

Muhammad Ali

Text Book

Muhammad Ali - Text

Published by Widgit Software

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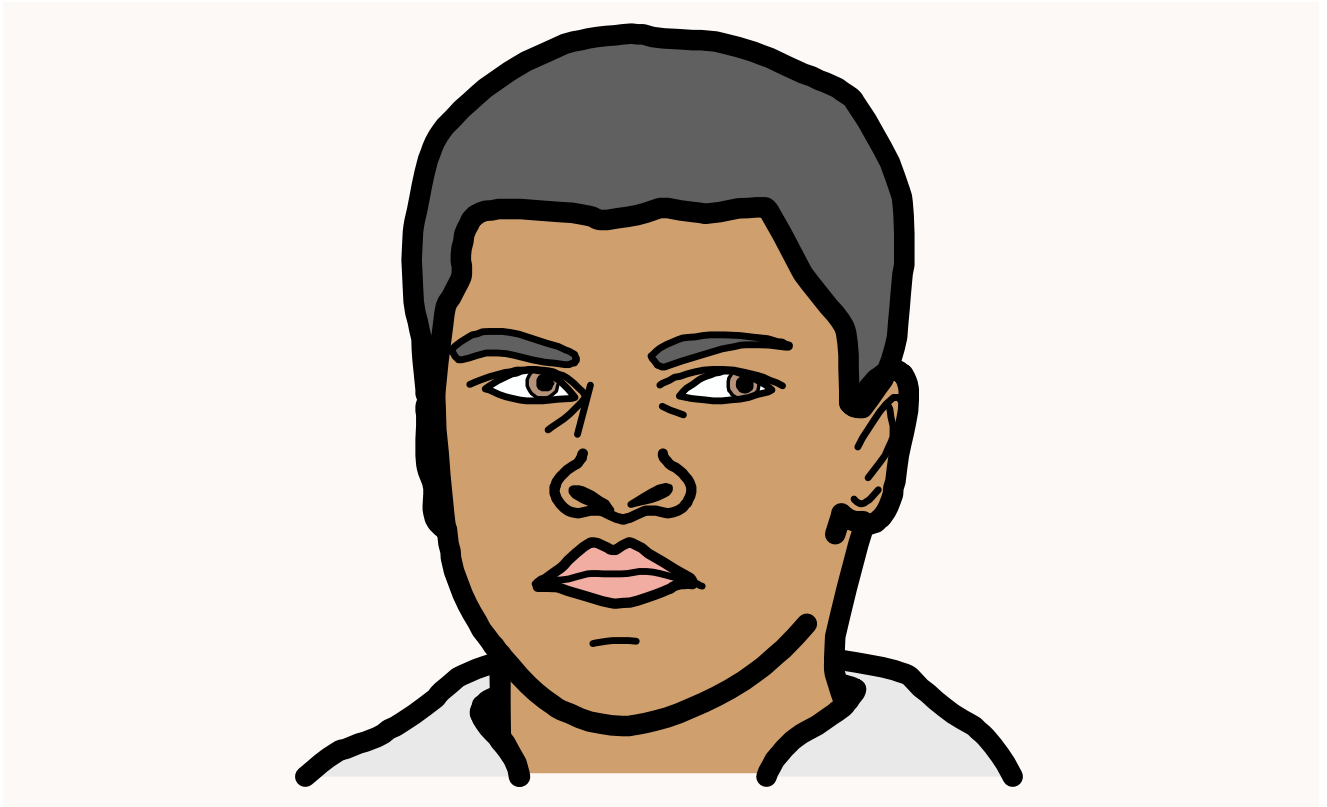
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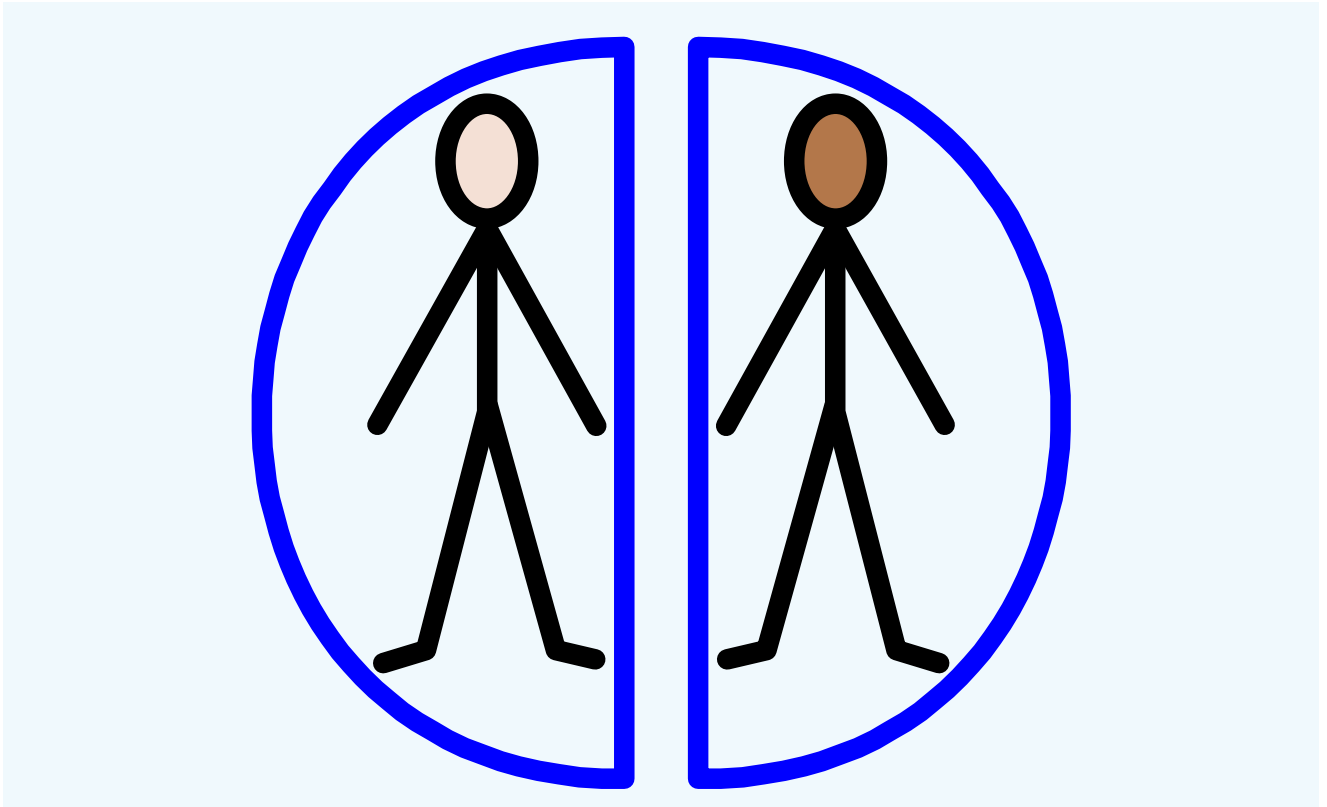


