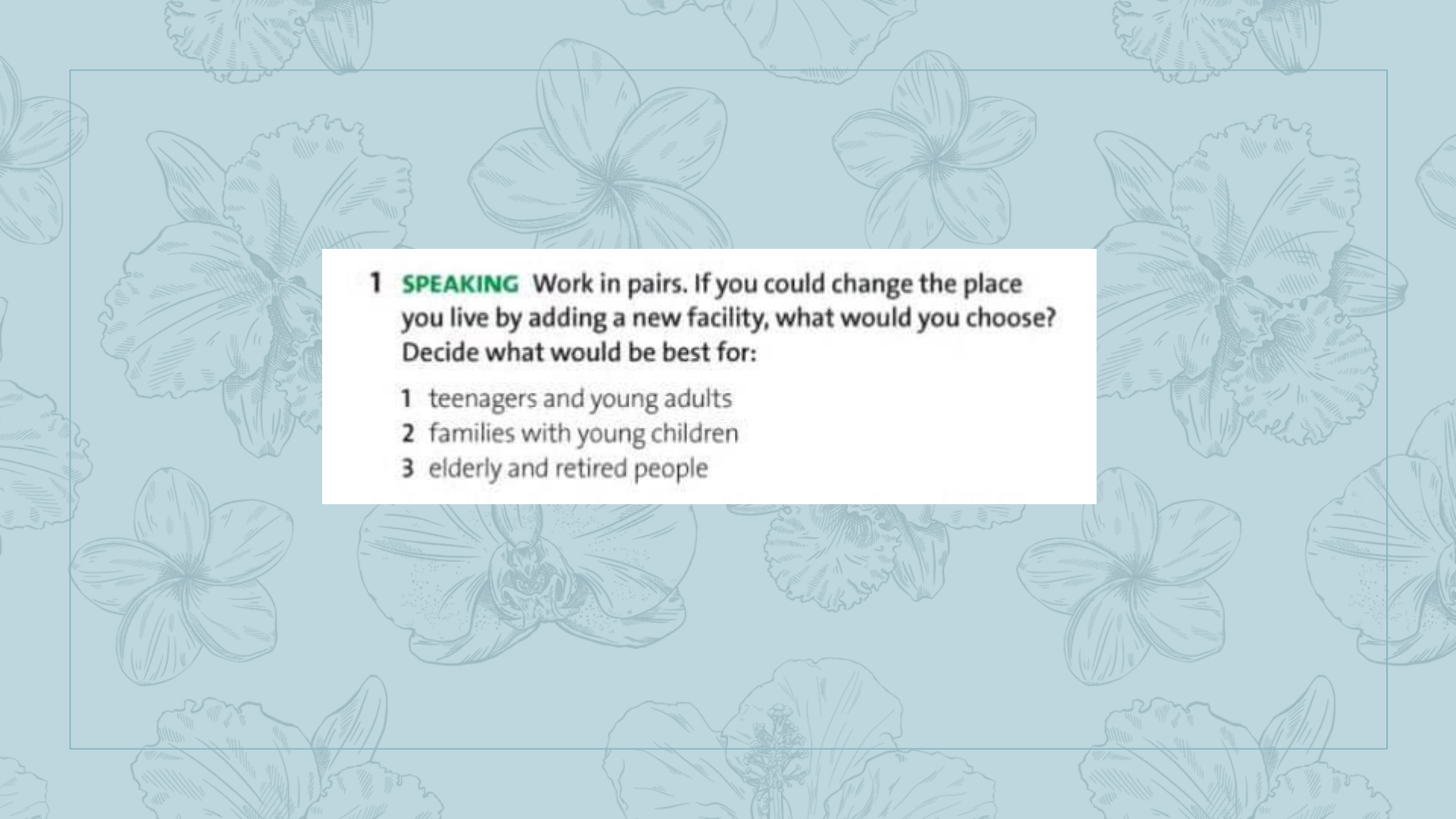




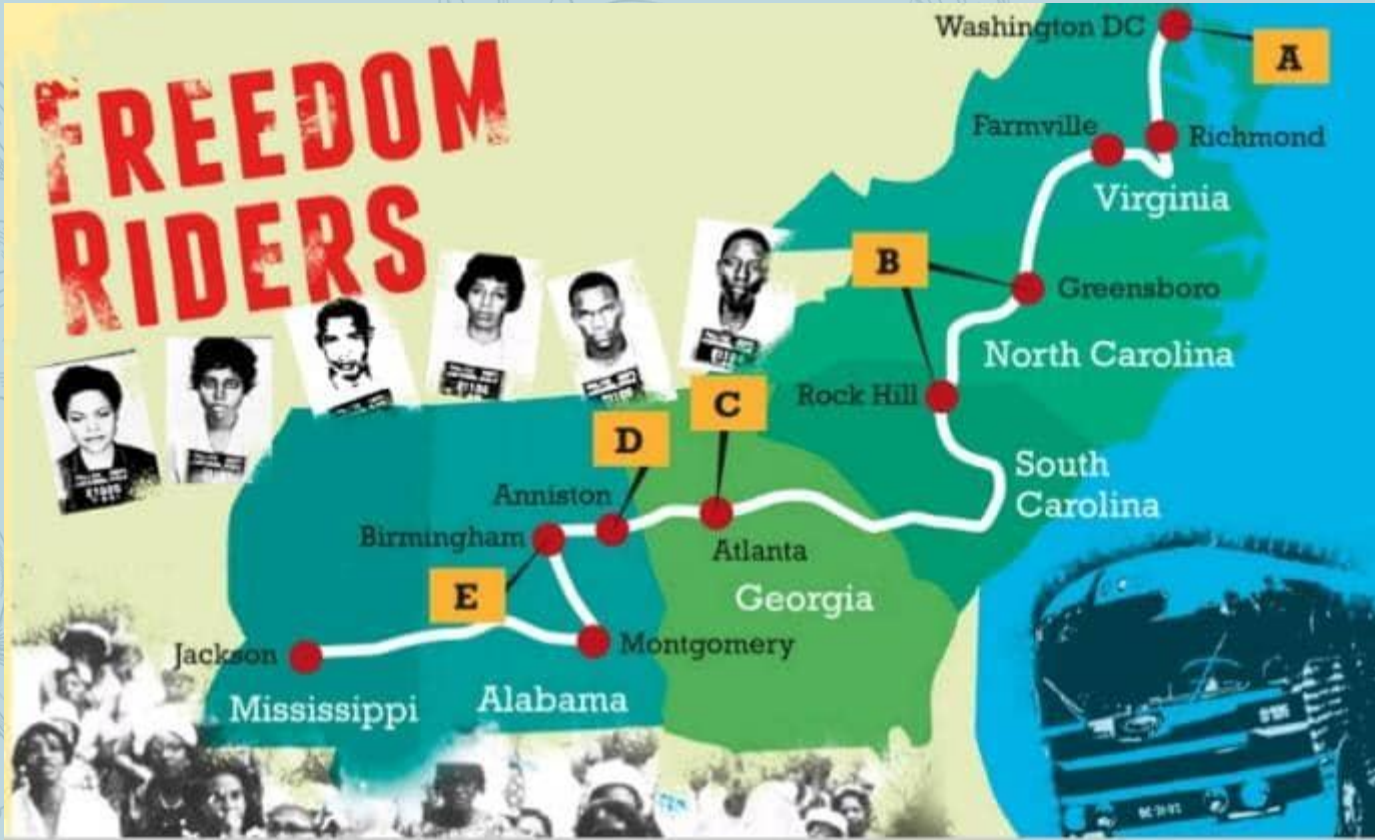
Hello



1 SPEAKING Work in pairs. If you could change the place you live by adding a new facility, what would you choose? Decide what would be best for:

