

CESAR CHAVEZ

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Cesar Chavez was a Mexican-American labour leader and civil rights activist. He was a farm worker who co-founded the biggest farm workers' union in the USA and improved the working conditions of thousands of farm labourers. Many see him as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. More and more US states are honoring him by making his birthday a holiday.

Chavez was born in Arizona in 1927 to farm worker parents. His childhood was very tough because of the poverty caused by the Great Depression. Chavez was a natural leader and in 1952 he became an administrator in the Latino civil rights group the Community Service Organization. He travelled throughout California urging Mexican Americans to vote and speaking about workers' rights.

In 1962, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) with Dolores Huerta. His first success was to lead a California grape pickers strike for better wages. The strike lasted five years and attracted the attention of Robert Kennedy. The NFWA won its first major labour victory for American farm workers. Chavez moved on to campaign for the rights of other farm workers.

The NFWA developed into the United Farm Workers. Chavez led marches and encouraged farm workers across America to join together. He helped them strike and organize boycotts. In the 1980s he fasted to draw public attention to the dangerous use of pesticides. Chavez died in 1993 of natural causes. Ten years later, America honoured him with a postage stamp.

244 words
Flesch Kinkaid 10.0

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. activist | a. made better |
| 2. improved | b. difficult |
| 3. honoring | c. encouraging |
| 4. tough | d. campaigner |
| 5. poverty | e. paying tribute |
| 6. urging | f. hardship |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 7. success | g. urged |
| 8. major | h. triumph |
| 9. campaign | i. reasons |
| 10. encouraged | j. awareness |
| 11. attention | k. great |
| 12. causes | l. fight |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. labour leader and civil | a. major labour victory |
| 2. improved the working | b. organize boycotts |
| 3. More and | c. rights activist |
| 4. His childhood was | d. to vote |
| 5. urging Mexican Americans | e. with a postage stamp |
| 6. attracted the | f. conditions of thousands |
| 7. won its first | g. very tough |
| 8. He helped them strike and | h. attention of Robert Kennedy |
| 9. Chavez died in 1993 | i. more US states |
| 10. America honoured him | j. of natural causes |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Cesar Chavez was a Mexican-American _____ civil rights activist. He was a farm worker _____ biggest farm workers' union in the USA and improved _____ of thousands of farm labourers. Many see him as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. _____ US states are honoring him by making his birthday a holiday.

Chavez was born in Arizona in 1927 to farm worker parents. His childhood _____ because of the poverty caused by the Great Depression. Chavez _____ and in 1952 he became an administrator in the Latino civil rights group the Community Service Organization. He travelled throughout California _____ Americans _____ about workers' rights.

In 1962, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) with Dolores Huerta. His _____ lead a California grape pickers _____. The strike lasted five years and attracted the attention of Robert Kennedy. The NFWA won its _____ victory for American farm workers. Chavez moved _____ the rights of other farm workers.

The NFWA _____ United Farm Workers. Chavez led marches and encouraged farm workers across America to join together. He helped them _____ boycotts. In the 1980s he fasted to _____ to the dangerous use of pesticides. Chavez died in 1993 of natural causes. Ten years later, America honoured him with _____.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Cesar Chavez was a Mexican-American *labour / laboured* leader and civil rights activist. He was a farm worker who co-founded the biggest *farm / farmer* workers' union in the USA and improved the working conditions of thousands of farm labourers. Many *see / seen* him as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. More and more US states are honoring him *for / by* making his birthday a holiday.

Chavez was born in Arizona in 1927 *with / to* farm worker parents. His childhood was very tough because of the poverty caused *for / by* the Great Depression. Chavez was a natural *leader / leadership* and in 1952 he became an administrator in the Latino civil rights group the Community Service Organization. He travelled throughout California urging Mexican Americans to *elect / vote* and speaking about workers' rights.

In 1962, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) with Dolores Huerta. His *first / firstly* success was to lead a California grape pickers *striking / strike* for better wages. The strike lasted five years and *attracted / attractive* the attention of Robert Kennedy. The NFWA won its first major labour victory for American farm workers. Chavez moved *on / in* to campaign for the rights of other farm workers.

