

Comprehension 1

Shirley Chisholm (Part 1)

Do you know that the first woman who made a bid to become President of the United States of America was a woman of Barbadian descent? Yes, this extremely strong woman, Shirley Chisholm, was born in Brooklyn, New York to a Barbadian mother, Ruby Seale, and a Guyanese father, Charles St. Hill.

Shirley's parents had migrated from the Caribbean to the United States of America in search of a better life. However, they were finding it difficult to take proper care of Shirley and her two sisters and still keep up with the strenuous demands of their jobs. Not wanting the girls to suffer, Ruby and Charles decided to send them "home" to Barbados.

Consequently, Shirley and her sisters were sent to Barbados to live with their maternal grandmother, Emaline Seale. Once in Barbados, they resided on their grandmother's small farm in the peaceful rural village of Vauxhall, in the parish of Christ Church.

Shirley stayed with her grandmother for five years . During that time she attended a one-room schoolhouse where she received a strict, traditional Barbadian education.

Years later, she would credit this education coupled with the loving upbringing she got from Granny for making her a very successful person.

1) From which country did Shirley's father come? _____

2) Which words in paragraph one may be replaced by the word "tried"?

3) Why had Shirley's parents migrated to America? _____

4) Write a word or phrase that shows that Shirley's parents worked hard. _____

5) How do we know, according to paragraph two, that Ruby and Charles cared very much about their children? _____

6) State ONE thing that was responsible for Shirley Chisholm's success in life? _____

7) How do we know that Shirley lived with her mother's mother and not her father's mother? _____

8) How do we know that Shirley did not live in a busy town or city? _____

9) Which word in the passage means "because of this"? _____

10) How do we know that Shirley Chisholm appreciated the education which she received in Barbados? _____