- 1 teenagers and young adults
- 2 families with young children
- 3 elderly and retired people

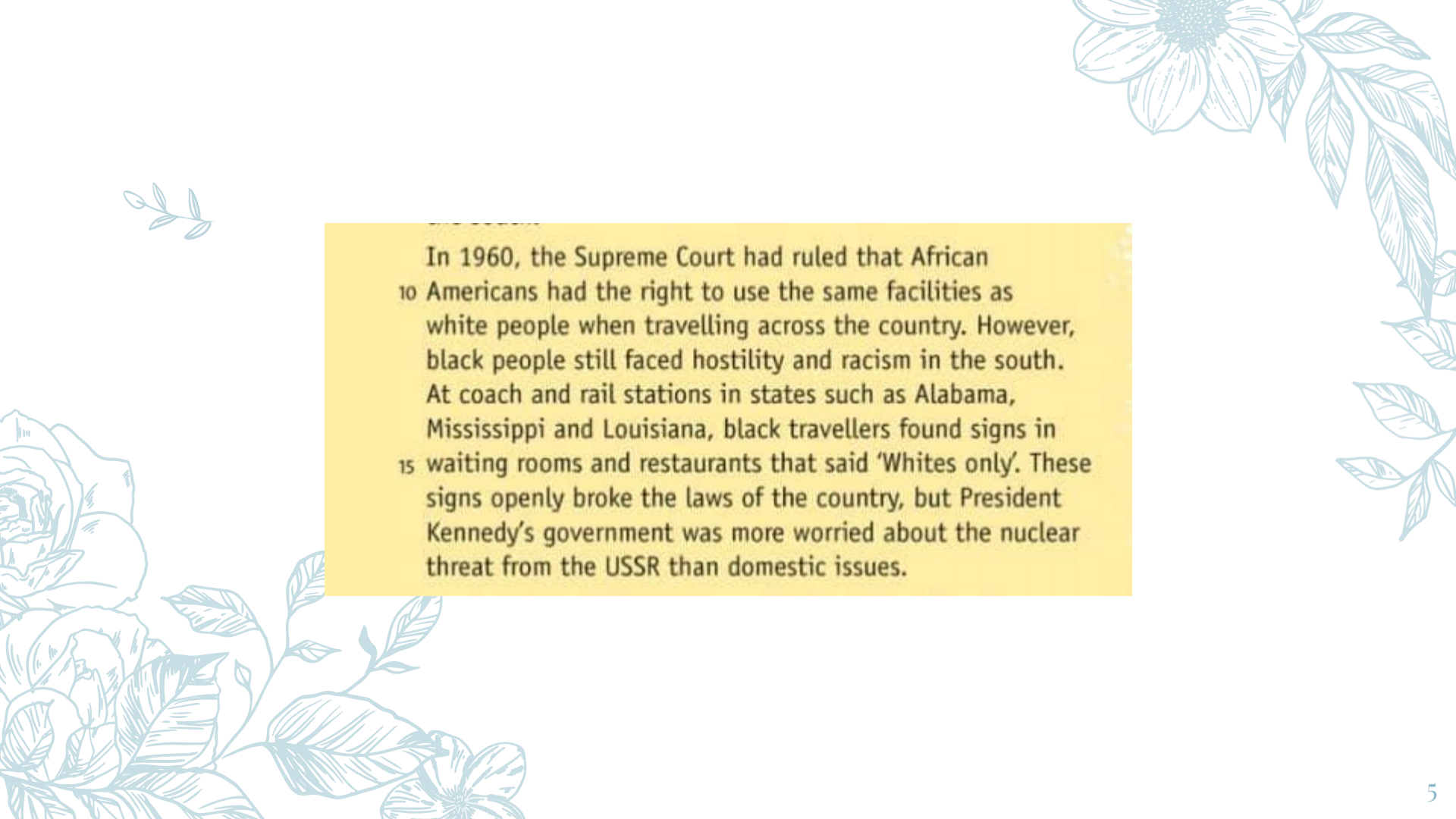
FREEDOM RIDERS



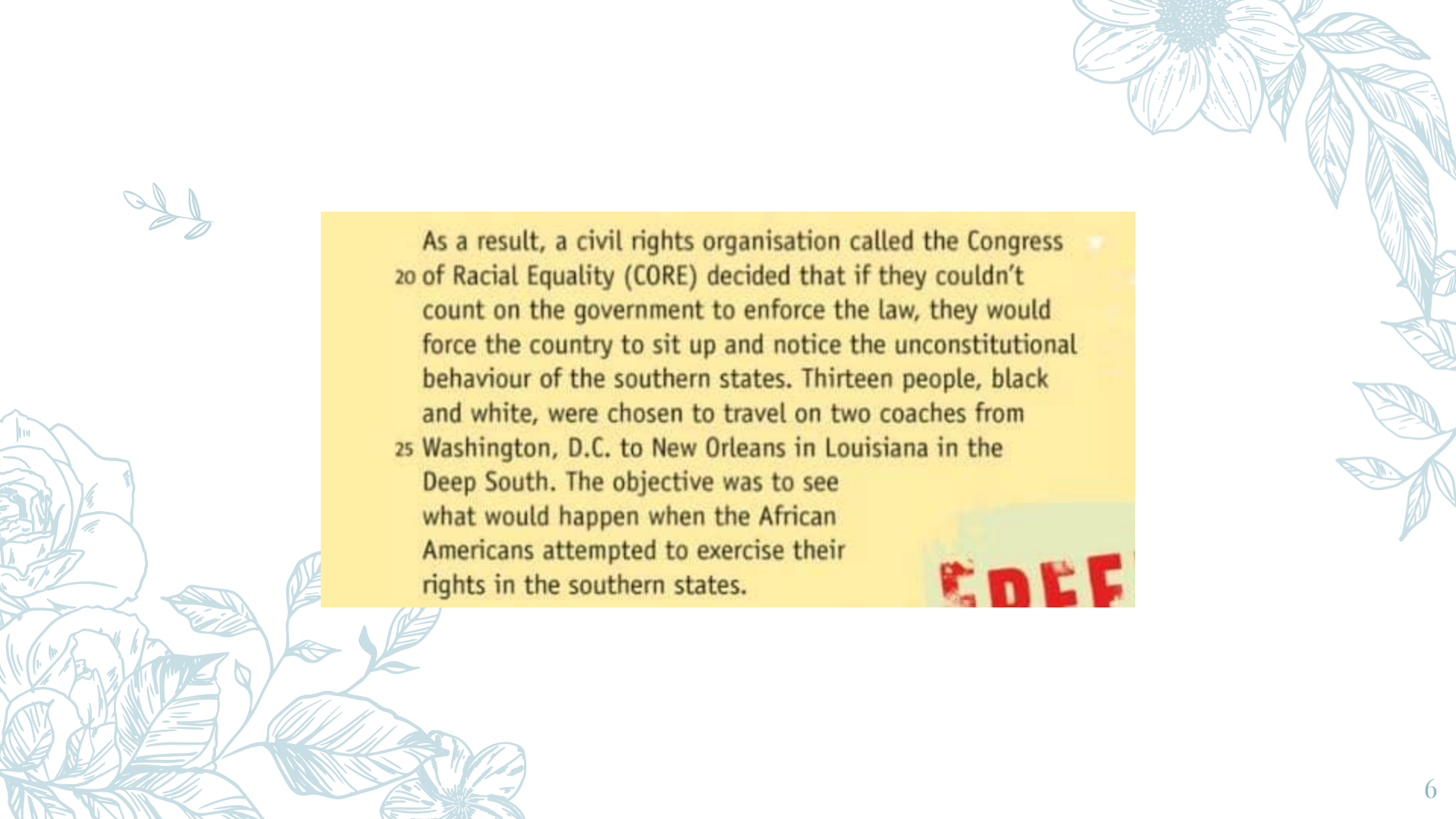
4.18

Freedom Riders

After the Second World War, African Americans who had served their country were not willing to return to a segregated society, where they would not be allowed to make use of the same public services, educational facilities and transport as white Americans. America was aware that change was necessary, but for many citizens, both black and white, it wasn't changing fast enough, especially in the south.

