Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Simple Justice: *Brown v. Board of Education***

1. What does the professor describe as some of the negative effects from the Supreme Court case *Plessy v. Ferguson*? (list 3)



1. What does the professor mean by “social engineer?”
2. What did the students learn by re-enacting the Plessy v. Ferguson case in class?
3. What were the conditions like in the segregated schools for Black children?
4. Why were the people in South Carolina resistant to Thurgood Marshall and Charles Houston?
5. Why do you think the NAACP's decision to use social science evidence as part of its legal strategy was controversial?
6. How did the children react to Dr. Clark? How might you explain their reactions?
7. How do you think the NAACP lawyers would go on to use the results of this test in their case to overturn *Plessy v. Ferguson*?
8. Compare the major points put forth by Thurgood Marshall and John W. Davis.
9. Thurgood Marshall said, "We're growing up in America." What do you think he meant?
10. What concerns do you think the justices had? Cite examples from the questions they asked.
11. Compare how each lawyer used the Fourteenth Amendment to argue his side of the case.
12. If you were deciding the case from this segment, which side appears more convincing? Explain your answer.
13. Explain Mr. Davis's conclusion about "separate but equal."
14. How did Marshall use the everyday experiences of black children and white children in the South to argue against segregation in public schools?
15. Why did Marshall call *Plessy* a fraud? Do you think he was right? Why or why not?
16. Do you think the Supreme Court decision in 1954 was a fulfillment of Charles Hamilton Houston's legacy? Explain your answer.
17. Explain how the *Brown* decision interpreted segregation and the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.
18. Some have argued that *Brown* was the most important court decision of the twentieth century. Do you agree? Why or why not?