

This handout belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_



# Apartheid in South Africa, 1948 - 1994

## Activity 1

Match the words to the definitions on the right:

**APARTHEID**

A peaceful demonstration which ended in the death of 67 black South Africans shot by the police

**ANC**

A system of separating different racial groups

**NELSON  
MANDELA**

One of the leaders of the ANC and President of South Africa from 1994 – 1999

**AFRIKANER**

People who were classified as mixed race

**COLOURED**

Territory set aside for black inhabitants of South Africa and South-West Africa (now Namibia), as part of the policy of apartheid

**DR DANIEL  
MALAN**

The African National Congress, established in 1912 in Bloemfontein to increase the rights of the black South African population.

**NATIONAL  
PARTY**

The Pan Africanist Congress, a South African liberation movement, now a minor political party. Founded in 1959

**SHARPEVILLE**

The Party that introduced Apartheid after 1948

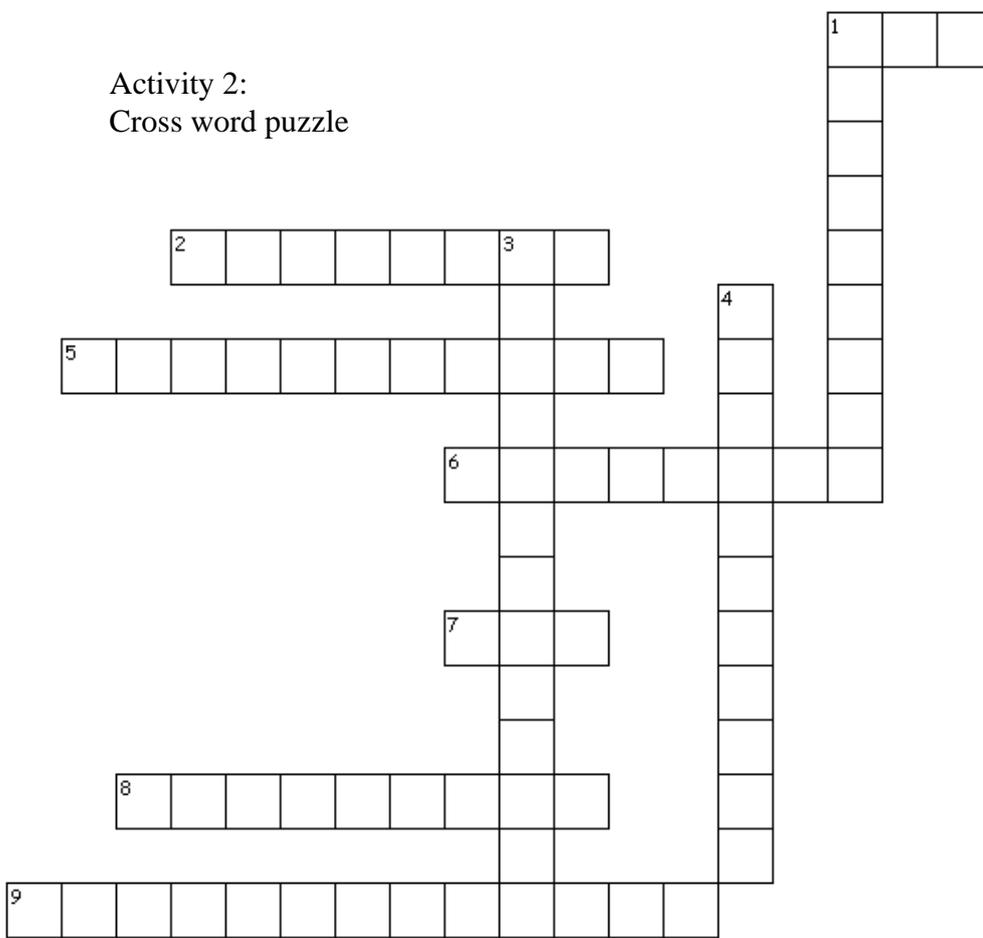
**PAC**

The Prime Minister in 1948 who introduced Apartheid

**HOMELAND**

White South Africans who were originally from Holland

Activity 2:  
Cross word puzzle



**Across**

1. The African National Congress, established in 1912 in Bloemfontein to increase the rights of the black South African population.
2. territory set aside for black inhabitants of South Africa and South-West Africa (now Namibia), as part of the policy of apartheid
5. The Prime Minister in 1948 who introduced Apartheid
6. People who were classified as mixed race
7. The Pan Africanist Congress, a South African

- liberation movement, now a minor political party. Founded in 1959
8. White South Africans who were originally from Holland
  9. The Party that introduced Apartheid after 1948

**Down**

1. A system of separating different racial groups
3. One of the leaders of the ANC and President of South Africa from 1994 – 1999
4. A peaceful demonstration which ended in the death of 67 black South Africans shot by the police

## South Africa

For 15 years, South Africa has had a multi-racial government, in stark contrast to its apartheid past.

