MADIBA: LESSONS ON THE LIFE OF NELSON MANDELA

History, Civics & Language Arts Lessons
Grades 7–12

Welcome, Teachers:

This Madiba four-lesson unit helps students understand the character and actions of Nelson Mandela and others to end apartheid and establish a more equal and just society in South Africa. Students will also compare the anti-apartheid resistance movement with the civil rights movement in the United States.

Time: The four lessons can be completed individually in short 20-minute segments or as part of a complete unit.

Materials:

• Student Informational Text: “Madiba: Nelson Mandela’s Quest to End Apartheid” reproducible
• Student Discussion Page reproducible


Lesson Steps:

The four lessons (outlined further below) involve discussion activities based on the reading of the student informational text.

These discussion activities can be done in one period split among small groups, or with the whole class in separate class periods. For each lesson:

1. Have students read the article “Madiba: Nelson Mandela’s Quest to End Apartheid” (more than once if necessary).

2. Divide the class into small groups of two to three students and have them discuss the questions relating to each lesson theme. Distribute the Student Discussion Page reproducible, which has discussion questions for each lesson theme. You can also choose to divide the themes among the groups and have them answer one lesson’s questions.

3. Provide time for student discussion and answer any questions students have.

4. Bring the class together and have each group report their findings.

5. Complete additional Critical-Thinking Questions, Paired-Writing Activities, and Extension Activities with students. See below.

Lesson 1: Perseverance and Resilience

This lesson examines the apartheid policy in South Africa and the resistance movement against it. After reading the article, students will discuss questions relating to South Africa’s apartheid policy and the actions of the African National Congress (ANC). The class will explore key events as well as Nelson Mandela’s determined spirit against apartheid even while in prison.

Discussion Questions for Lesson 1 (these are also included in the Student Discussion Page reproducible):

• Describe the policy of apartheid and the impact it had on black South Africans.

• What similarities do you see between South African apartheid and racial segregation in the United States?
• After the massacre at Sharpeville, the ANC changed its strategy against apartheid. What do you think of this change in strategy and do you feel the ANC had no choice? Why, or why not?

• Identify ways Nelson Mandela showed resilience and perseverance in his struggle against apartheid while in prison.

Lesson 2: Collaboration and Alliance

This lesson explores how Nelson Mandela and members of the ANC collaborated with other groups to end apartheid. The contributions of other figures in the anti-apartheid movement are also examined. The power of collaboration is explored as students analyze Nelson Mandela’s policies to bring the country together after his election as president.

Discussion Questions for Lesson 2 (these are also included in the Student Discussion Page reproducible):

• Identify some of the costs and benefits of collaborating with other groups toward a common goal. Which is better, collaboration or going it alone, and why?

• Provide examples of how Nelson Mandela collaborated with different individuals and groups who also experienced the oppression of apartheid.

• Nelson Mandela understood the power of collaborating, even with his rivals. Discuss how Mandela was able to collaborate with then-president F. W. de Klerk to arrive at a mutually agreed-upon solution to end apartheid.

• Describe the outcome of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. How did it help South African blacks and whites come to terms with their history and find ways to get along?

Lesson 3: Qualities of Effective Leadership

In this lesson students will examine the leadership qualities of Nelson Mandela. They will identify ways Mandela displayed leadership in his efforts to end apartheid.

Discussion Questions for Lesson 3 (these are also included in the Student Discussion Page reproducible):

• Brainstorm five qualities that make a good leader. Explain why these qualities are important.

• Review the student article and list examples of how Nelson Mandela acted as a leader during the following times: while in the ANC, during his trial, while in prison, and as president of South Africa. Describe how the actions he took were effective at the time, later on, or not at all.

• Would any of these lessons in leadership be helpful to you in your life? Explain how.

Lesson 4: Civil Rights in South Africa and the United States

This lesson presents a different activity format in that students will read an additional brief description of the civil rights movement in the United States and compare that with what they’ve learned about the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. They will examine the two countries’ histories, their leaders, strategies, and successes and failures.

The additional description of the U.S civil rights movement is located in the Student Discussion Page along with discussion questions for Lesson 4.
Critical-Thinking Questions for Lessons 1–4:

How did apartheid in South Africa and racial segregation in the United States negatively affect the educational, social, and political development of blacks in these countries? (Both policies took away basic human rights. Both policies were set up to make the targeted people feel different and less worthy.)

