

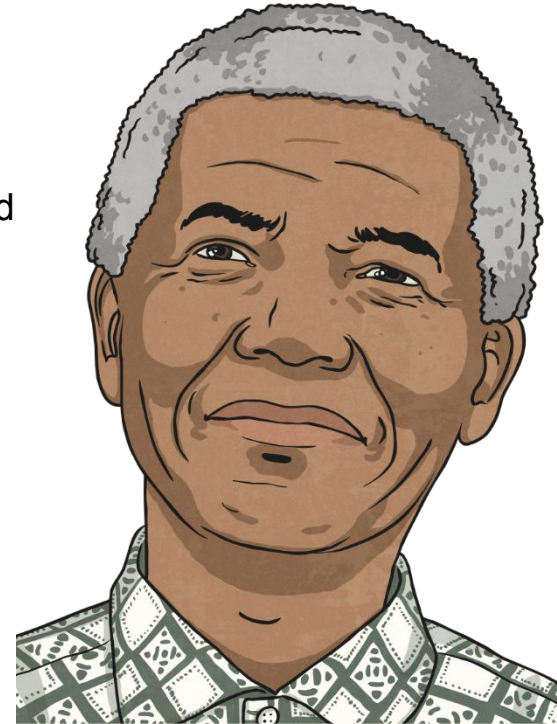
# Nelson Mandela



# Nelson Mandela

## Why is he famous?

- He was born in 1918.
- He spent 27 years in prison (from 1962 to 1990) for trying to put an end to the pro-apartheid government.
- After he left prison he fought for human rights and a better future for people in South Africa.
- He became the first black president of South Africa in 1994.
- He retired in 1999.
- He died from a lung illness on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013.
- He was very famous for his long fight against South Africa's bad government and their racial prejudice.
- He was respected for being very brave and wise and bringing people together to live in peace.
- He became a worldwide hero.



**Human rights** – freedoms every person should have

**Racial prejudice** - treating people unfairly because of their race or skin colour.

# Growing Up

- Rolihlahla Mandela was born on 18 July 1918.
- The name Nelson was a nickname given to Mandela by his school teacher.
- He was born in Transkei in South Africa
- He was a member of Thimbu royalty and his father was chief of the city of Mvezo.
- He attended a Christian school and later went to college and university.
- Mandela studied law at university and met some of his fellow activists against the apartheid whilst he was studying.
- He became a lawyer in 1942.

# South Africa's Problems

- Most South African people are black. There are also people of European and Asian backgrounds and people of mixed race.
- The first white colony in South Africa was set up by Dutch people in 1652. The Dutch were farmers and called themselves Boers.
- Britain took over the Dutch colony in 1815 and South Africa became part of the British Empire.
- South Africa had gold and good farmland but it was not peaceful.
- White people and black people fought over the land and so did the Boers and the British.
- When Mandela was growing up black people had little say over how South Africa was run.
- Most black people worked as servants and on farms, in factories or coal mines.

**Colony** – a settlement by people from one country in another country.

**Servants** – People paid to work for rich people, usually in their homes.

# The ANC

- In 1948, the South African government made new laws to keep white people and black people apart. This new system was called the apartheid.
- A white person and a black person could not marry, they could not share a table in a restaurant or even sit together on a bus!
- Black children and white children even went to separate schools.
- The ANC wanted black South Africans to have the same rights as white South Africans.

**ANC**- African National Congress.

**Apartheid** – a system of separating people because of their race or skin colour.

# Mandela and the ANC

- In 1944, Nelson Mandela joined the ANC.
- Mandela and a man named Oliver Tambo set up South Africa's first black law firm. Poor black people came to them for help.
- Mandela led young people in the ANC.
- Black people and white people spoke out against apartheid.
- Speaking out was dangerous. In 1956, Mandela and 155 other people were arrested for treason.
- After a trial lasting five years he was set free in 1961.

