

# 306: Continuing the Story & Venture

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## Before

Answer the following questions to start thinking about Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurship.

1. Have you ever thought about starting a business? Why or why not?
2. What is a problem in your community that you would like to address and solve?
3. Do you know anyone who has started their own business? What do you know about it?
4. Who is your favorite entrepreneur? How do you think they've impacted their community?
5. What challenges do you think people face when starting a business? Do you think that there are more barriers for female entrepreneurs?
6. How familiar are you with the Tulsa Race Massacre? Have you seen this in your history books?
7. How do you think racism affects the wealth gap between Black and White communities?

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## During

You're about to take the "Black Business Titans" lesson in *306: African American History* and the full *Venture* course. You'll learn about entrepreneurship. While you go through the courses, keep in mind the questions that you just answered.

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## After

Once you're finished with "Black Business Titans" lesson in *306: African American History* and the lessons in *Venture*, answer the following reflection questions.

1. After taking the lessons, do you think there are certain unique challenges that Black small business owners face when starting or growing their businesses?
2. Now that you've heard the stories of others in both courses, are you more interested in starting a business? Why or why not?
3. Based on the personal characteristics outlined in *Venture*, do you think you possess the skills and characteristics necessary to start your own business? Why or why not?
4. Utilizing the elevator pitch lesson you practiced in *Venture*, create a 30-second elevator pitch about a business idea that would improve your community.
5. What classes can you take in school to prepare you to be an entrepreneur?
6. Several Black business districts like the Greenwood District and Black Wall Street North Carolina were destroyed by violent, racist actions. What do you think is the generational, year over year impact on wealth in Black communities due to this history?
7. Do you see any successful Black entrepreneurs in your community? Please explain.