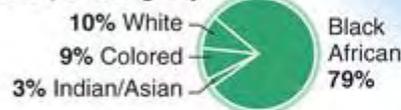
**Population**

49 million (2009 est.)

**Economy**

GDP per person, \$10,000 (2008 est.)

**Racial, ethnic groups**



**Political history**

**1912** African National Congress (ANC) forms to resist racial policies of white colonists

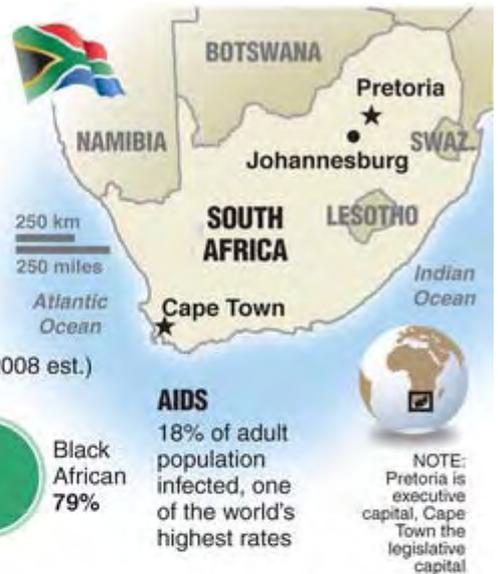
**1948** Nationalist party elected; enacts apartheid, or legal racial segregation; millions forced to resettle in townships

**1960** State of emergency, ANC declared illegal; detentions without trial allowed

**1962** U.N. calls for economic sanctions against South Africa

**1964** Nelson Mandela, other ANC leaders sentenced to life in prison for sabotage

**1970s** Repression, violence, resistance movements increase



**AIDS**

18% of adult population infected, one of the world's highest rates

NOTE: Pretoria is executive capital, Cape Town the legislative capital

**1990** Opposition groups unbanned, Mandela released

**1994** Mandela wins presidency in first democratic election

**1995** Truth and Reconciliation Commission investigates abuses under apartheid

**1999** Thabo Mbeki elected president; re-elected in 2004

**2007** Jacob Zuma elected ANC leader, charged with corruption

**2008** Mbeki resigns after alleged interference in Zuma's case

**2009** Zuma's legal case settled weeks before national elections

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NOTE: Figures do not total 100% due to rounding

Source: CIA World Factbook, BBC, ESRI, southafrica.info

Graphic: Judy Treible

### Activity 3

Read the text and answer the questions in your workbook.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