**ANC**- African National Congress.

**Apartheid** – a system of separating people because of their race or skin colour.

**Treason** – The crime of plotting or fighting against your own country.

# Sharpeville

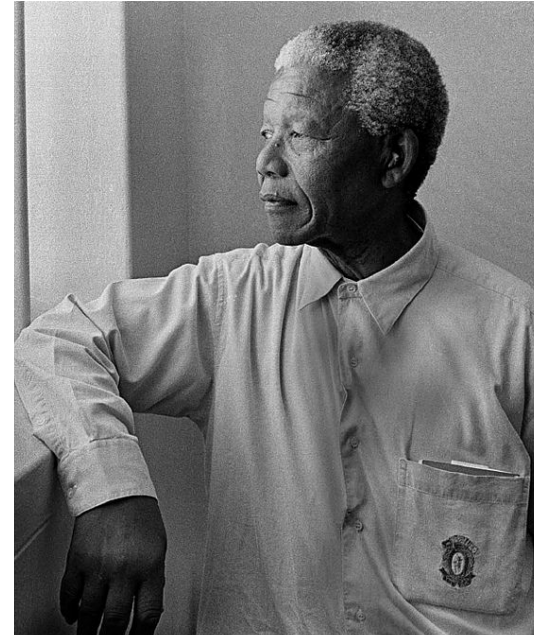
- In 1960 people held a demonstration against apartheid at Sharpeville near Johannesburg.
- The police shot 69 black people.
- The government blamed the ANC and shut them down.
- Mandela became the leader of a secret army named 'Ukhonto we Sizwe' or 'the spear of the nation'.
- The police tried to find him so Mandela hid and used disguises.
- He travelled to other countries to seek help.

**ANC**- African National Congress.

**Apartheid** – a system of separating people because of their race or skin colour.

# Mandela goes to Prison

- In 1961 South Africa left the Commonwealth.
- Millions of people in other countries supported the anti-apartheid movement.
- Many countries stopped trade with South Africa.
- People refused to go there.
- The government still didn't want to change.
- In 1962 Nelson Mandela was arrested again.
- He was accused of sabotage and plotting to remove the government from power.
- He was given a life sentence.
- He was sent to Robben Island prison.
- He spent 18 years there.
- He had to do hard, physical work everyday and he was only allowed a visitor every six months.
- He was later moved to another prison.



**Commonwealth** – A group of 54 friendly nations once ruled by Britain.

**Trade** – Buying and selling things.

**Life Sentence** – Being kept in prison till you die.



# Free Nelson Mandela!

- Mandela became the most famous prisoner in the whole world.
- He never gave up.
- Finally, in 1988 the South African government began to make changes.
- One change they made was to let black students into white universities.
- People around the world were calling 'Free Nelson Mandela!'
- In 1990 South Africa's president FW de Klerk set Nelson Mandela free.
- Mandela and Klerk agreed there was to be no more fighting.
- Mandela called to all South Africans to live together in peace.



# Mandela as President

- In 1991, Mandela became the leader of the ANC.
- In the 1994 elections, all black people were allowed to vote in the election for the first time.
- The ANC won the election.
- A new government took over.
- In May 1994, Nelson Mandela became the first black president in South Africa.



**ANC-** African National Congress.

# The Rainbow Nation

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu (another famous South African) and Nelson Mandela called South Africa a 'rainbow nation' because people of all races and skin colours were working together.
- In 1995, South Africa was host for the Rugby World Cup. Mandela wore a South Africa rugby shirt to help bring black and white people together.
- Sport also had a big role in bringing black and white people together.

**ANC-** African National Congress.

# An Inspiration Worldwide

- Mandela was welcomed around the World as one of the world leaders.
- He was given many honours.
- In 1993 Nelson Mandela and FW de Klerk shared the Nobel Peace Prize.
- Mandela wrote a book about his struggle named 'Long Walk to Freedom'.
- He retired as president in 1999.
- From 2004 he gave up politics to enjoy a quiet life with his family.
- He is still respected all over the world for being a remarkable man.



**Nobel Peace Prize** – A prize given every year for those who have worked towards peace.

Flowers at the Nelson Mandela statue in London following his death.



# Nelson Mandela Quiz

What does ANC stand for?

What was the 'Spear of the Nation'?

Where was Nelson Mandela held in prison?

What prize did Nelson Mandela win in 1993?

What did Nelson Mandela become in 1994?