The NFWA developed *into / onto* the United Farm Workers. Chavez led marches and encouraged farm workers across America to join together. He helped them strike and organize boycotts. In the 1980s he *fasted / quickened* to draw public attention to the dangerous *use / used* of pesticides. Chavez died in 1993 of natural causes. Ten years later, America honoured him with a *post / postage* stamp.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. civil rights atiisvct
2. improved the working oonsicditn of thousands
3. America's esgatetr civil rights leaders
4. making his birthday a oihayld

Paragraph 2

5. His childhood was very ghuot
6. the vryoetp caused by the Great Depression
7. He travelled hthtuorgu California
8. ngurgi Mexican Americans to vote

Paragraph 3

9. His first uccsses
10. attracted the ontneitta of Robert Kennedy
11. major labour iyvrotc
12. pgiacnam for the rights

Paragraph 4

13. Chavez led mrahecs
14. organize ybctsoot
15. the dangerous use of pedtsciesi
16. a aegptso stamp

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () In 1962, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) with Dolores Huerta. His first success
- () on to campaign for the rights of other farm workers.
- () causes. Ten years later, America honoured him with a postage stamp.
- () rights group the Community Service Organization. He travelled throughout California urging
- () was to lead a California grape pickers strike for better wages. The strike lasted five years and attracted the attention
- () The NFWA developed into the United Farm Workers. Chavez led marches and encouraged farm workers
- () public attention to the dangerous use of pesticides. Chavez died in 1993 of natural
- () co-founded the biggest farm workers' union in the USA and improved the working conditions of thousands of farm
- (**1**) states are honoring him by making his birthday a holiday.
- () Cesar Chavez was a Mexican-American labour leader and civil rights activist. He was a farm worker who
- () Mexican Americans to vote and speaking about worker's rights.
- () caused by the Great Depression. Chavez was a natural leader and in 1952 he became an administrator in the Latino civil
- () labourers. Many see him as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. More and more US
- () of Robert Kennedy. The NFWA won its first major labour victory for American farm workers. Chavez moved
- () Chavez was born in Arizona in 1927 to farm worker parents. His childhood was very tough because of the poverty
- () across America to join together. He helped them strike and organize boycotts. In the 1980s he fasted to draw

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. the improved thousands of conditions working

2. of greatest rights one America's civil leaders

3. a birthday his making by him honoring holiday

4. His because childhood of was the very poverty tough

5. Americans urging to Mexican vote

6. a for California better grape wages pickers lead strike

7. other of rights the for campaign workers farmer

8. helped strike organize He them and boycotts

9. of to pesticides the draw dangerous public use attention

10. with postage America him a stamp honoured

CESAR CHAVEZ DISCUSSION:

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about Cesar Chavez?
2. Would you like to have met Cesar Chavez?
3. What would you like to know about Cesar Chavez and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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CESAR CHAVEZ DISCUSSION:

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about Cesar Chavez?
2. What questions would you like to have asked Cesar Chavez?
3. What would his answers have been to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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CESAR CHAVEZ SURVEY:

Write five questions about Cesar Chavez in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Cesar Chavez. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CESAR CHAVEZ POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Cesar Chavez. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Cesar Chavez. Include an imaginary interview with him. Write about what he did every day and what he thought about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Cesar Chavez. Ask him three questions about his life. Tell him how important he is in today's world. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Cesar Chavez expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1. activist | <i>a.</i> campaigner |
| 2. improved | <i>b.</i> made better |
| 3. honoring | <i>c.</i> paying tribute |
| 4. tough | <i>d.</i> difficult |
| 5. poverty | <i>e.</i> hardship |
| 6. urging | <i>f.</i> encouraging |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 7. success | <i>g.</i> triumph |
| 8. major | <i>h.</i> great |
| 9. campaign | <i>i.</i> fight |
| 10. encouraged | <i>j.</i> urged |
| 11. attention | <i>k.</i> awareness |
| 12. causes | <i>l.</i> reasons |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. labour leader and civil | <i>a.</i> rights activist |
| 2. improved the working | <i>b.</i> conditions of thousands |
| 3. More and | <i>c.</i> more US states |
| 4. His childhood was | <i>d.</i> very tough |
| 5. urging Mexican Americans | <i>e.</i> to vote |
| 6. attracted the | <i>f.</i> attention of Robert Kennedy |
| 7. won its first | <i>g.</i> major labour victory |
| 8. He helped them strike and | <i>h.</i> organize boycotts |
| 9. Chavez died in 1993 | <i>i.</i> of natural causes |
| 10. America honoured him | <i>j.</i> with a postage stamp |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.