

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Brown V. Board of Education - Quote Interpretation

**Instructions:** Below are **three quotes** related to *Brown v. Board of Education* - from **Chief Justice Earl Warren**, **Thurgood Marshall**, and a modern reflection. After each quote, answer the accompanying question to explore its **meaning**, **tone**, and **relevance**.

### QUOTE 1: Chief Justice Earl Warren (1954)

“Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.”

**Question 1:** What does this quote say about the nature of segregation? Why did the Court choose such strong, clear language?

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### QUOTE 2: Thurgood Marshall (before the ruling)

“The legal system can force open doors, and sometimes even knock down walls, but it cannot build bridges. That job belongs to you and me.”



**Question 2:** What is Marshall saying about the limits of legal change? How does this quote challenge citizens to take action beyond the courtroom?

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### QUOTE 3: Reflection by a historian (2004)

“Fifty years after *Brown*, we are still measuring how far we’ve come-and how far we have left to go.”

**Question 3:** What does this quote suggest about the long-term effects of the Brown ruling? Do you think school equality has been fully achieved? Why or why not?

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