How does adopting a practice of collaboration, even with one’s enemies, as Nelson Mandela did, help provide advantages when taking on difficult or challenging tasks? (Collaboration brings more people to the process to contribute their ideas and talents. Finding the areas where you and your adversaries have common interests can open up opportunities to collaborate to resolve issues and make the negotiation or resolution of more challenging topics less difficult.)

Explore one of Nelson Mandela’s leadership qualities and discuss its costs and benefits. Which is your favorite and why? Have you ever used any of Mandela’s leadership qualities in your own life? Explain with examples. (Answers will vary.)

Paired-Writing Activities for Lessons 1–4:

• After completing one or more of the four lessons, have students write down a question or two that they had about the lessons or discussion. Have them trade their questions with another student and have them write answers to their partner’s questions. Then return the answered questions. After students review their answered questions, ask for a sampling of questions and answers in a full group discussion.

• Have students examine the question, Was Nelson Mandela a freedom fighter or a traitor? Organize them into pairs and have each student take one or the other view. Ask them to list quick statements that support the view they’ve been assigned. Then have them exchange lists and write a paragraph answering the question using the other student’s notes. Have them trade back their essay paragraphs and discuss.

Extension Activities for Lessons 1–4:

• Have students build an interactive timeline of South Africa’s struggle to end apartheid and establish a full democracy from 1900 to 1999. Students should research major events that occurred during this time period. They can use examples from timelines they find online or at the library. Have students create digital slides asking Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How to guide their research. They can also include images and videos in their production. Students can present these as blog posts or podcasts.

• Have students create a political cartoon presentation comparing South African apartheid and segregation in the United States. In their analyses, they should: describe the event or issue depicted in the cartoon; deconstruct each cartoon by explaining the use of labels, symbols, and caricatures they represent; and explain the cartoon’s message. Students may choose to give their presentation on a poster, PowerPoint slide show, or in digital media.

Additional Resources:

• Nelson Mandela’s Centre of Memory — www.nelsonmandela.org
A Historic Election

On April 27, 1994, for the first time in South African history, voters of all races were allowed to cast ballots in the nation’s first fully democratic vote. In this landmark election, Nelson Mandela was elected the country’s first black president. This historic milestone was a fitting tribute to Mandela, who had helped drive the decades-long campaign to end apartheid, the system of racial segregation that had defined South African life since the 17th century.

Apartheid (literally meaning “separateness”) was similar to racial segregation in the United States. The white population controlled...
every part of government and society, while nonwhites were banned from voting, were denied basic civil rights, and were forced to live in separate neighborhoods—many in substandard shantytowns. Enforcement of the system was rigid, and nonwhites had to carry identification passes that controlled and limited the places they could go. Violators faced fines, imprisonment, beatings, or torture. It was this system of oppression that Mandela would spend his life fighting.

**Formative Years**

Although he is now one of the most recognized political figures in the world, Nelson Mandela came from humble beginnings. Born Rolihlahla Mandela in the tiny village of Mvezo, which is about 500 miles south of South Africa’s largest city, Johannesburg, Mandela grew up in a thatched hut and helped his family tend livestock. He was a member of an African clan called Madiba, named after a chief who ruled the clan in the 18th century. The name Madiba means “father,” and was used by South Africans later in Mandela’s life as a sign of their respect and endearment for him. Mandela’s first name, Nelson, was given to him by a teacher when he was seven—part of a common colonial practice to give African children English names.

After the death of his father, Mandela was adopted at age 12 by a local chief. After completing secondary school, he enrolled at University of Fort Hare, one of the few colleges open to blacks in South Africa at the time. There he met Oliver Tambo, who would become a lifelong friend. While he studied law and prepared for a career in civil service, Mandela became involved in campus politics. His political activity led him to participate in a protest, which resulted in his expulsion. Fearing Nelson was going down the wrong path, his guardian arranged a marriage for him but Mandela’s time in school and his unfair expulsion had ignited his passion for activism. He fled before his arranged marriage took place and went to Johannesburg, where he would have a chance to get involved in political activism on a national level.

