PARK EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Purpose, Preparation, Pride

Name: _____ Date: _____ Per: ____

South Africa

Apartheid. Unlike most African nations after independence, South Africa was ruled by a white minority. Until 1994, its government put severe economic and political restrictions on the black majority through a policy called *apartheid.* Apartheid is the Afrikaans word for "apartness." The policy maintained strict separation of the races. Laws required all blacks to carry passes, prevented them from voting, and made them subject to arrest at any time. South Africa's Asian population also suffered from discrimination. Great tensions developed between whites and blacks. In the 1980s, moderate groups in South Africa tried to find an acceptable and peaceful way to let blacks participate fully in the government. Protest demonstrations became common in black areas. Desmond Tutu, a black archbishop in the South African Anglican church, led many of these protests. Following the teachings of Mohandas Gandhi, Tutu urged his followers to use nonviolent tactics. He was awarded the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his work.

Sanctions. The white South African government responded harshly to black African resistance. Many Western nations became indignant at its disregard of the black Africans' human rights. To discourage this abuse of human rights, several countries imposed trade *sanctions* on South Africa. (Sanctions are laws prohibiting a nation's businesses from buying or selling goods to a country that violates international law.) As poverty in South Africa increased, violence between blacks and whites became more frequent. Foreign businesspeople lost confidence in South Africa's economy and withdrew their investments.

By 1990, a more moderate leadership began to respond to foreign pressure and the demands of black leaders by reducing the level of discrimination in South Africa. Then, in 1992, a majority of white South Africans voted to end apartheid and minority rule. Following the writing of a new constitution, multiracial elections were held for the first time in April 1994.

The ANC. The struggle by the black majority to achieve equality and political power was led by the *African National Congress (ANC).* The South African government of President F. W. de KIerk recognized the ANC in 1990 and cooperated with its leader, Nelson Mandela. De KIerk released Mandela from prison. Since 1962, Mandela had been serving a life sentence for sabotage. However, violent clashes between rival black groups and attacks on blacks by white extremists made reform difficult.

Mandela. As a result of the 1994 elections, Nelson Mandela became president. De KIerk became one of two vice presidents in this new multiracial government. The new government's primary concern was to improve the lives of black South Africans without losing the support of other groups. One of the government's first steps in stabilizing South Africa was to repair its damaged economy. Mandela promised to preserve its system of free enterprise. With the ending of economic sanctions, trade with other African nations resumed, and the economy soon improved.

Many other problems remained, however. Unemployment among black South Africans was high. Housing was inadequate. Crime was common. Experts predicted that it would take many years to repair the damage that apartheid and violence had done to South Africa.

APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA

1. Define: Apartheid: _____
   _____
2. Explain two policies of apartheid as practiced by the South African government.
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
3. Who is Desmond Tutu? _____
   _____
4. Who's teachings did Desmond Tutu follow? _____
5. Define Sanctions: _____
   _____
   _____
6. How did Western nations react to the South African governments response to black African resistance? _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
7. What happened in South Africa in 1992? _____
   _____
8. What role did Nelson Mandela play in ending the policy of apartheid in South Africa?
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
9. Who is F.W. deKlerk? _____
   _____
10. Why do many students of African history regard Nelson Mandela and F.W. deKlerk as heroes? _____
    _____
    _____
    _____

Read the excerpt below of the transcript of Mandela's speech after he was elected President of South Africa, and answer the questions.

Transcript:

The time for the healing of the wounds has come.

The moment to bridge the chasms that divide us has come.

The time to build is upon us.

We have, at last, achieved our political emancipation. We pledge ourselves to liberate all our people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination.

We succeeded to take our last steps to freedom in conditions of relative peace. We commit ourselves to the construction of a complete, just and lasting peace.

We have triumphed in the effort to implant hope in the breasts of the millions of our people. We enter into a covenant that we shall build the society in which all South Africans, both black and white, will be able to walk tall, without any fear in their hearts, assured of their inalienable right to human dignity - a rainbow nation at peace with itself and the world.

As a token of its commitment to the renewal of our country,the new Interim Government of National Unity will, as a matter of urgency, address the issue of amnesty for various categories of our people who are currently serving terms of imprisonment.

We dedicate this day to all the heroes and heroines in this country and the rest of the world who sacrificed in many ways and surrendered their lives so that we could be free.

1. In line 1, Mandela says, “The time for the healing of the wounds has come.” What does this mean?

2. In lines 12-14, Mandela says, “We succeeded to take our last steps to freedom in conditions of relative peace. We commit ourselves to the construction of a complete, just and lasting peace.” Why is it important that South Africa has a “just and lasting peace”?

3. In line 39, Mandela says, “We understand it still that there is no easy road to freedom.” What does he mean?

Their dreams have become reality. Freedom is their reward.

We are both humbled and elevated by the honour and privilege that you, the people of South Africa, have bestowed on us, as the first President of a united, democratic, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa, to lead our country out of the valley of darkness.

We understand it still that there is no easy road to freedom.

We know it well that none of us acting alone can achieve success.

We must therefore act together as a united people, for national reconciliation, for nation building, for the birth of a new world.

Let there be justice for all.

Let there be peace for all.
Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all.

Let each know that for each the body, the mind and the soul have been freed to fulfill themselves.

Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another and suffer the indignity of being the skunk of the world.

Let freedom reign.

The sun shall never set on so glorious a human achievement!

God bless Africa!

Thank you.

Source: http://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Inaugural_Speech_17984.html

4. In line 44-45, Mandela says, "We must therefore act together as a united people, for national reconciliation, for nation building, for the birth of a new world." What do you think Mandela means by "reconciliation", "nation building" and "the birth of a new world"?

5. What does Mandela's speech reveal about what South Africa has accomplished? Identify a specific piece of evidence.

6. According to Mandela, what work does the nation still need to do? Identify a specific piece of evidence.