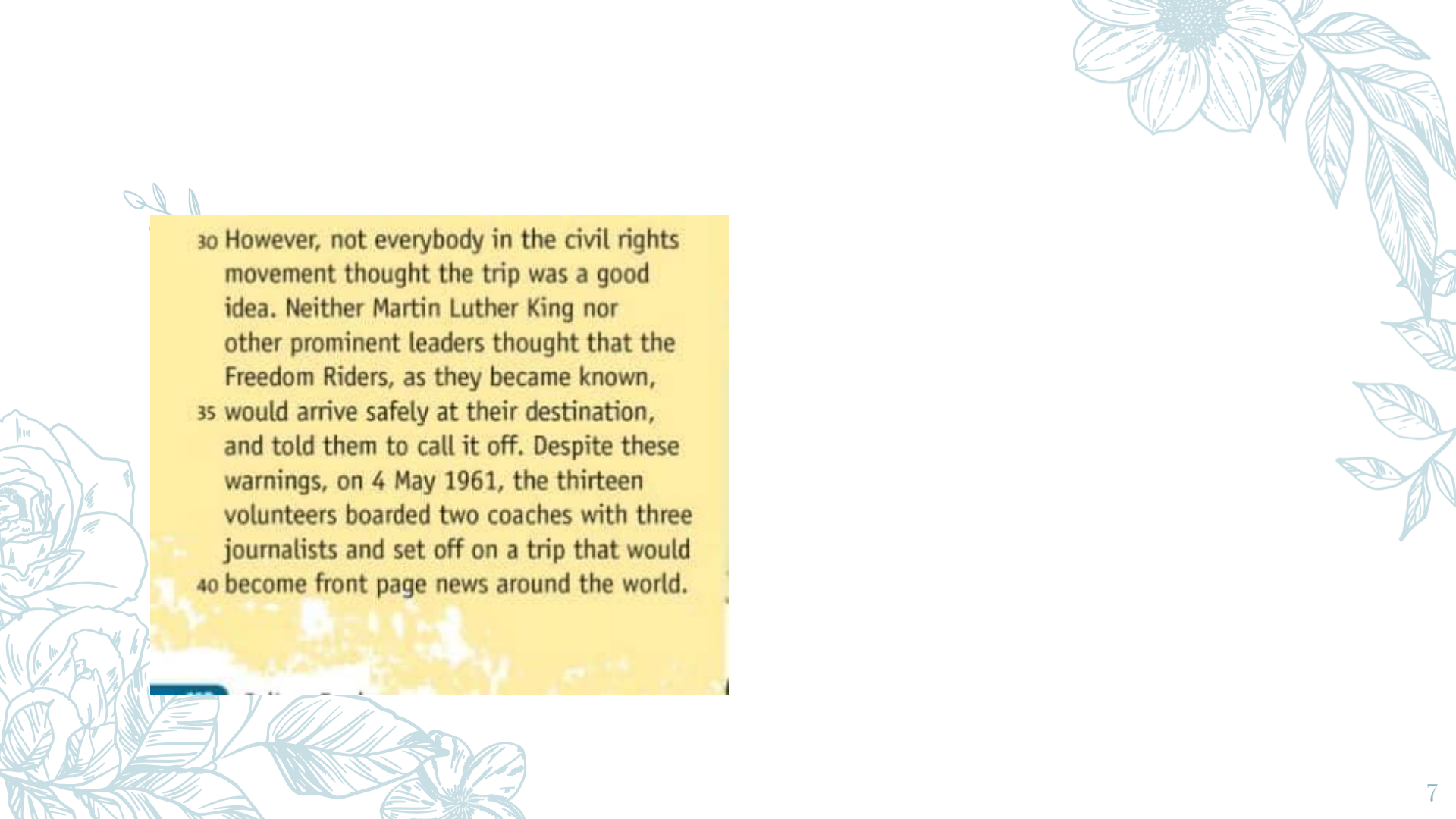


In 1960, the Supreme Court had ruled that African
10 Americans had the right to use the same facilities as
white people when travelling across the country. However,
black people still faced hostility and racism in the south.
At coach and rail stations in states such as Alabama,
Mississippi and Louisiana, black travellers found signs in
15 waiting rooms and restaurants that said 'Whites only'. These
signs openly broke the laws of the country, but President
Kennedy's government was more worried about the nuclear
threat from the USSR than domestic issues.



As a result, a civil rights organisation called the Congress
20 of Racial Equality (CORE) decided that if they couldn't
count on the government to enforce the law, they would
force the country to sit up and notice the unconstitutional
