a full cosmetology license. There have been at least six laws that have been changed as a result of people fighting back against these ridiculous regulations.

Locs are not the only hairstyle that has been inspired by Africa. One style known as _____ Knots has been around for over a thousand. The term _____ (note: all of the blanks in this



paragraph are the same word) is a colonizer's word used to describe Zulu people. There are over 10 million _____ Africans of Zulu descent who speak the _____ dialect - many of whom wear _____ Knots. You can imagine the stir it caused when in 2015 Marc Jacobs models walked a runway in what some were calling "Twisted Mini Buns inspired by Marc Jacob". This was yet another example of people stealing from African culture and giving no acknowledgement of the origin.

Braids are another style that dates back millennia. Like Locs, braids have been found depicted on the walls of Egyptian tombs. Braids were found on individuals of African descent in the Western Hemisphere hundreds of years ago too! The Olmec civilization is the mother civilization to the Aztecs, Incas and Mayans and are believed to be African people who sailed West centuries ago. To this day debate rages regarding their ethnicity. However, many believe that the debate should have ceased when cultural anthropologists in the 1960's noted the presence of an 8 strand Ethiopian braid style atop of one of the 17 intact Olmec heads that have been found.

Like the aforementioned hairstyles, cornrows have been around for over a millennia and have been outlawed in some instances. There are examples of schools not admitting children because of this hairstyle. This style is typified by having hair braided closely to the scalp in a raised row fashion. The author of this study guide (Jamaal Brown) is familiar with hair controversies. His very own brother once sported a _____, in an effort to imitate "Kid" from the rap group Kid 'N Play, and the wildly popular House Party movies. All was fine until he was called into the office at school and suspended for having "hair too tall and distracting". My recommendation was that he trim the top of it a bit and cut it at an angle and rock a Gumby; however, my father opted to simply cut a few inches off my brother's hair each night.

Some hairstyles transcend ages and generations. One example of this fact is the finger wave hairstyle. This style was made popular by Josephine



Baker in the 1920's. Baker is thought to be the most photographed woman of her day. Women of all races and ethnicities sported this style with pride and elegance. Entertainer, Missy Elliott adorned this style in her first video, which debuted in 1997. Tyra Banks and Teyana Taylor have even rocked this style with flare and elegance in more recent times. This style is not to be mistaken with the hairstyle known simply as "waves". A wave-like pattern forms atop ones head after excessive brushing and/or using a du-rag. There are some styles that were wildly popular during a certain decade; however, they become phased out. One such style is the Jheri Curl. This style had to consistently be moisturized or "activated" in order to worn correctly.

The Afro is another such style that has proven to be ageless. It became popularized in the 1960's in the United States and was worn as a sign of cultural pride for African Americans. Few would have thought that in 2016 in Pretoria, South Africa that students would be kicked out of school for wearing this hairstyle. 8th grader Zulaikha Patel and her classmates sparked debates across the globe after they led protests against school policies that denied them the opportunity to wear their hair in its natural state. Their efforts eventually led to the school changing its policy. On the other side of the globe, in Brooklyn, an artist painted a 12 foot tall mural of Zulaikha in an effort to honor this fighter for justice.

Some hairstyles are made popular and remain relevant to certain regions of a country. One such style, the drop shag has been made popular by the Texas rapper, Yella Beezy. This style combines several well known styles into one style.

African American T.V. Shows

Did you know that African Americans are the leading consumers when it comes to T.V. watching? Ads and programing specifically designed for African Americans has been taking place for decades. There is a debate amongst many people regarding what era produced the greatest sitcoms: the 70s, 80s or 90s.



The 1970's had shows that were Dyn-O-Mite (that was the popular catchphrase) of the character, J.J., who played on the show *Good Times*. This show centered around a family overcoming obstacles while living in a project building in Chicago. _____

_____, was another widely popular show for the 70's. The show's stars, Raj and Re-Run, were the teenage friends growing up in Watts. Raj was always pre-occupied with earning money to become a screenwriter, while Re-Run was developing new dance moves. The show is loosely based on the classic movie *Cooley High*.

There are a several comedians who made the switch from stand-up, to the silver screen during the 1970's. _____

is one comedian who was successful at making the leap. He played Fred Sanford in the hit show *Sanford and Son*. Additionally, comedian Sherman Hemsley, starred as George Jefferson in the show *The Jeffersons*. Perhaps the most iconic part of *The Jeffersons* was the show's theme song, "Moving On Up". This song became somewhat of an anthem for people across the nation. For nearly a decade, *The Jeffersons* held the record for a primarily African American show having the most episodes. It has 253 episodes, while Tyler Perry's *House of Payne* has 254 episodes. *Family Matters* ranks third with 215.

