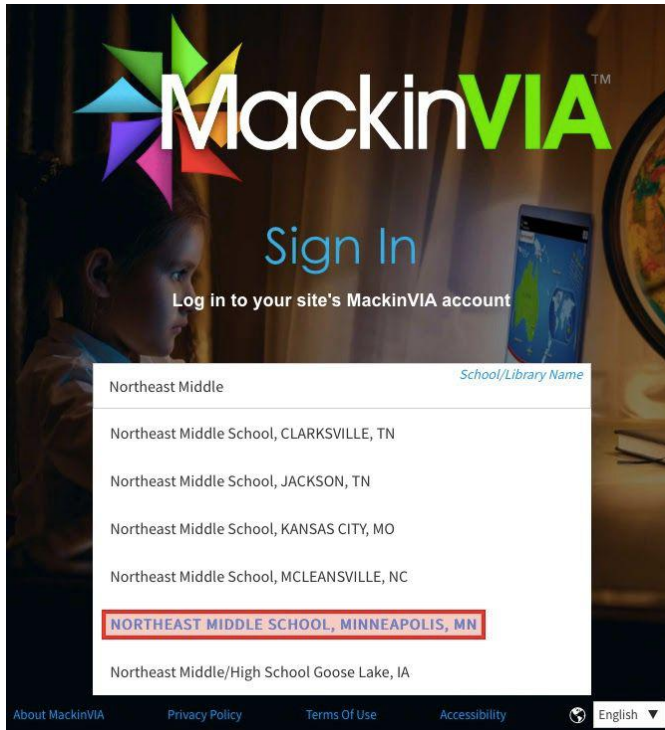
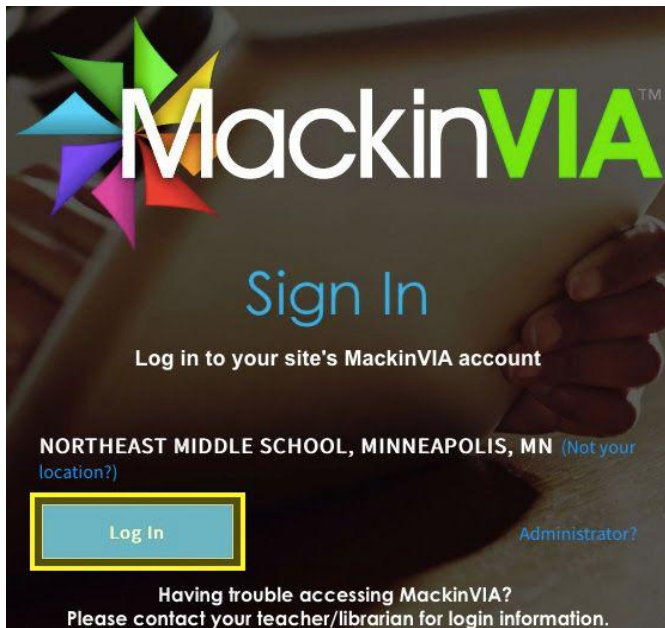


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**#BlackLivesMatter : protesting racism**  
Thomas, Rachael L.  
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Briefly investigates the history of the civil rights and anti-discrimination #BlackLivesMatter movement, exploring how social media and the use of hashtags helped drive the movement forward. Includes a timeline and glossary.  
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#BlackLivesMatter : protesting racism

#BlackLivesMatter

It was February 26, 2012. Trayvon Martin, a young black teenager in Sanford, Florida, had been visiting his father. As Martin was walking home that night, he was spotted by neighborhood watch member George Zimmerman.

Zimmerman was sitting in his car when he saw Martin walking. Zimmerman thought Martin seemed suspicious. So, he called 911 to report Martin. The 911 operator told Zimmerman to stay in his car and wait for the police. However, he decided to get out of his car and follow Martin.

Zimmerman and Martin had a confrontation. In the struggle, Zimmerman shot Martin dead. Zimmerman said that Martin started the fight, and Zimmerman acted in self-defense. However, Martin was unarmed, so many people didn't believe Zimmerman. Some also thought Zimmerman initially followed Martin because Martin was black. They felt the shooting was racially motivated.

In April 2012, Zimmerman was charged with the murder of Martin. People around the country closely followed the trial. In July

Martin was wearing a hooded sweatshirt when he was shot. Because of this, a demonstration in New York City was called the Million Hoodie March. Martin's parents, Tracy Martin (center) and Sybrina Fulton (right), attended the event.