Muhammad Ali was born in 1942 in Kentucky, USA.

His birth name was Cassius Clay.

Muhammad had dyslexia and struggled at school.

He found reading and writing difficult.



Muhammad grew up amid racial segregation.

Black people were kept apart from white people.

Black people went to separate schools and churches.

They had to sit at the back on buses and trains.

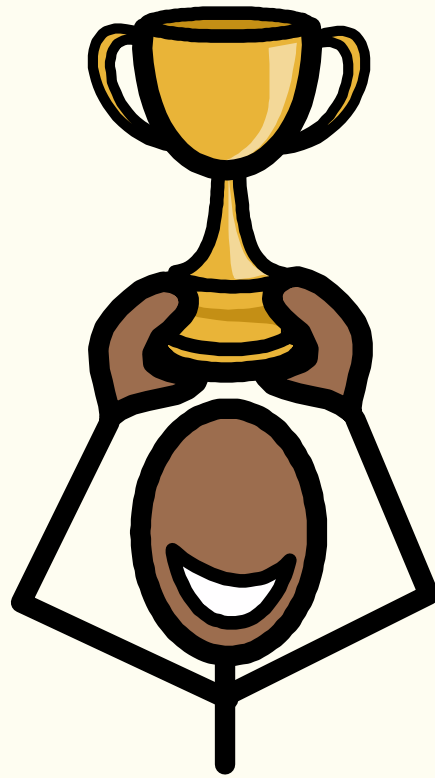


Muhammad began training as a boxer aged 12.

