

Who Is Angela Davis?

**American
activist**



writer

scholar

Part 1. Read the informational text below. Highlight two sentences you find interesting. Share them with a peer.

Angela Davis was born on January 26, 1944. She was born in Birmingham, Alabama. Both of Angela's parents were teachers. When Angela was a child, she went to **civil rights** demonstrations with her family. She knew about racial **prejudice** from her experiences with **discrimination** in Alabama.

Angela was a great student. In 1965, she graduated with high honors from Brandeis University. She studied in Germany at the University of Frankfurt for two years. Next, she earned her master's degree from the University of California at San Diego in 1968. Soon after, she also earned her doctoral degree.

In 1969, Angela Davis was hired as an assistant professor at the University of California at Los Angeles. She taught her students about philosophy. She also taught her students about black literature and political education. Her students liked her a lot! But soon, because of her **political beliefs**, she was asked to stop teaching. She continued to work as an activist on behalf of black prisoners. She wanted people to know about the need for prison **reform**. She believed people should be treated equally.

Angela Davis began teaching again at the University of California at Santa Cruz. She taught her students about women's rights and racial **justice**. She also wrote many books. Angela Davis is an American activist, scholar, and writer. She still speaks at many events and works hard to make sure everyone has equal rights.

Name _____

Date _____

Part 2. Read the definitions. Next, write the definitions in your own words and draw a picture to show your understanding. Finally, answer the questions below.

Word	Definition	In My Words	Picture
civil rights	the rights that every person should have regardless of gender, race, or religion		
discrimination	treating a person or group of people unfairly because of their gender, race, or religion		
justice	the quality of being fair or just		
political beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a person's ideals and morals influence their political beliefs - a person's political beliefs influence who they vote for and the systems and rules they think should be in place in society (e.g., their communities) 		
prejudice	an unfair feeling or dislike for someone or something not based on reason or fact		
reform	to make changes to something to make it better		

Name _____

Date _____

Find two pieces of evidence from the text that support the following sentence:

Angela Davis and her family believed education was important.

#1	#2
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What are some things you find interesting about Angela Davis? What are some questions you still have? Write them below.