behaviour of the southern states. Thirteen people, black
and white, were chosen to travel on two coaches from
25 Washington, D.C. to New Orleans in Louisiana in the
Deep South. The objective was to see
what would happen when the African
Americans attempted to exercise their
rights in the southern states.

FREE



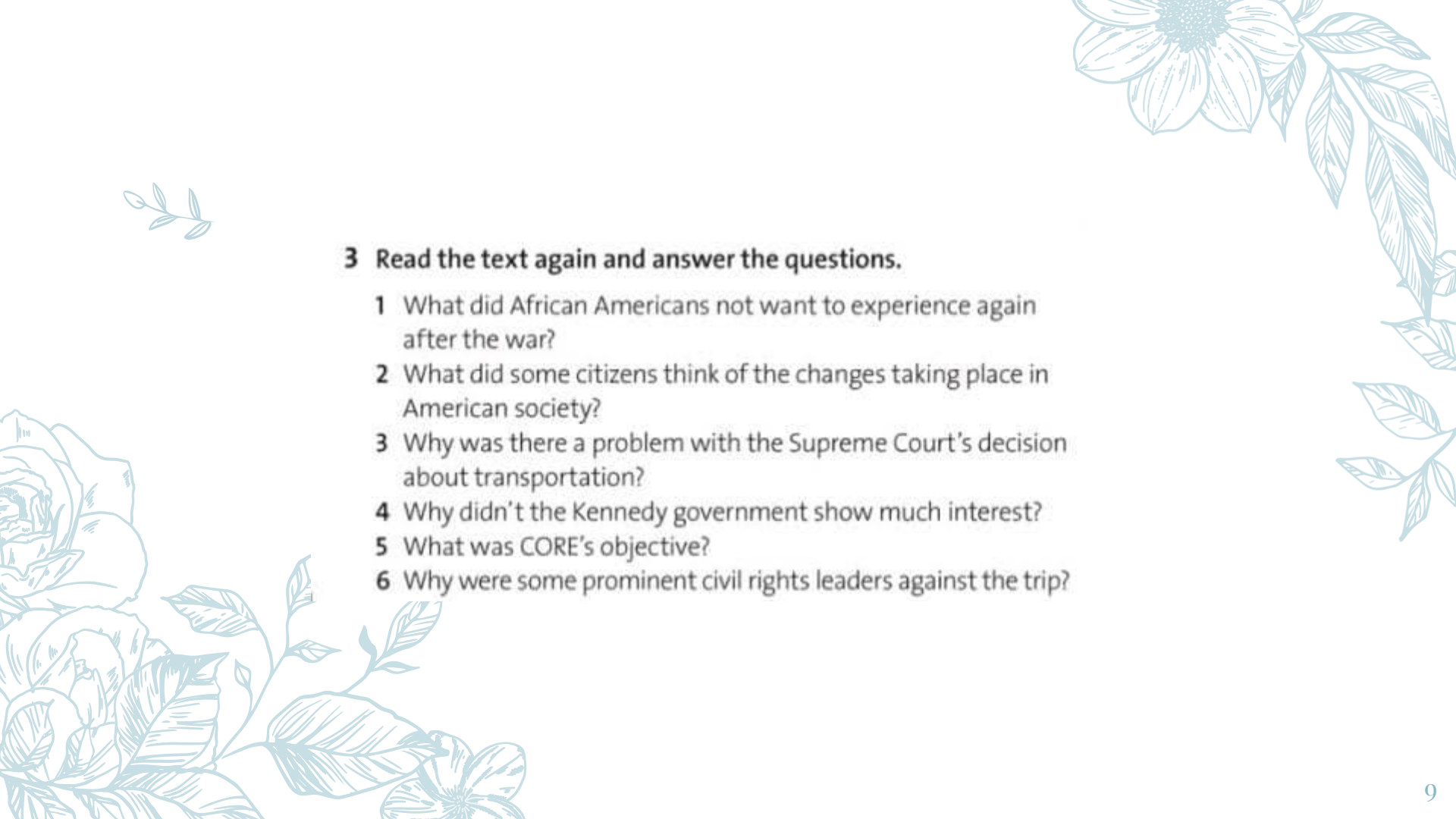
30 However, not everybody in the civil rights
movement thought the trip was a good
idea. Neither Martin Luther King nor
other prominent leaders thought that the
Freedom Riders, as they became known,
35 would arrive safely at their destination,
and told them to call it off. Despite these
warnings, on 4 May 1961, the thirteen
volunteers boarded two coaches with three
journalists and set off on a trip that would
40 become front page news around the world.