Aged 18 he won gold in the 1960 Olympics.

Muhammad then became a professional boxer.

He became a Muslim and joined the Nation of Islam.



In 1964 Muhammad became world champion.

He beat Sonny Liston at the age of 22.

Afterwards he changed his name to Muhammad Ali.

His new name meant beloved of God.

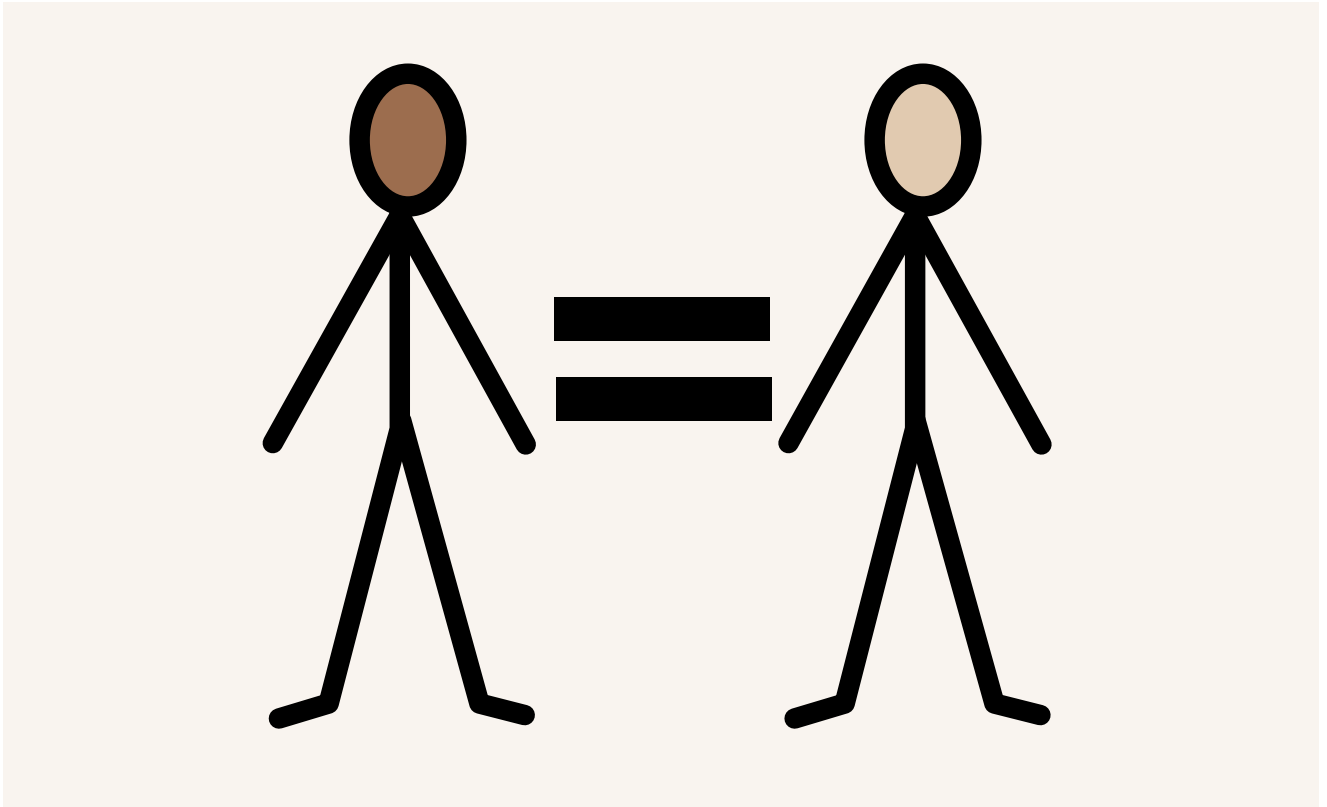


In 1966 Muhammad was drafted for the Vietnam war.

