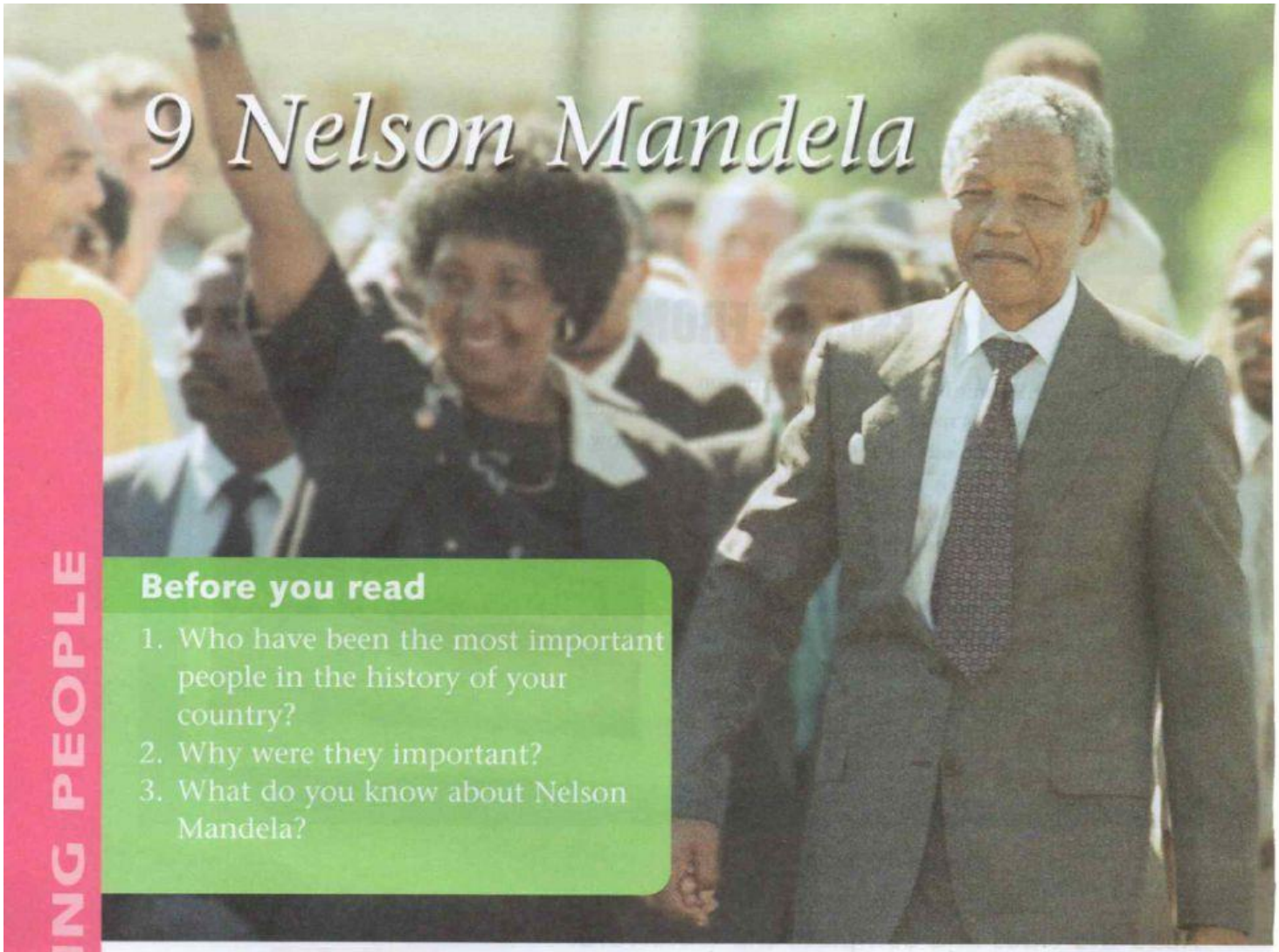
9 Nelson Mandela



Before you read

1. Who have been the most important people in the history of your country?
2. Why were they important?
3. What do you know about Nelson Mandela?

Reading

1 Very few people can say that they have changed the world, or even one country. However, for over sixty-five years, Nelson Mandela has fought to bring justice and peace to South Africa. During his struggle against apartheid in South Africa, he started as a lawyer, became a prisoner and finally became president. In the end, Mandela won freedom for himself and all South Africans.