The 1980's saw a rise of female comedians like Marla Gibbs and Thea Vidal. Marla Gibbs was an actress, comedian, singer and T.V. star whose career has spanned five decades. She is perhaps most famous for her starring role as Mary Jenkins on the show *227*.

Some argue that the greatest decade for African American sitcoms came in the 1990's. This decade featured shows that touched multiple genres.



_____ was a show that featured African American teenagers coming of age as they attended the fictional HBCU, Hillman College. _____, was a comedy-drama based in Baltimore, starring Charles Dutton. The four main actors were all accomplished stage actors. This fact allowed the show to do something very unique. The show filmed its entire second season as a live performance! This era saw couples go through ups and downs while living in a Brooklyn brownstone on the show *Living Single*. Finally, it is hard to forget the hilarious radio DJ from station WZUP in Detroit, Martin Payne, played by comedian Martin Lawrence, on the show _____.

Who Am I?: During the Bowl 10 of these individuals will be featured.

Marvin Hagler	Medger Evers
Gabby Douglas	Mahalia Jackson
Na'im Akbar	Winnie Mandela
Alexander Pushkin	Ashra Kwesi
Professor Griff	Patricia Bath
Kareem Abdul Jabbar	Kwame Nkrumah
Henrietta Lacks	Alexandre Dumas
Khalid Muhammad	Benjamin Banneker
Cheikh Anta Diop	Mumia Abu Jamal
Zora Neal Hurston	Robert Smalls

Black Music

Music performed and inspired by African Americans is ever-present. From video games, to commercials, to inside of professional sporting venues, "Black music" is everywhere. There was a time in this country where people attempted to steal (successfully and sometimes un-successfully) music written and performed by African Americans. Take for example, the group the Beach Boys. Their wildly successful song "Surfin U.S.A." was plagiarized from _____ Berry's song "Sweet Little Sixteen". Following legal proceedings, the case was settled with the Beach Boys giving publishing rights to Berry's publisher.



The song *Hound Dog*, which was made popular by Elvis was originally made song by _____ . While Elvis would go on to reach epic levels of fame and fortune, the original singer died nearly broke and penniless.

During the 1950's and early 1960's the genre of music that was made popular and was politically conscious was Soul Music. During these decades there were a lot of changes in the country and music from acts like the Temptations, Sam Cooke, and James Brown kept people informed on what was going on. Soul music expressed to the world what was on the hearts and minds of the community. Over the ages there have been groups that have always made it their mission to make music that contained a message. One such group is Sweet Honey in the Rock. They are a three time Grammy nominated a cappella ensemble made up of African American women. The group was founded in 1973 by Bernice Johnson Reagon. They express their history as African-American women through song, dance, and sign language. Over the decades, membership in the group has changed several times; however, the group's consciousness has remained the same.

Roy Hargrove was an amazing trumpet player who passed away in 2018. He won Grammy Awards for two differing types of music in 1998 and in 2002! This is an amazing feat. The Grammy Award that he won in 1998 was for Best Latin Jazz Album. This award was won with Crisol, the Afro-Cuban band he formed. His 2002 Grammy Award was for Best Jazz Instrumental Album.

Be able to identify scatting.

Be able to identify D.C. Go-Go Music

Also, know who the God Father of Go-Go Music is

The term Caribbean music is an umbrella term that refers to a wide range of styles and genres. Caribbean music encompasses Calypso, Soca, Dancehall and Reggae, just to name a few. Caribbean music is influenced



by African, European, Indian and Indigenous music. It was largely created by Africans. Hands down the largest star in Caribbean music was Bob Marley. In just 36 short years Bob Marley became a global icon. In 2001 he received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement award (despite never actually winning a Grammy while he was alive), he has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and in Brooklyn, New York there is a Bob Marley Blvd. His album, Legend, which was released three years after he passed away is the biggest selling Reggae record in history and has sells of more than 12 million!

African Flags During the Knowledge Bowl 10 of these flags will be featured.

Madagascar	Lesotho
Flag of Somalia	Malawi
Botswana	Mozambique
Nigeria	Comoros
Zimbabwe	Equatorial Guinea
Guinea	Guinea-Bissau
Senegal	Gabon
Ethiopia	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Gambia	Republic of the Congo
Ghana	Angola

Inventions

African American inventors have revolutionized the globe. Did you know that _____ was the first African American woman to receive a U.S. patent? She earned this patent in 1885 when she invented the folding bed. Nearly 100 years later, Marie Van Brittan Brown followed in her footsteps when she received a patent for the home security system.



Did you know that when Thomas Edison could not figure out how to make his light-bulb last for more than 12.5 hours, he put together a team of inventors. _____ was the youngest and only African American inventor to be a part of this team. It was his invention of the carbon light filament that allows us to have the lights that we have in our home today. He also holds a patent for toilets on trains.