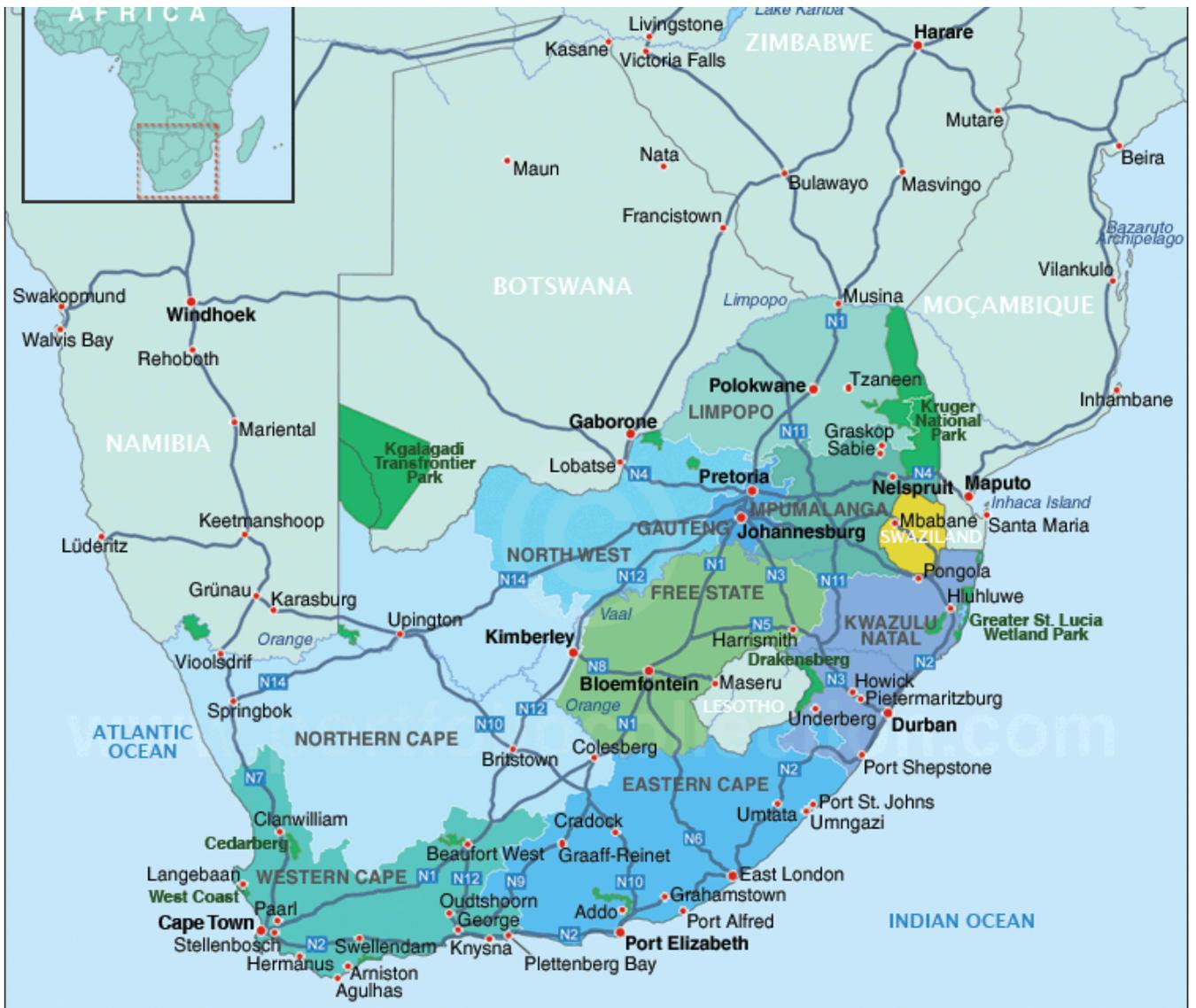
Date \_\_\_\_\_



# The History of Apartheid in South Africa



South Africa is a country blessed with an abundance of natural resources including fertile farmlands and unique mineral resources. South African mines are world leaders in the production of diamonds and gold as well as strategic metals such as platinum. The climate is mild, reportedly resembling the Byron Bay area weather..



South Africa was colonized by the English and Dutch in the seventeenth century. English domination of the Dutch descendents (known as Boers or Afrikaners) resulted in the Dutch establishing the new colonies of Orange Free State and Transvaal. The discovery of diamonds in these lands around 1900 resulted in an English invasion which sparked the Boer War. Following independence from England, an uneasy power-sharing between the two groups held sway until the 1940's, when the Afrikaner National Party was able to gain a strong majority. Strategists in the National Party invented apartheid as a means to cement their control over the economic and social system. Initially, aim of the apartheid was to maintain white domination while extending racial separation. Starting in the 60's, a plan of "Grand Apartheid" was executed, emphasizing territorial separation and police repression.

With the enactment of apartheid laws in 1948, racial discrimination was institutionalized. Race laws touched every aspect of social life, including a prohibition of marriage between non-whites and whites, and the sanctioning of "white-only" jobs. In 1950, the Population Registration Act required that all South Africans be racially classified into one of three



categories: white, black (African), or coloured (of mixed decent). The coloured category included major subgroups of Indians and Asians. Classification into these categories was based on appearance, social acceptance, and descent. For example, a white person was defined as "in appearance obviously a white person or generally accepted as a white person."

A person could not be considered white if one of his or her parents were non-white. The determination that a person was "obviously white" would take into account "his habits, education, and speech and deportment and demeanour."

A black person would be accepted as a member of an African tribe or race, and a colored person is one that is not black or white. The Department of Home Affairs (a government bureau) was responsible for the classification of the citizenry.

Non-compliance with the race laws were dealt with harshly. All blacks were required to carry "pass books" containing fingerprints, photo and information on access to non-black areas.

In 1951, the Bantu Authorities Act established a basis for ethnic government in African reserves, known as "homelands." These homelands were independent states to which each African was assigned by the government according to the record of origin (which was frequently inaccurate). All political rights, including voting, held by an African were restricted to the designated homeland. The idea was that they would be citizens of the homeland, losing their citizenship in South Africa and any right of involvement with the South African Parliament which held complete hegemony (= complete control) over the homelands.



From 1976 to 1981, four of these homelands were created, denationalizing nine million South Africans. The homeland administrations refused the nominal independence, maintaining pressure for political rights within the country as a whole. Nevertheless, Africans living in the homelands needed passports to enter South Africa: aliens in their own country.