He refused to go because of his religious beliefs.

By refusing he risked a jail sentence of 5 years.

He was not allowed to box from 1967 to 1970.

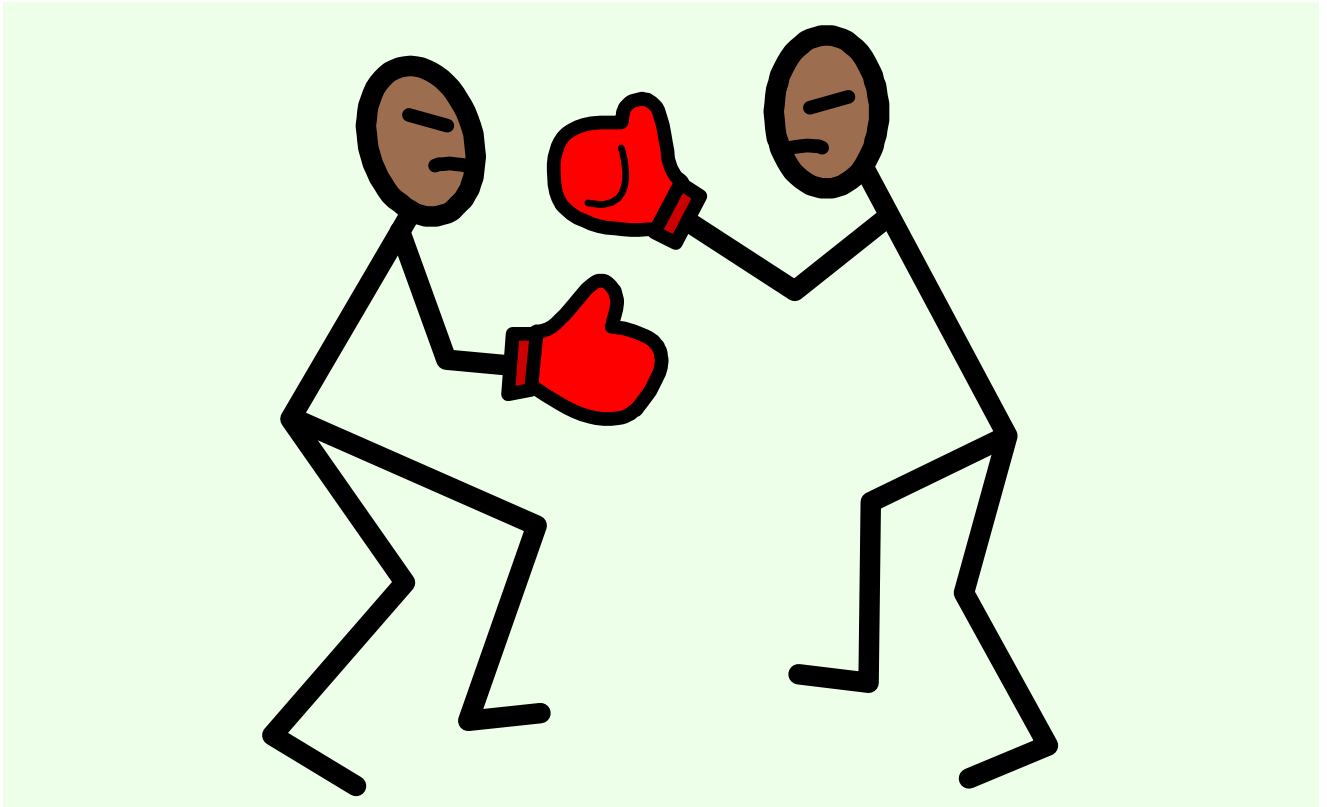


In 1971 Muhammad's appeal was successful.

People were inspired by his stand against the war.

He became a symbol for the civil rights movement.

He wanted greater equality for African-Americans.

