

Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela was born in South African in 1918 and died in 2013. He led a very important fight against apartheid, which was the separation and unfair treatment of black people by white people.



Nelson Mandela's Early Life

He was born as Rolihlahla Mandela but was given Nelson as his new first name by his teacher. Nelson Mandela did well at school and went to university but he was forced to leave after joining a student protest. He later finished his university degree and became a lawyer.



Politics, Prison and President

Nelson Mandela was chosen to lead the fight against apartheid and was arrested many times. In 1964, he was sent to prison for life for fighting for equal rights against the South African government. Many people around the world were also trying to stop apartheid and wanted Nelson Mandela to be

freed. Later, things started to change in South Africa when black students were allowed to go to universities with white students. In 1990, the new president set Nelson Mandela free. They agreed that people should work together in peace. Nelson Mandela became the first black president of South Africa in 1994. He often used sport to bring people together. Many people believe was a great man for the work he did.

Mandela Day is celebrated on 18th July every year. It celebrates the difference Nelson Mandela made and it reminds us to try to make the world a better place.



Did You Know...!

- He won a Nobel peace prize.
- He spent 27 years in prison.
- His first name wasn't Nelson – it was Rolihlahla.
- 'Free Nelson Mandela' was a UK number one song.

Questions

1. When was Nelson Mandela born and when did he die? Tick **one**.

He was born in 1999 and he died in 2009. ☐

He was born in 1918 and he died in 2013. ☐

He was born in 1808 and he died in 2000. ☐

2. Why was he forced to leave university?

3. Which of the facts below are true? Tick **two**.

He wanted people to be separated by skin colour. ☐

He spent 27 years in prison. ☐

He worked as a lawyer. ☐

4. **Find** and **copy** one word which means **the separation of black and white people**.

5. Complete the sentence.

He often used _____ to _____. Many people believe he was a _____ for the work he did.

6. What is celebrated on 18th July and why is it celebrated?

Answers

1. When was Nelson Mandela born and when did he die? Tick **one**

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2. Why was he forced to leave university?

Nelson Mandela was forced to leave university because he joined a student protest.

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He spent 27 years in prison. ☒

He worked as a lawyer. ☒

4. **Find and copy** one word which means **the separation of black and white people**.
apartheid

5. Complete the sentence.

He often used **sport** to **bring people together**. Many people believe he was a **great man** for the work he did.

6. What is celebrated on 18th July and why is it celebrated?

Mandela Day is celebrated on 18th July and it celebrates the difference Nelson Mandela made. It reminds us to try to make the world a better place.