

Think-Pair-Share

Name:

Nonfiction Source Title: “The Tale of John Kasper” by Robert S. Griffin

Found online at <http://www.robertsgriffin.com/TaleKasper.pdf>

Part One (Thinking):

After seeing and discussing my rating on the Hints about Print analysis of this text, read the text with the following questions in mind:

1. The author states that initially he believed the only people who opposed civil rights and desegregation during the 1950s were “behind-the-times Southern locals.” Is this a widely held belief? Why do you think as you do?
2. The article cites Kasper as saying that “both individuals and race are products of Nature.” Is he right or wrong? Support your response.
3. Do you agree or disagree with the author’s opinion that Kasper had integrity? Why or why not?

After reading, complete the “What I Think” column of the chart on the next page. Your response should address all 3 questions posed above.

Part Two (Pairing):

With your partner, discuss your responses to the questions posed. Record any new insights your partner offered in the “What I Discovered from Pairing” column of the chart on the next page.

Part Three (Sharing):

Review what you thought and what you discovered from pairing. Highlight the most important piece of information you listed. Share this information with the whole group. As you listen to others’ responses, take note of new insights. Record these in the “What I Learned from Sharing” column of the chart on the next page.

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Directions: Record your responses in the appropriate columns.

| What I Think | What I Discovered from Pairing | What I Learned from Sharing |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppositions to desegregation were not just voiced by behind-the-times Whites. But, the media, much like today, painted that picture • It's easier to ridicule Southerners and believe that Northerners were superior in their acceptance of desegregation; this, of course, was not the case as the author discovered • While race may be a product of nature, individualization is not. Individuals are influenced by nurture, not nature. • The author humanizes Kasper and presents a valid stance for his integrity. But, while Kasper may have fought for what he believed, his beliefs were flawed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change is fearful • The Southern populace as well as Northerners were opposed to change • Why is it seemingly okay to discredit or paint a negative portrayal of White Southerners in the media? There is little to no difference then (1950s) and now as to how the Southern region is portrayed. Even the author believed that those who were opposed were "behind-the-times Whites." Talk about stereotypical-held beliefs! • Writer offers little to no exploration of the quotes he takes from Kasper's own writings • Kasper took a stance that landed him in jail. He enjoyed the publicity and seemingly thrived on it because it gave his cause a more visible voice. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If individualization is nature inspired, then how can anyone be unique? Contradiction at its best • There is always an ounce of truth in stereotypes. • Media tends to present the viewpoints of what they think will incite viewers, appeal to people's emotions. It was easy to paint the picture of White Southerners as being racist. Wonder why they didn't also present the side of White Southerners who were not racist? • Segregation and desegregation were not only problematic in the South. • Kasper did not have integrity. What he had was determination to fight for his belief-system. In a sense, this compares to the radical Taliban who attacked America on 9/11. They took a stance and acted on their convictions. Should they be admired? I think not. Should Kasper be admired? No. |