Speaking of trains, did you know that an inventor named Granville T. Woods owns more than 60 patents, mostly associated with trains. His most popular patents deal with communication from train-to-train and train-to-stations. Not to be outdone is _____ . He invented parts for trains that made them run longer, faster and more efficiently. His competitors would attempt to create knock off products that resembled his. When customers wanted quality that they could trust, they would ask the person selling the products, “Is this the real McCoy?”

Everyone on the planet interacts with items that have been invented by African Americans. Virtually everyone reading this can thank scientist Joseph H. Smith. He created the lawn _____, which waters our lawns efficiently and effectively. William Purvis invented an updated version of the _____, which writers and artists use every day. We can not forget young Jan Matzlinger. This man from Suriname created the Shoe Lasting Machine. This patent revolutionized shoe production around the globe!

There are even African American inventions that save lives everyday. _____ invented the street light that controls traffic around the globe. Did you know



that he also has a patent for the modern day gas mask? On July 24, 1916 Waterworks personnel working under Lake Erie were personally saved by this inventor while using the mask. Sadly, the papers did not give him the credit for saving these lives because of racism. Years later he was acknowledged for his heroic act and given his proper accolades.

For the February in the 2021 Black365 Calendar category a question can be asked from any date on the calendar from the month of February. Note: you will not be asked dates! An example question is as follows:

On February 3, 1903, which boxer won a 20 round fight where he captured the World Colored Heavyweight Championship?

Answer: Jack Johnson



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Surveyor, mathematician, and astronomer, Benjamin Banneker began laying out the design of Washington, D.C., 1791	1 Clarence LeRoy Holte, who was thought to have the most extensive collection of Black History books (over 8,000), passed away in Oakland, CA, 1993	2 Betty and Coretta, a movie about the lives of Coretta Scott King and Betty Shabazz (starring Angela Bassett) was released, 2013	3 Boxer Jack Johnson won a 20 round fight where he captured the World Colored Heavyweight Championship, 1903	4 Rosa Parks was born in Tuskegee, AL, 1913	5 The publication, <i>Progress In Lending Association</i> , published an essay praising the architectural genius of Paul Williams, 2015	6 Jamaica's most recognized musician, Bob Marley, was born, 1945
8 The Honorable Marcus Garvey began serving a five year sentence in federal prison on trumped up charges, 1925	8 The NBA announced that the All-Star Game MVP Award would be renamed to the "NBA All-Star Game Kobe Bryant Most Valuable Player," 2020	9 Poet Paul Laurence Dunbar passed away at the age of 33 in Dayton, OH 1906	10 The Rosa Parks Story, a biopic showcasing the life of Rosa Parks (starring Angela Bassett) was released, 2002	11 Nelson Mandela was released from prison after serving more than two and a half decades as a political prisoner, 1990	12 The <i>President Barack Obama</i> and <i>First Lady Michelle Obama</i> portraits were first exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery, 2018	13 The first Black professional baseball league, the Negro National League, was established, 1920
14 The Lewis H. Latimer House was designated as a city landmark by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, 1995	15 * The NBA announced that the All-Star Game MVP Award would be renamed to the "NBA All-Star Game Kobe Bryant Most Valuable Player," 2020	16 Wilt Chamberlain became the first NBA player to score 30,000 points, 1972	17 The art exhibition <i>Charles White: a Retrospective</i> , honoring artist Charles White was showcased after 100 years since his birth, at LACMA, 2019	18 Pulitzer Prize winning writer Toni Morrison was born in Lorain, OH 1931	19 The mayor of Pittsburgh named today "August Wilson Day" in Pittsburgh, PA, 2019	20 Inventor J.F. Pickering received a patent for the airship, which was the forerunner to the blimp, 1900
21 Human Rights leader and "Our Shining Manhood" Malcolm X was assassinated in NY, 1965	22 One of the best basketball players to ever live, Julius "Dr. J" Erving was born in Roosevelt, NY, 1950	23 Ed "Too Tall" Jones, the first HBCU player selected #1 in the NFL Draft was born in Jackson, Tennessee, 1951	24 President Barack Obama nominated Carla Hayden to serve as the Librarian of Congress, 2016	25 Revolutionary jazz musician John Coltrane received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, 1981	26 After defeating Sonny Liston, Cassius Clay announced that he changed his name to Muhammad Ali, 1964	27 Inventor Walter B. Purvis patented the hand stamp, which can be found at virtually all businesses around the world, 1883
28 Ranavalona III ended her reign as the last Queen of Madagascar, 1897						

Habits to Create This Month

Write one page of affirmations per week
 Each night, visualize the day ahead for 10 minutes
 Call someone you have fallen out of contact with

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
						* President's Day

February 2021