

Name:

Date:

Class Period:

Reflections about the Scottsboro Trials:

Level 1: Go back and find the answers in the article.

1. What incident initially caused the nine black boys to be arrested?
2. Why did the women lie about being raped?
3. What did an angry mob try to do the boys their first night in jail?
4. What type of legal help did the boys get during their first trial?
5. How many whites showed up to watch the first trial?
6. What effect did the presence of a Jewish lawyer have on the trial?
7. During the retrials, what did Ruby Bates come back and say?
8. What happened to Ozie Powell in jail before he could be freed?
9. How long did it take before eight of the nine prisoners were released from prison?
10. Who was the last to survive, and what happened to him?

Level 2: Answer in complete sentences.

11. Why were the white men on the train so angry that the black men kicked them off the train?
12. Why did the media call these men the "Scottsboro boys" instead of the "Scottsboro men"? They were old enough at this time to be considered grown men as they were working and had jobs.
13. Why do you think the jury convicted the boys even though they had no evidence?

Level 3: Answer in complete sentences.

14. Why do people discriminate against people of other races?
15. Is the death penalty appropriate punishment for committing a rape?