In 1953, the Public Safety Act and the Criminal Law Amendment Act were passed, which empowered the government to declare stringent states of emergency and increased penalties for protesting against or supporting the repeal of a law. The penalties included fines,



imprisonment and whippings. In 1960, a large group of blacks in Sharpeville refused to carry their passes; the government declared a state of emergency. The emergency lasted for 156 days, leaving 69 people dead and 187 people wounded. Wielding the Public Safety Act

and the Criminal Law Amendment Act, the white regime had no intention of changing the unjust laws of apartheid.

The penalties imposed on political protest, even non-violent protest, were severe. During the states of emergency which continued intermittently (= on again off again) until 1989, anyone could be detained without a hearing by a low-level police official for up to six months. Thousands of individuals died in custody, frequently after gruesome acts of torture. Those who were tried were sentenced to death, banished, or imprisoned for life, like **Nelson Mandela**.



The apartheid policy was highly effective of achieving its goal of preferential treatment for whites, as is demonstrated by the statistics in Figure 1.

Apartheid and the People of South Africa		
	<i>Blacks</i>	<i>Whites</i>
Population	19 million	4.5 million
Land Allocation	13 percent	87 percent
Share of National Income	< 20 percent	75 percent
Ratio of average earnings	1	14
Minimum taxable income	360 rands	750 rands
Doctors/population	1/44,000	1/400
Infant mortality rate	20% (urban) 40% (rural)	2.7%
Annual expenditure on education per pupil	\$45	\$696
Teacher/pupil ratio	1/60	1/22

Figure 1: Disproportionate Treatment circa 1978. Source: [Leo80]

## The History of Apartheid, Questions

Use the text to answer the questions below. Make sure you include the question in your answer. So you write: "The xxx first colonized South Africa in xxxx." Do not write single word answers.

1. Who colonized the South African people? When?
2. Which discovery sparked a war between Dutch settlers (Boers/Afrikaners) and the invading English?
3. What was the initial aim (goal) of apartheid?
4. When was apartheid first enacted?
5. Describe two race laws that were enacted after apartheid was institutionalized.
6. Describe the three classifications of South African citizens.
7. What were "homelands?" Who were placed in them? Why?
8. When were States of Emergency used? What was the result in 1960?
9. Up until 1989 (nearing the end of apartheid), what happened to those who protested the apartheid system?
10. What are some statistics that demonstrate preferential treatment of whites in South Africa during apartheid?
11. What do you think happened to the apartheid system?

Source: Based on a worksheet by T. Driscoll, Tourtellotte Memorial High School.  
driscoll-class.wikispaces.com/file/view/South+Africa+History+Apartheid.doc

# Nelson Mandela

WORKSHEET A

On 10<sup>th</sup> May 1994 Nelson Mandela became the first black president of South Africa. Mandela's political party, the African National Congress (ANC), had just won the country's first ever democratic elections. The minority white population had held power for the previous 300 years, and from 1948 to the early 1990s the country had lived under a system of *apartheid* (meaning "separateness" in Afrikaans, one of the languages spoken in South Africa) which forced blacks and whites to live in separate areas, study in separate schools, and use separate public services (everything from hospitals to public transport).

Mandela, who called *apartheid* a "human disaster", wanted the different races to live together as equals in South Africa. After the 1994 elections he said: "Never, never again will this beautiful land experience the oppression of one by another".

Mandela knew a lot about oppression, because in 1964 the government had sentenced him to life in prison for his political work in the ANC, which at the time was an illegal organization.

During his trial in the city of Pretoria, Mandela told the court that he hoped South Africa would one day become "a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities".

The world did not forget about Mandela while he was in prison: many governments and other organizations put pressure on the South African government to set him free and end *apartheid*. Finally, in 1990, the government released Mandela from prison and began to talk to the ANC about creating a democracy for the country.

Mandela was president of South Africa until 1999, when he decided to retire from political life. He is still very busy, however: even at the age of 87 he travels around the world to meet important politicians and give speeches. He is one of the most admired public figures in the world, and people always want to hear what he has to say.

## Nelson Mandela

WORKSHEET B

Many South Africans refer to Nelson Mandela as 'Mkhulu', a word from the Xhosa language. Fill the gaps below to complete the crossword and reveal the meaning of 'Mkhulu'.

1. Nelson Mandela still travels around the world to \_\_\_\_\_ speeches.
2. He went to \_\_\_\_\_ in 1964.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the South African languages.
4. Mandela wanted all South Africans to live together in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. He thought *apartheid* was a \_\_\_\_\_ for the people of South Africa.
6. He was South Africa's \_\_\_\_\_ black president.
7. Under *apartheid*, people of different races lived mostly \_\_\_\_\_ lives.
8. Mandela was put on trial in a \_\_\_\_\_ in Pretoria.
9. Under *apartheid*, people of different races could not go to the same \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The government \_\_\_\_\_ Mandela from prison in 1990.
11. South Africa is now a \_\_\_\_\_.