1,000,000 HOODIE MARCH FOR TRAYVON MARTIN  
MARCH 21ST NYC  
SPAIN'S SQUARE

4 of 34

8. Click “Agnes” to select a different reading voice, and/or click “1x” to select a different reading speed:

#BlackLivesMatter

It was February 26, 2012. Trayvon Martin, a young black teenager in Sanford, Florida, had been visiting his father. As Martin was walking home that night, he was spotted by neighborhood watch member George Zimmerman.

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1,000,000 HOODIE MARCH FOR TRAYVON MARTIN MARCH 21st NYC

Agnes 1x

4 of 34

9. If you come to a word that you don't know the meaning of while reading, you can click the word, then click “Dictionary”:

#BlackLivesMatter

It was February 26, 2012. Trayvon Martin, a young black teenager in Sanford, Florida, had been visiting his father. As Martin was walking home that night, he was spotted by neighborhood watch member George Zimmerman.

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In April 2012, Zimmerman was charged with the murder of Martin. People around the country closely followed the trial. In July 2013, Zimmerman was acquitted of Martin's murder. Many black Americans saw the acquittal as evidence of racism in the US. It sparked fury in many people who felt the law did not protect black Americans as it should.

Martin was wearing a hooded sweatshirt when he was shot. Because of this, a demonstration in New York City was called the Million Hoodie March. Martin's parents, Tracy Martin (center) and Sybrina Fulton (right), attended the event.

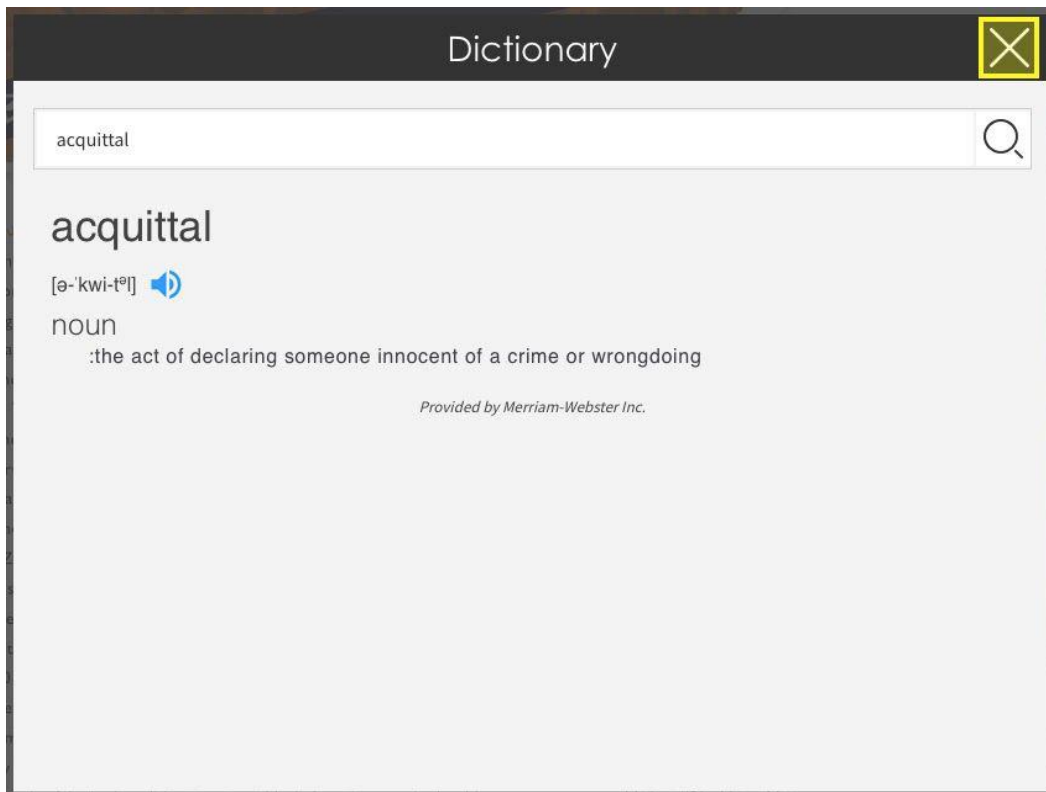
1,000,000 HOODIE MARCH FOR TRAYVON MARTIN MARCH 21st NYC

