

The
Economist

EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION



GUILTY: DEREK CHAUVIN

PART 2: THINKING HARDER

LEARNING INDEPENDENTLY?

Check out this week's
introduction video

bit.ly/NewsCycleVidMay10

KEEN TO HAVE YOUR SAY?

Share your opinion on
this week's News Cycle

bit.ly/NewsCycleMay10

First, limber up by thinking about everything you learnt last week:

- What was the key information about this issue? (Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?)
- Why was this issue news? (How big was this piece of news? How many people does it affect? Is it global or local news?)
- What did you think about it? Did everyone you talked to have the same opinion?
- What have you seen about this in the news? How is this issue developing?

Then, take a ride through this week's activities.

WHAT'S THE FULL STORY?

President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris called the Floyd family after the verdict. Mr Biden was heard saying that

"AT LEAST NOW THERE IS SOME JUSTICE".

Ms Harris urged lawmakers to pass the "George Floyd Justice in Policing Act" aimed at ending racism in policing in America.

THREE OTHER OFFICERS

were involved in Mr Floyd's arrest. Their trial will start on August 23rd 2021. If they are found guilty of playing a part in Mr Floyd's murder, they could each face up to 40 years in prison.

The Floyd family's lawyer said the guilty verdict marked a

"TURNING POINT IN HISTORY"

for America. He tweeted: "Painfully earned justice has finally arrived... [It] sends a clear message on the need for accountability of law enforcement."

KEY VOCABULARY

CONGRESS

= the group of people who make the laws in America

APPEAL

= when a court case is reviewed to decide if the verdict was fair

During the trial, a US congresswoman told demonstrators outside the court to

"LET MORE CONFRONTATIONAL"

if Derek Chauvin was found not guilty. Some people believe this could have led to violent protests and that the thought of these might have influenced the jury. If Mr Chauvin appeals against the verdict, this might help his case.

After the verdict a Black Lives Matter protester said,

"THIS ISN'T ENOUGH BUT IT'S A START..."

as far as the relationship between African-Americans and the police - there's a lot of distrust in the community that's been built up over years and years."



TURN THE COGS

1. This issue is about more than one court case. Can you explain the bigger picture?
2. Look at the facts on the previous page.
 - Why would some people argue “justice has finally arrived”?
 - Why would some people argue this “isn’t enough”?

Support your answers with a fact and explain why.

SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS



What do you think about what the US congresswoman said?



What are the five most important words linked to this news story?



What makes a judge and jury a fair justice system?



What other perspectives would help you to think differently about this?

PUSH YOURSELF

When the jury is chosen for a court case, they must not have any knowledge of the case or know anything about the accused person or the victims. During the trial, they remain anonymous and are isolated with no contact with the outside world.

- Why do you think this is?
- Would it have been easy or hard to find jurors for Derek Chauvin’s trial? Why?

TYRE CHANGE

Brakes on! Let’s change the scenario.



Derek Chauvin had been found not guilty?



People don’t trust the police?



Derek Chauvin appeals against his conviction?

Challenge: can you spot this issue in the news? How has the issue developed since last week?