In Johannesburg, Mandela finished his law degree at another school and met Walter Sisulu, a black member of the African National Congress (ANC), an...
organization that was founded in 1912 to end apartheid. Mandela’s political work began when he and Oliver Tambo started a law firm to provide legal assistance to blacks challenged by apartheid laws. However, he soon realized that fighting legal battles without changing the unjust laws of apartheid meant that the oppression black South Africans faced would go unchallenged. In 1944 he became a member of the ANC and cofounded the ANC Youth League for young activists like himself. That same year he married his first wife, Evelyn, with whom he had three children.

The Government Cracks Down
In 1948, the white supremacist South African National Party won the general election—in which blacks could not vote—and began to pass laws that further embedded apartheid into every aspect of life in South Africa. New laws not only separated South Africa’s majority black population from the minority whites but also separated nonwhites from one another, as well as black South Africans along tribal lines and other nonwhite groups such as Indians and Asians. This was done in order to divide the majority and gain total control over social and political life.

In response to the new laws, Mandela, Sisulu, and Tambo, who had all become important leaders of the ANC, created the Programme of Action. They adopted the nonviolent protest methods of the Indian independence leader Mahatma Gandhi—including boycotts, strikes, and civil disobedience—to protest government policies. As the government cracked down with more apartheid laws and brutal treatment of offenders, Mandela began to believe that cooperating with other opponents of apartheid would be more effective in fighting the racist policy. In 1952, the ANC formed the Defiance Campaign, collaborating with Indian and communist groups in acts of civil disobedience. Mandela’s passionate involvement in the ANC made him one of the most popular leaders of the anti-apartheid movement and a target for the National Party. In 1958 he married Winnie Madikizela, who would also become a prominent ANC member.

The Turning Point of Sharpeville
On March 21, 1960, a peaceful protest turned tragic when police killed 69 black South Africans, including 8 women and 10 children. These killings were the Sharpeville massacre, and it marked a turning point in the anti-apartheid struggle. In response to the police violence, riots broke out all over the country. The government retaliated with its heaviest crackdown to date by implementing martial law, banning the existence of the ANC, and arresting many of the ANC’s members. Mandela, Sisulu, and others were forced to go into hiding, which caused them to change their tactics and found the Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), a militaristic, guerrilla faction of the ANC. Though reluctant to abandon their nonviolent philosophy, Mandela and other ANC leaders felt they had no choice.
In August 1962, after two years of organizing and orchestrating guerrilla tactics, Nelson Mandela was found, arrested, and charged with treason, sabotage, and conspiracy to overthrow the government. At his trial, Mandela was an imposing figure, strongly defending his actions against the government’s tyranny. He boldly stood before the judge and said, “I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.”

Eventually, after a year on trial, on June 11, 1964, Mandela and seven other ANC members, including Walter Sisulu, were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. They were sent to the notorious Robben Island Prison, where they experienced poor food and living conditions, as well as abuse by the guards. Mandela often feared for his life, and saw little of his wife and children during this time. Nevertheless, he continued fighting for equality within the prison walls. He convinced prison authorities to replace the khaki uniform shorts given to nonwhite inmates in a gesture of disrespect with long trousers. He also mentored younger prisoners, counseling them on how to effectively navigate the treacherous conditions in prison.

**Negotiating With the Oppressor**
During the period of Nelson Mandela’s incarceration, the resistance movement gained momentum, and riots frequently broke out across the country. The government responded with even more brutal measures, including arresting and jailing more than 30,000 political prisoners. Television stations broadcast the violent scenes around the world, and international outrage grew. Soon, boycotts were organized against South African products, and several foreign governments imposed economic sanctions on South Africa.

In 1982, 18 years after his conviction and with pressure mounting from the international community to end apartheid, Mandela was moved to Pollsmoor Prison, where he had more privileges, including more frequent family visits, as well as visits by some foreign dignitaries. The South African government also began seriously talking to Mandela.

In 1988, Mandela was transferred again, this time to Victor Verster Prison, where he was housed in much more comfortable quarters. By this time, the international economic pressure had increased, pushing the South African economy to the brink of bankruptcy. In 1989, National Party leader F. W. de Klerk replaced P. W. Botha as president and continued the talks with Mandela, who had become a world-renowned figure in the now-international movement to end apartheid.

**Freedom and the End of Apartheid**
The negotiations were difficult, but in February 1990, after 27 years, de Klerk announced Mandela’s unconditional release from prison. De Klerk had also lifted the ban on the African National Congress. The entire world watched as, with Winnie by his side, Mandela walked out of prison on February 11.
The entire world watched as, with Winnie by his side, Mandela walked out of prison on February 11, 1990.