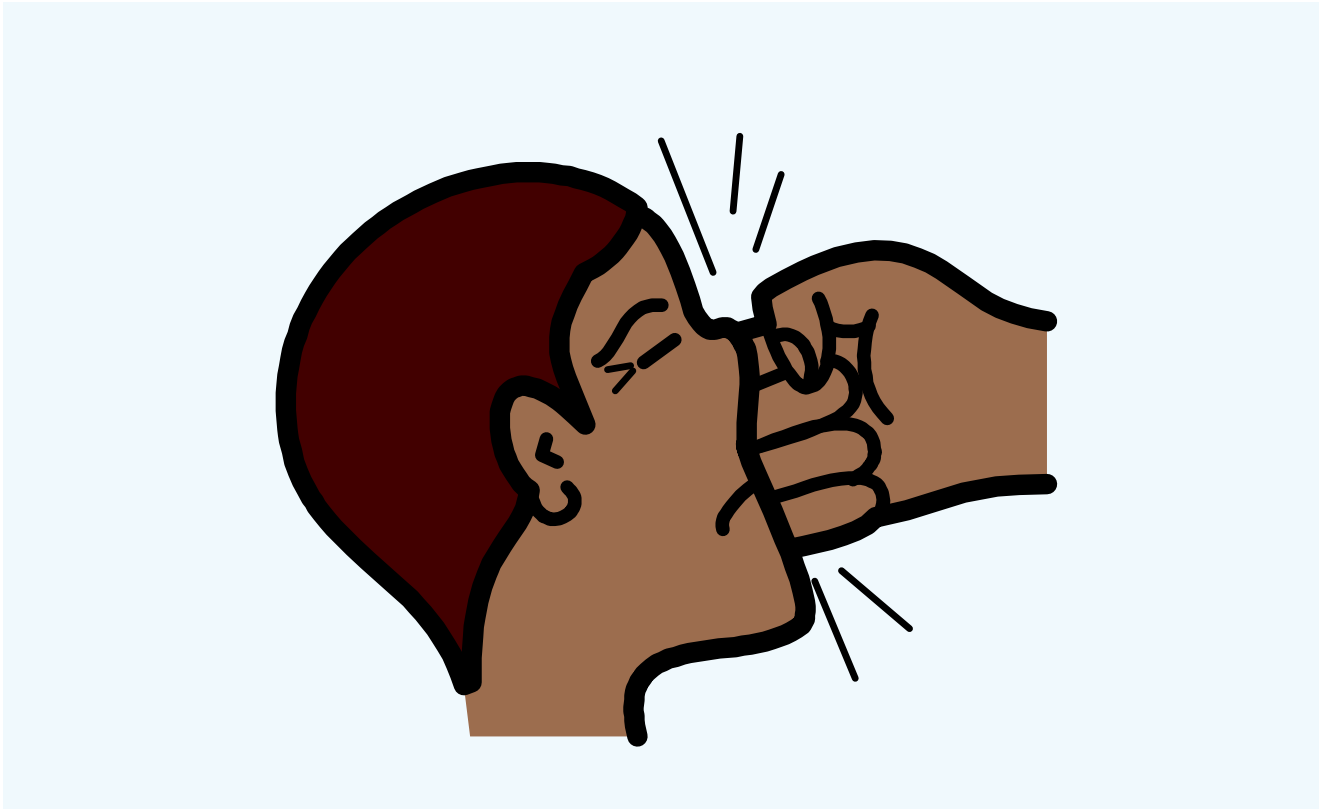


In 1971 Muhammad fought against Joe Frazier.

People called it the 'Fight of the Century'.

Muhammad Ali lost by unanimous judge's decision.

In 1974 Muhammad beat Joe Frazier in a rematch.

