

# Compare and contrast the two African American Leaders.

As you write, consider the following questions:

- What did each one believe?
- What did they have in common and what did they disagree on?
- What were their backgrounds?

## **Rubric:**

- Minimum of 5 sentences. You may write more if necessary to answer the question(s).
- Subject/verb agreement
- Your answer should be organized and well thought out.
- Statements made about each leader should be correct and based on either your notes or the article

Exemplar:

Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois both played an integral role in the early civil rights movement. The two leaders came from different backgrounds and had differing views on the matter. Booker T. Washington was born a slave and only gained his freedom through the Emancipation Proclamation. He believed that vocational training and education were the keys to ending the Jim Crow Laws, as blacks proved to whites that they were equal. Being born a slave and having to work hard to save his money and pay for his own education, Washington was willing to accept a certain amount of segregation if it benefitted blacks, by getting them schooling and better jobs. His upbringing greatly influenced his opinions as he dealt with conditions far worse than segregation and had to constantly prove himself to his peers to get where he was. On the other hand, W.E.B. DuBois was born free and believed that all types of segregation were unfair. He became the first African American to earn a doctorate degree from Harvard and believed that blacks should not have to prove to anyone that they were equal. He worked through the court system to try and end Jim Crow Laws and pushed for all political, economic, civil, and social rights for African Americans. DuBois never lived the life of slave and while he did endure segregation, he did not truly understand Washington's point of view. While both leaders wanted to end segregation and advocate for civil rights of African Americans, they went about it in very different ways.