The actions by the government of South Africa were huge steps toward accepting the legitimacy of the anti-apartheid movement, but there was still work to be done.

After his release, Mandela continued to lead negotiations with de Klerk, cherishing his freedom but refusing to give up until all South Africans could live free from oppressive laws. By 1992, Mandela and President de Klerk had reached an agreement paving the way toward democratic elections and the abolishment of apartheid laws, and in 1993 they were together awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their work.

Nelson Mandela, President of South Africa

On April 27, 1994, South Africa held its first fully democratic election, in which both blacks and whites could vote. A few days later, on May 10, 1994, Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as the country’s first black president, with de Klerk serving as his first deputy. During his time in office, President Mandela worked to protect South Africa’s economy from collapse. Through his Reconstruction and Development Programme, the South African government funded the creation of jobs, housing, and basic health care.

Nelson Mandela knew that if apartheid was going to be completely eliminated from South Africa, the rights of all citizens—including the minority white population—would also have to be respected. In 1995, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was formed to recognize crimes committed by the National Party and the ANC and to provide amnesty for offenders of both sides. Mandela hoped to create a “Rainbow Nation” in which all South Africans would live freely and equally, and he had no interest in imposing any vengeful laws upon the white population that had oppressed blacks in South Africa.

In 1999, Mandela honored his promise to serve only one term. He was 80 years old and wanted to let others contribute to South Africa’s prosperity and success. In the years that followed, he continued to work in public service, raising money through his foundation to build schools and clinics in South Africa’s rural heartland. He spent the rest of his life championing the rights and well-being of children and minorities all over the world.

Mandela died on December 5, 2013, and was remembered in tributes from around the world as a champion of equality. “I am one of the countless millions who drew inspiration from Nelson Mandela’s life,” said U.S. President Barack Obama, who in 2009 became the first African-American president in the United States of America, 15 years after Mandela’s groundbreaking achievement. “I cannot imagine my own life without the example that Nelson Mandela set.”

Watch

**Video:** “Born Free in South Africa,”

Nelson Mandela left a legacy for improving South Africa and creating a free, equal, and progressive society. Today, the “born-frees”—the generation born after the end of apartheid in 1994, or just before it ended—have their own views on the future. Watch this video and find out about some of the successes and ongoing challenges facing South Africa.

**Miniseries:** Madiba: The Definitive Story of Nelson Mandela, BET, starts February 1, 2017.
Discussion Questions: Madiba

**Discussion Area 1: Perseverance and Resilience**

- Describe the policy of apartheid and the impact it had on black South Africans.
- What similarities do you see between South African apartheid and racial segregation in the United States?
- After the Sharpeville massacre, the African National Congress (ANC) changed its strategy against apartheid. What do you think of this change in strategy, and do you feel the ANC had no choice? Why, or why not?
- Identify ways Nelson Mandela showed resilience and perseverance in his struggle against apartheid while in prison.

**Discussion Area 2: Collaboration and Alliance**

- Identify some of the costs and benefits of collaborating with other groups toward a common goal. Which is better, collaboration or going it alone, and why?
- Provide examples of how Nelson Mandela collaborated with different individuals and groups who also experienced the oppression of apartheid.
- Nelson Mandela understood the power of collaborating, even with his rivals. Discuss how Mandela was able to collaborate with then-president F. W. de Klerk to arrive at a mutually agreed-upon solution to end apartheid.
- Describe the outcome of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. How did it help South African blacks and whites come to terms with their history and find ways to move forward?

**Discussion Area 3: Qualities of Effective Leadership**

- Brainstorm five qualities that make a good leader. Explain why these qualities are important.
- Review the student article and list examples of Nelson Mandela acting as a leader during the following times: while in the ANC, during his trial, while in prison, and as president of South Africa. Describe how the actions he took were effective at the time, later on, or not at all.
- Would any of these lessons in leadership be helpful to you in your life? Explain how.
Discussion Area 4: Civil Rights in South Africa and the United States

Read the following passage, then complete the activity that follows.

Important Events in the American Civil Rights Movement

After the American Civil War, many cities and states in both the North and South passed segregation laws that required separate schools, transportation, housing, medical care, and employment for black Americans. All this imposed economic, educational, and social disadvantages on them.

