

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Brown V. Board of Education - Vocabulary in Deep Context Answer Key

### Definitions (Sample Answers)

1. **Doctrine** – A principle or official belief used to justify laws or actions, especially in legal or political systems.
2. **Justification** – A reason or explanation that supports a policy or action as being acceptable or legal.
3. **Incompatible** – Not able to exist or function together; in conflict.
4. **Constitutional interpretation** – How the courts understand and apply the Constitution to modern cases and issues.
5. **Southern Manifesto** – A formal statement by Southern politicians who opposed the *Brown* ruling and supported segregation.
6. **Cornerstone** – Something that is essential, foundational, or critical to a larger system or belief.
7. **De facto segregation** – Racial separation that happens in everyday life (like schools or neighborhoods), even without laws enforcing it.

### Deeper Analysis (Sample Response)

The **Southern Manifesto** shows how some lawmakers resisted the Supreme Court's decision, trying to preserve segregation through legal means. It reveals the deep political divisions and the challenge of enforcing constitutional rights at the state level. On the other hand, **constitutional interpretation** was central to the ruling in *Brown v. Board*, because the Court redefined what "equal protection" meant. Instead of focusing only on the legality of separation, the justices looked at its real-world impact, especially on Black children.