

# Murder case breakthroughs explained: NPR

## Description

Erik Menendez (left) us shown in 2016 and Lyle Menendez in 2018 in photos provided by the California Departm

Erik Menendez (left) is shown in 2016 and Lyle Menendez in 2018 in photos provided by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

#### California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation/AP

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California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation/AP

Over 30 years have passed since the Menendez brothers' murder trials, yet the case persists in capturing public attention. The notorious trials unfolded in 1994 and were globally broadcast, marking a sensational chapter in criminal history.

Now, propelled by social media, Netflix, and celebrity influence such as Kim Kardashian, the Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón declared a reassessment of the evidence, reigniting interest in the case.

Exploring a brief history of the Menendez brothers' conviction for their parents' murder in 1989, the text delves into the complex narrative of self-defense claims, abuse allegations, and the subsequent legal battles culminating in life sentences.

Lyle-Menendez (second from left) and his brother, Erik are flanked by their attorneys Gerald Chaleff (left) and R

Lyle Menendez (second from left) and his brother, Erik are flanked by their attorneys Gerald Chaleff (left) and Robert Shapiro, in Beverly Hills Municipal Court in 1990.

#### Nick Ut/AP

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Nick Ut/AP



# **Vocabulary List:**

- 1. Reassessment /,ri:ə'sɛs.mənt/ (noun): The act of appraising or evaluating something again.
- 2. Conviction /kən'vıkʃən/ (noun): A formal declaration that someone is guilty of a criminal offense.
- 3. Allegation /,æl.i'gei.jən/ (noun): A claim or assertion that someone has done something illegal or wrong typically made without proof.
- 4. **Sensational** /sɛn'seɪʃənl/ (adjective): Intended to provoke public interest or excitement especially at the expense of accuracy.
- 5. Culminating /'kʌlmə,neɪtɪŋ/ (verb): Reaching a climax or point of highest development.
- 6. Narrative /'nær.a.tɪv/ (noun): A spoken or written account of connected events; a story.

# **Comprehension Questions**

#### **Multiple Choice**

1. When did the Menendez brothers' murder trials take place?

Option: 1989 Option: 1990 Option: 1994 Option: 2000

2. What was the outcome of the Menendez brothers' legal battles?

Option: Acquitted Option: Life sentences Option: Probation Option: Death penalty

3. Who initiated a reassessment of the Menendez case evidence?

Option: Kim Kardashian Option: Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón Option: Netflix Option: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

4. What led to the resurgence of interest in the Menendez case? Option: Social media, Netflix, and celebrity influence



Option: International politics Option: Historical significance Option: Economic impact

- 5. In which year were the Menendez brothers convicted for their parents' murder?
  - Option: 1985 Option: 1987 Option: 1989 Option: 1991

6. Where were the Menendez brothers photographed in 2016 and 2018?

Option: California State University Option: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Option: Beverly Hills Option: Los Angeles County Courthouse

#### **True-False**

7. The Menendez brothers were acquitted of their parents' murder.

- 8. Kim Kardashian played a role in reigniting interest in the Menendez case.
- 9. The Menendez case trials were broadcast globally.

10. The reassessment of evidence in the Menendez case was declared by California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

11. The Menendez brothers claimed self-defense in their parents' murder.

12. The Menendez brothers were sentenced to probation.

#### Gap-Fill

13. The Menendez brothers were convicted for their parents' murder in

14. The Los Angeles County District Attorney who declared a reassessment of evidence in the Menendez

case is George \_\_\_\_\_.



Corrections and Rehabilitation.

## Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 1994 2. Life sentences 3. Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón 4. Social media, Netflix, and celebrity influence 5. 1989 6. California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation **True-False:** 7. False 8. True 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. False **Gap-Fill:** 13. 1989 14. Gascón 15. celebrity 16. 1994 17. abuse 18. California

# Vocabulary quizzes

#### Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which term refers to a formal discussion on a specific topic?

Option: Lingering Option: Intercession Option: Discourse Option: Flirtatious

2. What medical treatment involves the use of drugs to destroy cancer cells?

Option: Surgery Option: Immerision Option: Chemotherapy Option: Receptionist

3. Which term signifies the obligation to accept responsibility for one's actions?

Option: Toxic Option: Contentious Option: Accountability



**Option: Emotional** 

4. Which term refers to the quality of being important or having meaning?

Option: Systemic Option: Encourage Option: Significance Option: Allegation

5. What process involves taking another look at something for evaluation or judgment?

Option: Victim Option: Reassessment Option: Conviction Option: Sensational

6. Which term describes the act of passing judgment or disapproval about someone or something?

Option: Flirtatious Option: Criticism Option: Compendium Option: Immersion

7. Which term signifies something that is tempting or desirable for its allure?

Option: Surgery Option: Tantalizing Option: Narrative Option: Allegation

- 8. Which term describes something that is related to an entire system?
  - Option: Intercession Option: Systemic Option: Culminating Option: Immersion

9. Which term refers to a claim or assertion that someone has done something wrong or illegal typically without proof?

Option: Toxic Option: Emotional Option: Allegation Option: Victim

10. Which term describes something harmful unpleasant or destructive?

Option: Treatment Option: Culminating Option: Toxic



Option: Accountability

### Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

	e	vent of the year bringing together top artists from
around the world.		
15. His	behavior towards t	he waitress made his wife uncomfortable.
16. In a professional setting $\_$	ESLIT	_ is critical to maintaining trust and credibility.
17. The meeting became		as members argued over the proposed changes.
18. Language students often benefit from		in a culture where the language is
spoken.		
19. The attorney argued that his client was a of circumstance not a will		of circumstance not a willing
participant.		
20. The patient needed immediate		to remove the tumor and prevent further
complications.		
Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )		

21. The historical artefact held great giving insight into ancient civilizations.



22. The company implemented a approach to address internal issues at all levels.

23. Living with a local family allowed for complete cultural transforming the study abroad experience.

24. Despite the apology there was a feeling of resentment among the team members.

25. The negative work environment created a atmosphere leading to high turnover.

26. She felt like a of the unfair treatment struggling to find justice.

27. The media reported the scandal but did not provide concrete evidence; it was merely an at that point.

28. The coach always sought to his players pushing them to achieve their fullest potential.

29. The book served as a of essays on various topics making it a valuable resource for students.

30. She faced harsh for her unconventional methods but she stood by her decisions.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Discourse 2. Chemotherapy 3. Accountability 4. Significance 5. Reassessment 6. Criticism 7. Tantalizing 8. Systemic 9. Allegation 10. Toxic

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Intercession 12. Narrative 13. Emotional 14. Culminating 15. Flirtatious 16. Accountability 17. Contentious 18. Immersion 19. Victim 20. Surgery

**Matching sentence:** 1. Significance 2. Systemic 3. Immersion 4. Lingering 5. Toxic 6. Victim 7. Allegation 8. Encourage 9. Compendium 10. Criticism

#### CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

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