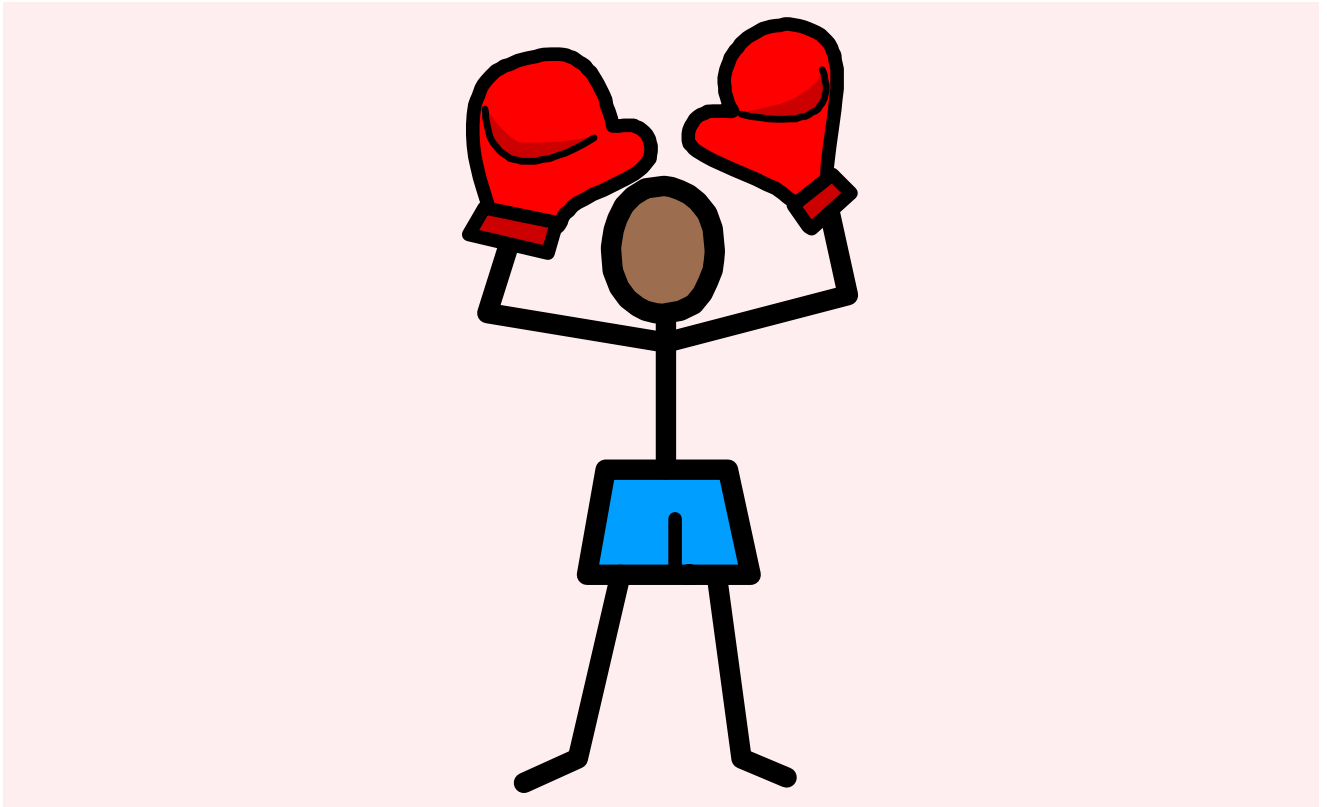


In 1974 Muhammad fought George Foreman.

This fight was called the 'Rumble in the Jungle'.

Muhammad knocked out Foreman in the 8th round.

He became world champion again.



Muhammad was one of the world's greatest boxers.

He used clever rhymes to boast about his skills.

He could "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee!"

In 1981 he retired with 56 wins and 5 losses.

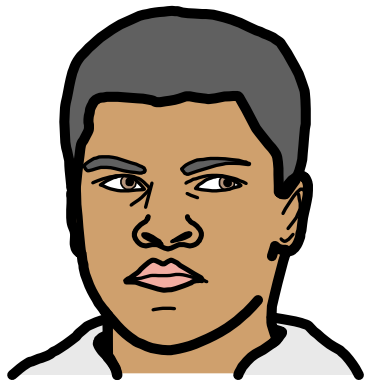


In retirement Muhammad supported many good causes.

