

## Now and then: Where were you?

*Listen to Emily talking about famous people in the American culture. Below you have the portraits of those famous Americans. Write a number according to Emily's order. Number 0 is an example. You can hear the recording twice. For the audioscript, click on the button below.*

**Pablo:** ... So, I don't know. Maybe you can help us.

**Emily:** Of course! I think the first person I should tell you about is Martin Luther King Jr. Do you know who he was?

**Beatriz:** Hmm, no.

**Pablo:** Er... Was he the black man from the sixties?

**Emily:** Yes, he was the author of the speech 'I have a dream'. *"I have a dream, that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."*

**Pablo:** Emily! What are you saying? I don't understand.

**Emily:** Sorry, I got excited because I loved him. I'm sure, one day you will listen to his speech in class at the IEDA. Anyway, he was a very important figure in our country. Martin Luther King was an activist in the US. His famous speech was on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1963. He was the symbol of freedom for black people and against racism in America and worldwide.

**Pablo:** Yes, that's right. He was Obama's inspiration, right?

**Emily:** You got it! But do you know who was Martin Luther King's inspiration?

**Pablo:** Er... no.

**Emily:** Rosa Parks. Rosa was a woman in Alabama where there was a lot of racism. White people had special seats in buses and on December the first, 1955 she said 'no'. She took a "white" seat and, later, she was in prison.

**Pablo:** Oh wow! Really?

**Emily:** Yes, it's sad but she was the origin for the anti slavery movement in the US. Well, to tell you the truth, our sixteenth President, our beloved Mr Abraham Lincoln, was the first man in power who said 'no' to racism. There is a film about this, remember?

**Pablo:** Oh yes. Lincoln and Martin Luther King were very important leaders from the past...

- Emily:** Well, not only men uh? For example, sometimes people forget about Elizabeth Cady Stanton who was born in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century I think. I can't remember the date exactly but, anyway, she was a very important figure in the abolitionist movement. Apart from this, Elizabeth was an activist in favour of women's right back in a time when it was really difficult for women to express themselves. And I can remember Maya Angelou, for example. Thanks to them, her poetry was possible.
- Pablo:** Who?
- Emily:** Maya Angelou. She is dead now but she was also an activist for African American women and a poet. I love her works, especially '*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*' and her poem at President Clinton's inauguration, '*On the Pulse of the Morning*'. She was fantastic and I studied her poems when I was in college, two years ago.
- Pablo:** Ok, who else?
- Emily:** Well, I can also tell you that Clara Barton was a very important person in America.
- Pablo:** Why?
- Emily:** Well, she was the origin of the US Red Cross! She was a very generous person and she was very helpful during the Civil War. She was a nurse and a very brave person. I can even remember her birthday...
- Pablo:** Really? Wow, your memory is amazing!
- Emily:** Hahaha, not really... She was born in December 25<sup>th</sup>!
- Pablo:** Hahaha, well that was easy! And Emily, most of your important people were women... Can you tell me about another man?
- Emily:** Well, I guess I could tell you about Neil Armstrong whose death was some years ago... I think in 2012, you know who he was, right? He was the first man on the Moon: 'That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind'. Sometimes I think: 'Who was the designer of the space suits for astronauts? You know, the clothes they wear when they are in the open space. I don't know... Well, I'd tell you about the first woman who was on the Moon but that hasn't happened yet!
- All:** Hahaha...