

## STUDY GUIDE FOR LETTER FROM A B'HAM JAIL

**NAME:**

**PERIOD:**

### SHORT ANSWER

On the quiz, you should be able to answer each of these questions using a full paragraph of 5-7 sentences, each using specific details from King's letter. An answer receiving full points will provide specific examples from the text.

1. King switches his tone (attitude towards his subject) extensively throughout the piece, from love to outrage, concern to fear. Identify three places in the text where you see a clear tone and show how he conveys those feelings to the reader.
2. King compares segregation to a disease or illness throughout the letter. Why? What is its intended effect? Give one specific example and analyze how it works.
3. What does King want from the white moderate church? How have they disappointed him? How does he try to persuade them that he loves the church and why does he do it?
4. Provide one example of logos, pathos, and ethos used in the text and explain how each functions.

5. One of the most powerful elements of the piece is the enormously long sentence in which King talks about subjects ranging from his children to the names older African-Americans are called. Using examples other than “Fun Town,” analyze three specific uses of rhetoric in that section and describe how they effectively persuade the reader?
  
6. One of King’s most powerful sections is his discussion about what makes a law unjust, and therefore something that can be broken. What, according to King, makes a law unjust? And how must one break the law once that has been determined?
  
7. King returns to the subject of extremism throughout the text. What does he believe about extremism? Why?
  
8. King also addresses the idea of time throughout the letter. What does he argue about time and the civil rights movement?

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### RHETORICAL TERMS

On the test, you will also be asked to identify rhetorical terms used in the text. You should know all of these terms.

ANAPHORA  
EPISTROPHE  
ANTITHESIS

METAPHOR  
HYPERBOLE  
UNDERSTATEMENT

HYPOPHORA  
RHETORICAL QUESTION