



## Human Rights Day

Listening and reading comprehension

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Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world, from birth until death. They apply regardless of where you are from, what you believe or how you choose to live your life.

### Human Rights Day, 21 March

The holiday commemorates the establishment of the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC). This commission was launched on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1996, exactly 35 years after the events of 21<sup>st</sup> March 1960 when anti-apartheid demonstrators in Sharpeville were gunned down by police.

When South Africa held its first democratic election, with Nelson Mandela elected as its first democratic President, 21 March, Human Rights Day was officially proclaimed a public holiday.

1. When is Human Rights Day in South Africa?

2. When was Humans Right Day first made an official holiday?
3. Who was the first democratic president in South Africa.?
4. What does SAHRC stand for?