In 1910, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded by W.E.B. Du Bois, Jane Addams, John Dewey, and others to work toward a society where all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race.

Over the next 40 years, progress in ending segregation and race discrimination moved slowly. During World War II, the federal government banned discrimination against minorities in government defense contracts. After the war, the U.S. Armed Forces were integrated. But for the general population of African-Americans, progress was slow. While some Americans understood the negative impact of racism, social custom and laws prevailed, keeping segregation in place.

Then in 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously declared that segregation in schools and government facilities was unconstitutional. In 1964, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act, ending segregation in public places, and banned employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

With the courts and the law on their side, many African-American leaders strongly advocated for change, calling for desegregated schools and public facilities. Some state and local officials resisted the change. Demonstrations, riots, and rebellions took place in several American cities as African-Americans openly spoke out against racial discrimination, unequal treatment, and police brutality. Several key civil rights leaders were killed during this time, including Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

(continued on next page)
During the 1970s through the 1990s, African-Americans gradually gained more and more rights and recognition for their character and achievements. Blacks and other minorities rose to prominent positions in business, the arts, and politics. Yet many African-Americans and other minorities still experienced discrimination.

In 2008, America reached a milestone when it elected Barack Obama as its first African-American president. Many people believed the United States had reached a “post-racial” society, where race wasn’t a factor in how people were treated. But this proved not to be the case. During President Obama’s time in office, race was still a major factor in how people, including President Obama, were judged.

By 2014, a new civil rights movement emerged, focused on the ways African-Americans are perceived by the police and white society. The “Black Lives Matter” movement emerged to bring an end to violence and systematic racism toward black people.

In this activity, you will make some comparisons between the civil rights movements in South Africa and the United States. Review the above text, “Important Events in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement.” Research additional U.S. civil rights movement events that you are interested in. Think about what you’ve learned from the life of Nelson Mandela and the campaign to end apartheid in South Africa—for example, the history of apartheid, the resistance movement and its leaders, the strategies used to end apartheid, and the successes and failures of those strategies.

Complete the 3–2–1 activity chart on the next page. First, identify three things you find similar and three things you find different about the two countries’ civil rights movements. Next, ask two questions about topics you’d like to research further. Then, describe one event that was most memorable from either the South African anti-apartheid struggle or the American civil rights movement. Be prepared to present and discuss your answers with the class.
**3) List three things you find similar and three things you find different about the South African anti-apartheid struggle and the American civil rights movement.**

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**2) Create two questions about topics you’d like to research further concerning the South African anti-apartheid struggle and the American civil rights movement. Why are you interested in these?**

1. What were the most significant strategies used by the anti-apartheid movement and how were they effective?
2. How did the civil rights movement influence the anti-apartheid struggle and vice versa?

**1) Describe a most memorable moment that occurred during either the South African anti-apartheid struggle or the American civil rights movement. Why is it memorable for you?**

1. The release of Nelson Mandela from prison in 1990 was a turning point in the anti-apartheid struggle. It symbolized the end of apartheid and the beginning of a new era of freedom and democracy.

   Why is it memorable for you?

   It is memorable because it represented hope and the beginning of a new chapter in South African history.
The landmark BET miniseries Madiba premieres Wednesday, February 1. This definitive biopic of Nelson Mandela is an intimate look at the story of Mandela and others in their quest to end racial segregation in South Africa.

Nelson Mandela is well-known as a worldwide champion of human rights, but never before has his story been told with the comprehensive detail that BET brings to the screen in Madiba. The series not only shows the struggles of life in South Africa under the brutal policy of apartheid, but illuminates the dedication, resilience, and leadership that defined Mandela. While many recognize Mandela as the face of the anti-apartheid movement, the miniseries also pays homage to many lesser-known men and women who sacrificed and suffered alongside him in their quest for freedom.

The title “Madiba”—meaning father—was used by South Africans as a sign of respect and endearment for Mandela. Read through this family viewing guide, developed with Scholastic, to learn more about Mandela and the struggle in South Africa for justice and equality—a history and story that are as relevant today as ever.

**Select Cast**

**Nelson Mandela,** played by Laurence Fishburne
Nelson Mandela was South Africa’s first democratically elected president. He took an active role in anti-apartheid politics from a young age and became a prominent revolutionary. He served 27 years in prison before finally succeeding in his cause and championing the liberation of black South Africans from oppression.