U S A Dictionary

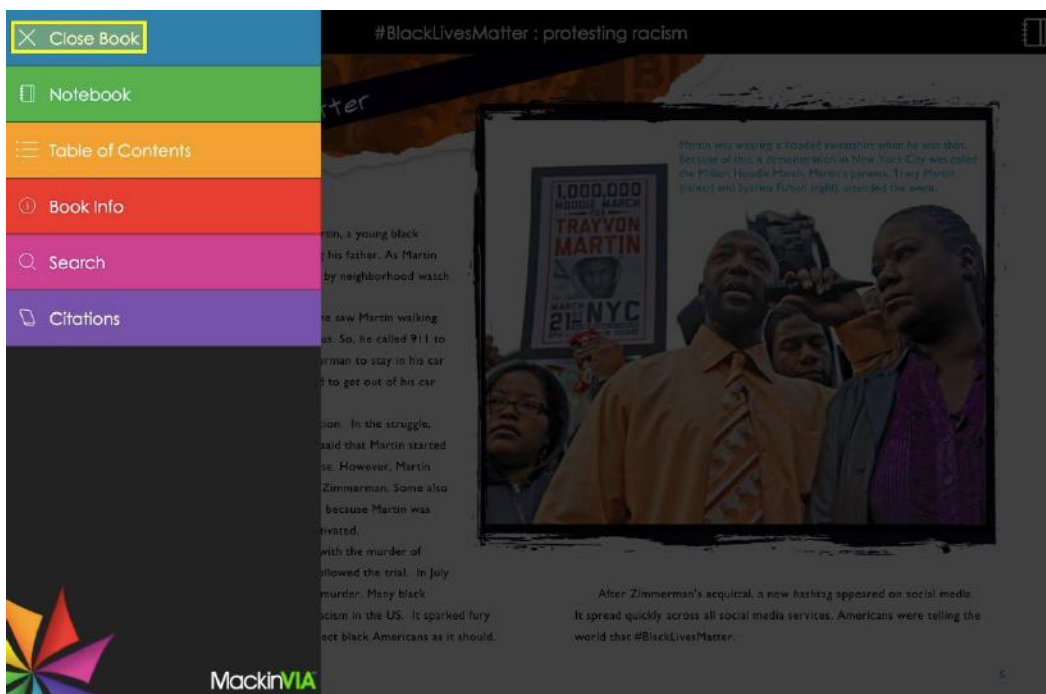
After Zimmerman's **acquittal**, a new hashtag appeared on social media. It spread quickly across all social media services. Americans were telling the world that #BlackLivesMatter.

10. The word will then be defined for you.

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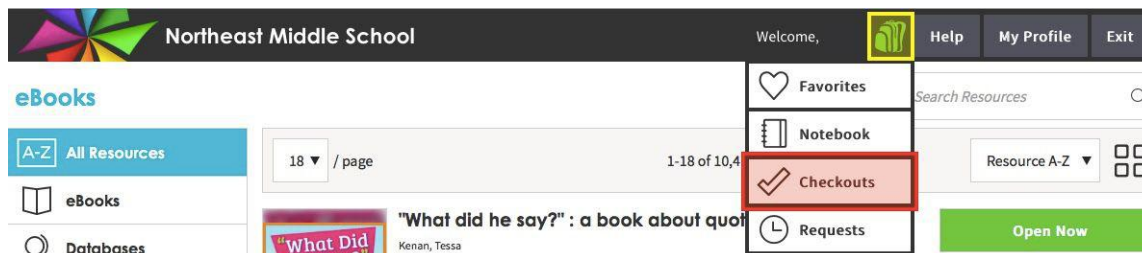
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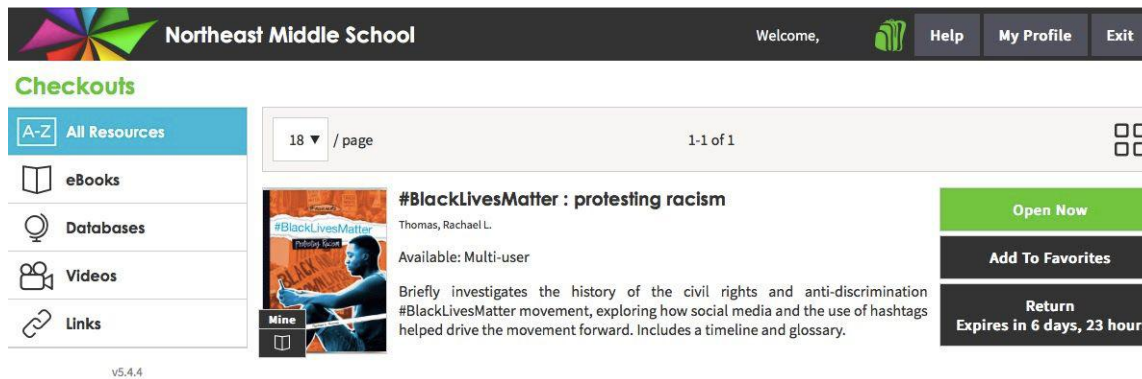
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