

Name: _____

Date: _____

Apartheid

The British granted South Africa independence in 1910, but gave power only to white people. In 1948, the National Party gained office in an election where only white people were allowed to vote. The party began a policy of racial segregation known as apartheid, which means “apartness.”

The Population Registration Act classified the people as Bantu (black Africans), coloured (people of mixed race), white (the descendants of the Boers and the British), and Asian (Indian and Pakistani immigrants).

The Group Areas Act established separate sections for each race. Members of other races were forbidden to live, work, or own land in areas belonging to other races. Pass Laws required non-whites to carry a “pass” to prove they had permission to travel in white areas.

The Bantu Homelands Citizenship Act created several small “nations” within South Africa for black South Africans. All black South Africans, regardless of where they lived, were made citizens of the homelands and thus were excluded from participating in the governing of South Africa.

Other South African laws forbade most social contacts between races, authorized segregated public facilities, established separate school systems with lower standards for non-whites, and restricted each race to certain jobs.

More than eighty percent of South Africa’s land was set aside for its white residents, despite the fact that they comprised less than ten percent of the population. South Africa’s black majority had resisted apartheid for many years. They began rioting in 1976, when the South African government tried to force black children in the Soweto township to learn Afrikaans, one of the languages of the white minority. The rioting continued for the next fourteen years until the apartheid laws were repealed.

The world community made South Africa a pariah because of its racial policies. The nation was forced to leave the Commonwealth, an alliance of former British colonies, in 1961. In 1985, both the United Kingdom and the United States imposed restrictions on trade.

White South Africans yielded to world pressure and domestic violence in 1990 by repealing most of the apartheid laws. Three years later, a new constitution gave people of all races the right to vote. The following year South Africans elected Nelson Mandela, a black man who had been imprisoned for twenty-seven years



Answer in Complete Sentences

*1. Why do you think the British did not grant the same rights to all races when they granted independence to South Africa in 1910?

2. What was apartheid?

*3. How the South African government use the Bantu Homelands Citizenship Act to deny voting rights to the Bantus?

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Fill in the Blanks

The British granted i_____ to the *B_____ of S_____
A_____ in 19____, but life remained unchanged for the indigenous *B_____ people of the
new nation. Thirty-eight years after the B_____ left S_____, A_____, the white
*m_n_r_t_ government began a r_____ policy of s_____ known as
a_____.

The people of S_____ A_____ were classified into four racial groups during the
a_____ era. The largest group were the B_____. Next came the mixed race
c_____ people. The smallest group controlled South Africa's government. They were the
w_____ descendants of the *E_r_p_a_s. A fourth group, A_____, was later added in
order to codify discrimination against I_____ and P_____ immigrants in
South Africa.

Apartheid forced South Africans into separate racial sections and forbade people of different races from
l_____ together, or o_____ land in areas belonging to other races. Non-whites were not
allowed in w_____ areas without a pass. Eventually, South Africa created several small
"n_____" within South Africa. All b_____ South Africans were assigned to a
h_____ regardless of where they l_____. Since the black people were
r_____ of the newly created homelands, they were not *c_____ of South
Africa, so the w_____ leaders of South Africa argued they did not have the right to *v_____ in
S_____ A_____ elections. A_____ laws in South Africa forbade most
s_____ contacts between the r_____, segregated p_____ facilities, established
separate s_____ systems, and r_____ each r_____ to certain j_____.

Black South Africans began to rise up against a_____ in 1976, when the government
attempted to force c_____ in the village of S_____ to learn A_____.
Black r_s_s_a_c_ and i_____ condemnation forced S_____
A_____ to r_____ most of the a_____ laws beginning in 1990. Four years
later, all of the citizens of S_____ A_____ selected a former political prisoner named Nelson
M_____ as their president.

Answer in Complete Sentences

4. Why did the Bantus of South African riot in 1976?

5. What two factors led to the repeal of apartheid laws in South Africa?

*This is a higher order learning question. Any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.

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