**Oliver Tambo,** played by Orlando Jones
Oliver Tambo was a close friend of Nelson Mandela’s. They met when they were at university and they started South Africa’s first black law firm together. Also an anti-apartheid revolutionary and political activist, Tambo served as president of the African National Congress (ANC) from 1967 to 1991.

**Winnie Mandela,** played by Terry Pheto
Winnie Mandela was the second wife of Nelson Mandela. A strident anti-apartheid activist and revolutionary herself, she led a radical faction of the ANC while Nelson Mandela was in prison, and she is still an active politician in South Africa today.

**Walter Sisulu,** played by David Harewood
Walter Sisulu was a prominent anti-apartheid activist and leader of the ANC. He persuaded Nelson Mandela to co-found the ANC Youth League, and remained a close friend of Mandela’s throughout his life. They were imprisoned together on Robben Island after being convicted of sabotaging the South African government.

**Next Page: A Brief History of “Madiba” >**
**A BRIEF HISTORY OF “MADIBA”: NELSON MANDELA**

**TIMELINE**

1918 Born Rolihlahla Mandela, a member of the Madiba clan, in the tiny village of Mvezo.

1925 Given the name Nelson at a primary school. It was a common colonial practice to give African children English names.

1930 Adopted by a local chief after his father’s death.

1939 Enrolls at the University College of Fort Hare, one of the few colleges open to blacks at that time. Expelled after becoming active in campus politics and participating in a protest.

1941 Moves to South Africa’s largest city, Johannesburg, to escape an arranged marriage and to find work.

1942 Becomes an active member of the African National Congress (ANC), an organization founded to end apartheid.

1951 Elected ANC deputy president and forms South Africa’s first black law firm with Oliver Tambo to aid black South Africans challenged by apartheid laws.

1960 The Sharpeville massacre occurs, in which police open fire on a peaceful protest. Sixty-nine black South Africans are killed.

1961 Forms Umkhonto we Sizwe (“Spear of the Nation”), a militaristic faction of the ANC, in response to government crackdowns.

1962 Arrested and put on trial for sabotage, along with other ANC members, because of bombings carried out by Umkhonto we Sizwe. Begins serving time in prison while on trial.

1964 Convicted of sabotage and sentenced to life at Robben Island Prison, along with seven other ANC members. In Robben Island Prison from 1964 to 1982.

1982 Moved to Pollsmoor Prison, where he has more privileges and begins talking with the South African government.

1988 Moved to Victor Verster Prison as negotiations improve and international pressure on the government reaches a high point.

1990 Released from prison by President de Klerk, who continues to work with Mandela in finding a peaceful solution to reunite South Africa and repeal apartheid laws.

1993 Awarded Nobel Peace Prize with President de Klerk after they successfully form a plan for repealing apartheid.

1994 Elected president in South Africa’s first fully democratic election, in which all races can vote. Steps down after one term.

2013 Dies in his home in Johannesburg at the age of 95.

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**Key Words**

- **apartheid (uh-PART-hate or uh-PART-hite)** noun. A political policy in which people of different races are separated. Apartheid was the law in South Africa from 1948 to 1991.

- **segregation (seg-ruh-GAY-shun)** noun. The act or practice of keeping people or groups apart.

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**MADIBA Viewing Discussion Questions**

1. Mandela’s original name, Rolihlahla, means *troublemaker*. How is this name a fitting description of Mandela’s life?

2. Nelson Mandela had many values that helped him succeed, including perseverance, resilience, loyalty, and conviction. Cite examples from the series where these were displayed.

3. Have you ever faced a situation in your own life where you kept fighting to overcome an obstacle despite drawbacks? Explain how you fought the obstacle and the result of your efforts.

4. In what ways were the struggles in South Africa similar to the Civil Rights Movement in the United States? In what ways were they different?

5. At the end of the series Mandela says, “The truth is that we are not yet free…. We have not yet taken that final step of our journey, but the first step in a longer, more difficult road.” How does this quote relate to the struggle for racial equality today?

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**Find Out More**

- **Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela**

- **Favorite African Folktales** — A collection of Mandela’s favorite traditional African stories.

- **Nelson Mandela in His Own Words** — A personal archive of Mandela’s papers, diary entries, and correspondence.