

Name: _____

Period: _____

Date: _____

WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?

What does democracy look like to you? _____

What images come to mind when considering the word? _____

What actions do you relate to democracy? _____

Who is included in or constitutes "democracy"? _____

Who is responsible for democracy? _____

"Democracy is never finished. When we believe that it is, we have, in fact, killed it." **Patricia Hill Collins**

What do you think she means when she says that "Democracy is never finished?" _____

Do you agree or disagree? Why? _____

Based on this statement, do you think we have "killed" democracy? Why or why not? _____

What evidence can you offer that democracy has been "killed"? _____

What evidence can you counter that illustrates that democracy is alive and well? _____

"Democracy is a process, not a static condition. It is becoming, rather than being. It can easily be lost, but never is fully won. Its essence is eternal struggle." **William H. Hastie**

What does he mean when he says that democracy can be "lost"? _____

Can you think of examples of these? _____

What does he mean that the “essence” of democracy is “eternal struggle”? _____

What examples of such struggle can you think of? _____

Do you agree with this definition of democracy and why? _____

“Our democracy is not a product but a continual process. It is preserved not by monuments but deeds. Sometimes it needs refining; sometimes it needs amending; sometimes it needs defending. Always, it needs improving.” **Lee H. Hamilton**

How does this quote connect with the other two? _____

Why does our democracy always need improvement? _____

Who is responsible for improving it? _____

What do you already know about the term “Jim Crow”? _____

What is associated with “Jim Crow”? _____

What is segregation? _____

What do you already know about the period of segregation in America? _____