The page features decorative floral illustrations in the corners. In the top right, there is a large, detailed drawing of a flower with many petals and several leaves. In the bottom left, there is a cluster of flowers, including a large rose and a smaller five-petaled flower, with several leaves. In the top left, there is a small sprig with three leaves. In the bottom right, there is another sprig with several leaves.

or in other countries.

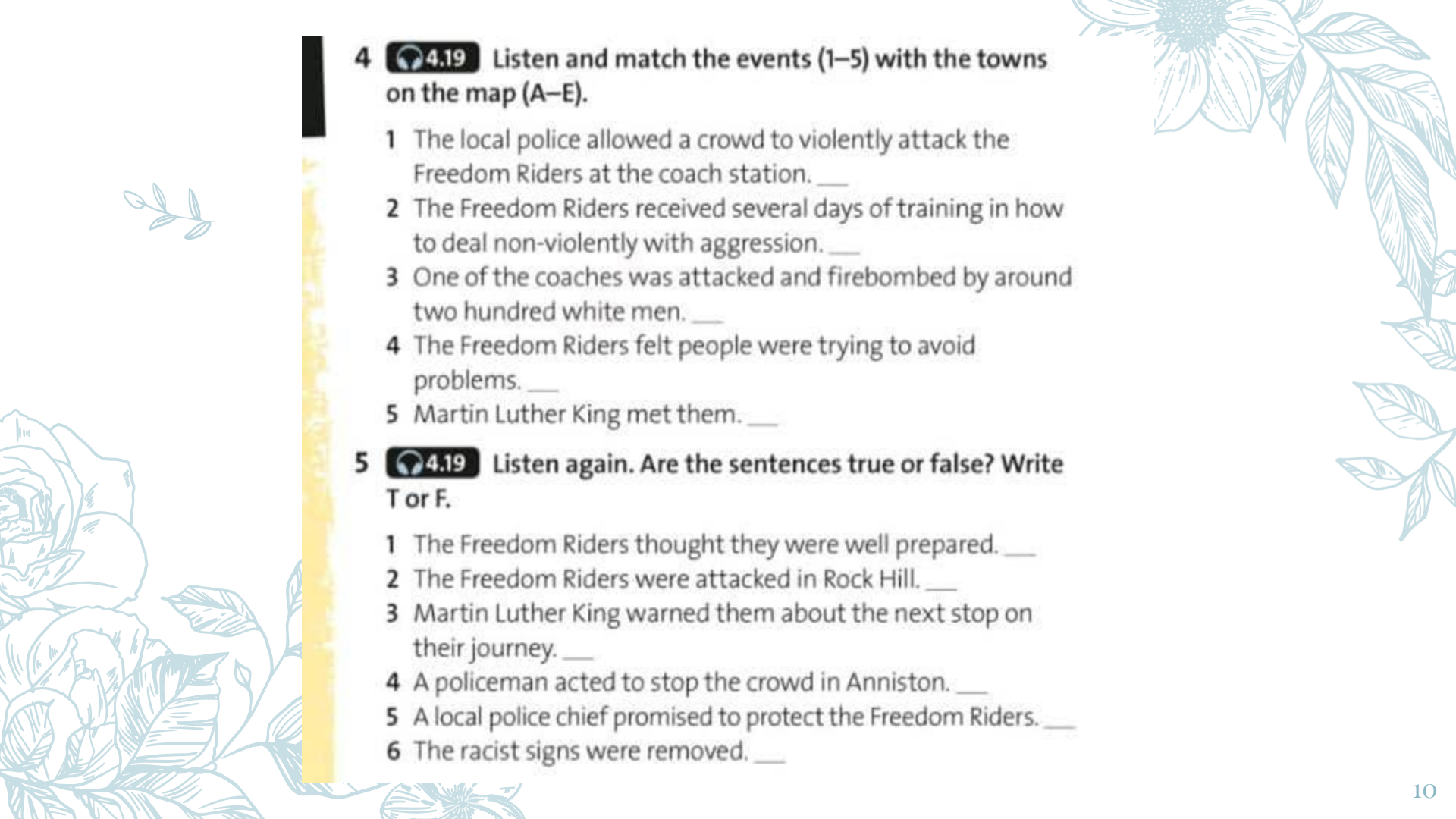
2 Read the text and say which things the Freedom Riders did.


- 1 The Freedom Riders broke the law.
- 2 They won the support of civil rights leaders.
- 3 They attracted a lot of media attention.




3 Read the text again and answer the questions.

- 1 What did African Americans not want to experience again after the war?
- 2 What did some citizens think of the changes taking place in American society?
- 3 Why was there a problem with the Supreme Court's decision about transportation?
- 4 Why didn't the Kennedy government show much interest?
- 5 What was CORE's objective?
- 6 Why were some prominent civil rights leaders against the trip?



4  **4.19** Listen and match the events (1–5) with the towns on the map (A–E).

- 1 The local police allowed a crowd to violently attack the Freedom Riders at the coach station. ___
- 2 The Freedom Riders received several days of training in how to deal non-violently with aggression. ___
- 3 One of the coaches was attacked and firebombed by around two hundred white men. ___
- 4 The Freedom Riders felt people were trying to avoid problems. ___
- 5 Martin Luther King met them. ___

5  **4.19** Listen again. Are the sentences true or false? Write T or F.

- 1 The Freedom Riders thought they were well prepared. ___
- 2 The Freedom Riders were attacked in Rock Hill. ___
- 3 Martin Luther King warned them about the next stop on their journey. ___
- 4 A policeman acted to stop the crowd in Anniston. ___
- 5 A local police chief promised to protect the Freedom Riders. ___
- 6 The racist signs were removed. ___



6 SPEAKING In pairs, discuss the questions about protest.

- 1 Do you think peaceful protests have any effect on governments? Why? / Why not?
- 2 Would you have joined the Freedom Riders or an organisation like it if you had suffered injustice? Why? / Why not?
- 3 Are there any circumstances when you think violent protest is justified? Can you give any examples?