Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \*I can use details and examples from the text to

explain what the text says explicitly and to support

inferences I make.

\* I can identify the overall structure of a text.

**Rosa Parks**

Rosa Parks has been called the "mother of the civil rights movement" and one of the most important citizens of the 20th century.

She was born February 4, 1913 in Tuskegee, Alabama. She spent her childhood in Alabama. When she was 11, she enrolled in the Montgomery Industrial School for Girls. Later, she worked as a seamstress in Montgomery.

In the early 1950s, the bus system in Montgomery, as in many parts of the United States, was segregated. Blacks were required to board the bus at the front, buy their tickets, and then re-board the bus in the back. Sometimes, they weren’t able to get on the bus again before it drove away. They were not allowed to sit in the front of the bus, which sometimes made it difficult to get off at the right stop. Even if they were sitting in the “black section”, they were still required to give their seats up to white passengers if the “white section” was full. In December of 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a city bus to a white passenger. The bus driver had her arrested. She was tried and convicted of violating a local law.

Her act sparked a citywide boycott of the bus system. This refusal to ride the bus introduced the country to a man named Martin Luther King, Jr. who became well-known, leading the protest with the words: “There comes a time that people get tired”. Eventually, the U.S. Supreme Court made a decision outlawing segregation on city buses. In December 1956, Montgomery’s public transportation system was integrated. Blacks and whites could now ride on city buses as equals.

Over the next four decades, Rosa Parks helped make her fellow Americans aware of the history of the civil rights struggle. She earned many honors, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Congressional Gold Medal. She is an example of courage and determination and an inspirational symbol to all Americans. Rosa Parks died in Detroit, Michigan on October 24, 2005 at age 92.

1. Identify the structure of the passage.

A. comparison

B. cause/effect

C. chronology

D. problem/solution

2. What accomplishment do you think Rosa Parks would be most proud of?

A. Earning awards and honors in front of others

B. Helping to lead the civil rights movement

C. Being arrested for refusing to give up her seat

D. Living in Detroit, Michigan when she died

3. In the passage, what did the Supreme Court eventually decide?

A. To give Rosa Parks a medal for courage.

B. To send Rosa Parks to a local jail.

C. To outlaw segregation on city buses.

D. To boycott the bus system themselves.

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTION**

1. Explain why you think Rosa Parks has been called the “mother of the civil rights movement.” Support your inference using details from the passage.

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