2 Only 20 per cent of South Africans are white, but by the middle of the twentieth century they owned almost 90 per cent of the land. In 1948 the government started apartheid, which means 'separateness'. With apartheid, African, Indian and Asian South Africans were discriminated against, while whites had many privileges. Only white South Africans could live in certain areas, have certain jobs and vote. Apartheid was very unfair, but people who protested against it were often sent to prison or murdered.

3 Nelson Mandela was born on 18 July 1918, in Transkei, South Africa. When he was twenty-one he went to university to become a lawyer. He soon became involved in the struggle to make things better for black people. Later he became involved in protests against apartheid. In 1962 he was sent to prison, where he remained for twenty-seven years. He became a symbol of freedom for millions of people around the world. He continued his fight from prison until he was released at the beginning of 1990. In 1994 he became president of South Africa and began working for a better relationship between all of South Africa's different races. In 1999 Mandela gave up his job as president to enjoy the freedom he had fought so hard for.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary

A. Complete each sentence with the correct word or phrase.

privileges symbol protests released discriminate against

1. Thousands of people joined in _____ against the government. The people filled the streets, and many police were there to control them.
2. Because my brother is older than me, he has many _____. He is allowed to stay out later than me, drive my father's car, and he has a TV in his bedroom!
3. In many countries it is against the law to _____ someone because of their colour or religion. Everybody must be treated equally.
4. The heart shape is often used as a _____ of love.
5. I opened the cage and _____ the bird. It flew up into the sky.

B. Choose the correct word or phrase with the same meaning as the blue words in each sentence.

being able to live and behave as you want fight fairness
say who you think should be in the government
cultural and national backgrounds

1. In some countries you cannot vote until you are twenty-one.
2. It was a hard struggle, but in the end my team won the football match.
3. Justice is important in society. Everybody should have an equal chance to do what they want to do.
4. People from many races live in the USA. There are people from Asia and Africa as well as Europe and South America.
5. Mike's children have a lot of freedom. They are often allowed to stay out late.

In other words

A. What is the main purpose of the passage? Circle 1, 2 or 3.

1. To describe the different races of South Africa.
2. To explain how Nelson Mandela helped to change South Africa.
3. To describe land ownership in South Africa.

B. Match each heading to the correct paragraph in the passage.

1. Paragraph ___ Nelson Mandela's life.
2. Paragraph ___ People can change the world.
3. Paragraph ___ Apartheid in South Africa.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

General understanding

Circle T for true or F for false for each of the following statements.

1. Many people have changed the world. T / F
2. Apartheid in South Africa was good for a small number of people. T / F
3. Apartheid discriminated against Indian people in South Africa. T / F
4. Nelson Mandela was unknown outside South Africa until he came out of prison. T / F

In detail

Write short answers to the following questions.

1. What job did Mandela have before he was sent to prison?
   _____
2. What does 'apartheid' mean? _____
3. What often happened to people who protested against apartheid?
   _____
4. Where was Nelson Mandela born? _____
5. Why did Mandela give up his job as president? _____

In focus

Match each figure on the left to the correct fact on the right.

20	the percentage of land owned by white South Africans during apartheid
90	the percentage of South Africa's population who are white
1918	the year Nelson Mandela was born
27	the year Nelson Mandela became president of South Africa
1994	(years) the length of time Nelson Mandela was in prison

Discussion

Discuss the following questions with a partner or in a group.

1. Which famous people do you admire? Why?
2. Why is Nelson Mandela such an important figure in the world?
3. If you met Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him?
4. What lessons can we learn from Nelson Mandela's life?
5. What do you know about South Africa today?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Taking you further

THE NOBEL PRIZE

The Nobel Prize is an international prize given out annually for achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, economics and peace. Nelson Mandela and F. W. de Klerk were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 for their work towards the peaceful end of apartheid in South Africa.



Here are some descriptions of other famous Nobel Peace Prize winners. Match each description to the correct person or people in the box below.

1. This person won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for working in a non-violent way to end discrimination and violence against black people in the southern United States.

2. This person was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for working to overcome poverty and suffering in India.

3. In 1991 the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to this person in recognition of her non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights in Myanmar.

4. These people were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize jointly in 1994 for their efforts to create peace in the Middle East.

5. In 2000 this person was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for working to promote democracy and human rights in South Korea and East Asia in general, and for working towards peace with North Korea.

Kim Dae-jung Martin Luther King Jr Mother Teresa
Yasir Arafat, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin Aung San Suu Kyi

LIVEWORKSHEETS