

Directions: *There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A) , B) , C) and D) . You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre.*

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

During his acceptance speech for the Nobel Peace Prize, Martin Luther King Jr. said, "I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality."

More than five decades later, our society is still struggling to separate truth from fantasy, fact from fiction. From disputes over the climate change to debates about how slavery is taught, America is at a crossroads. And the battle for equity is at the heart of these vital conversations.

Study after study shows that inequity has had appalling consequences. A 2020 report by Citi indicated that "Black students could have increased their lifetime incomes \$90 – \$113 billion" if equity issues related to higher education had been adequately addressed over the past two decades.

This statistic represents a flood of issues we've failed to confront as a nation. It also highlights one truth: We're missing out on valuable opportunities to bridge the differences that divide us. However, by honoring King's legacy, we can get our country back on the path toward true equity.

Students — and adults for that matter — simply cannot understand the conflicts we have today without understanding what caused them in the first place. That means we have a responsibility to help them make connections between US history and current events. It also means giving them the tools they need to address inequity and bias in their own lives. Adherence to these principles, along with a commitment to truthful dialogue, can help every student better appreciate how far we've come and more clearly see the roads we have yet to travel.

With more truthful analysis of the need for more qualified, diverse educators, we can improve our recruiting, training, and retention strategies for schools across the country.

Unfortunately, our deeply rooted divisions are delaying these advancements. A recent survey found that 77 percent of Americans believe the nation is "more divided than ever before". But reports of increased polarization shouldn't persuade us to look away from one another. Instead, they should compel us to address our shared issues head-on.

We are not, as some would suggest, living in a "post-racial society". We simply cannot afford to keep our heads buried in the sand when it comes to racial inequity. Unless we get honest about intolerance, bias, and how these social diseases impact the ways we treat one another, injustice will continue to haunt us. But our children and our grandchildren deserve better.

On this Martin Luther King Day and beyond, let's commit to working together to disrupt the status quo. Let's continue to build a better, more inclusive nation; and in the words of Martin Luther King Jr., "A society at peace with itself, a society that can live with its conscience."

51. What does the author think about today's America?
- A) It is struggling to transform fiction into reality.
 - B) It has been the focus of many vital conversations.
 - C) It still has a long way to go before equity can be truly realized.
 - D) It has got to a point where people disagree on nearly every issue.
52. What do we learn from the passage about black students in the past 20 years?
- A) They have been unfairly treated regarding higher education.
 - B) They have been battling hard to address equity issues.
 - C) They have boosted their lifetime incomes by billions of dollars.
 - D) They have come to see the consequences of racial discrimination.
53. How can Americans bridge the differences that divide them?
- A) By dealing with the thorny issues confronting them.
 - B) By seizing every chance to enhance racial harmony.
 - C) By continuing to pursue Martin Luther King Jr.'s cause.
 - D) By striving to identify exceedingly valuable opportunities.
54. How do most Americans view America as a nation according to a recent survey?
- A) It is compelled to address its historical social issues.
 - B) It is delaying advancements toward racial equality.
 - C) It has kept itself from polarization.
 - D) It has become increasingly split.
55. What does the author suggest Americans do?
- A) Ensure the well-being of their children and grandchildren.
 - B) Make joint efforts to tackle the nation's equity issues.
 - C) Restrain their intolerance and discrimination.
 - D) Restore social order for a harmonious nation.