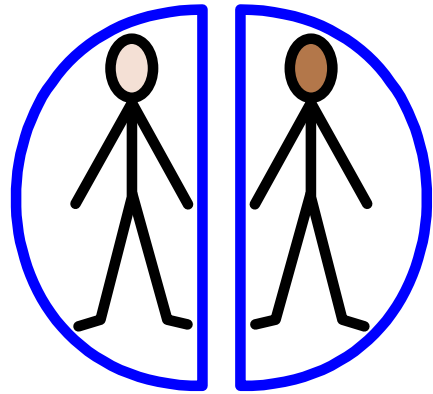
He supported the Special Olympics for disabled athletes.

He became a United Nations Messenger of Peace.

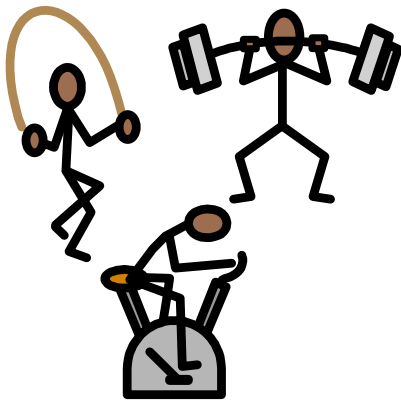
His death in 2016 was mourned all over the world.



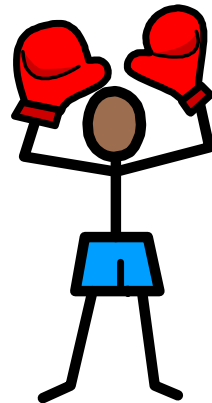
Muhammad Ali



segregation



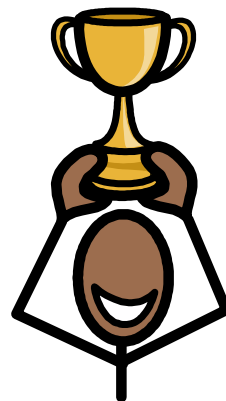
training



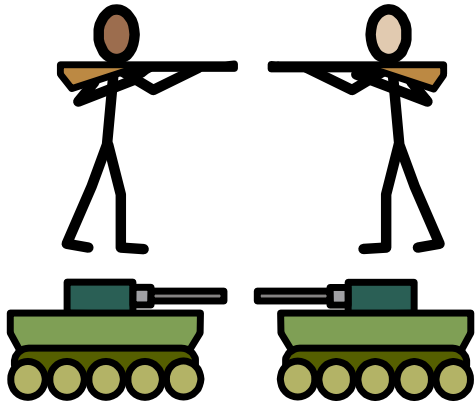
boxer



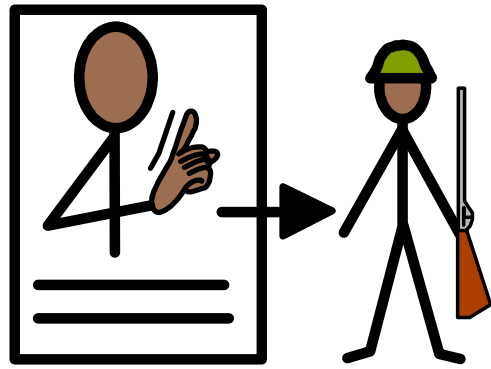
Muslim



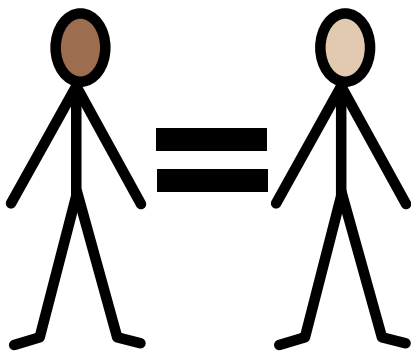
champion



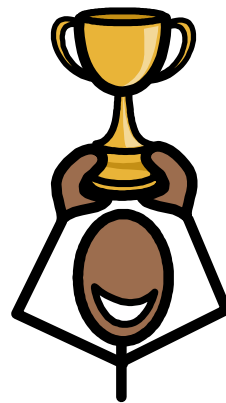
war



draft



equality



wins



retirement



Special Olympics