

ENGLISH

NCERT - NCERT ENGLISH(HINGLISH)

NELSON MANDELA -LONG WALK TO FREEDOM

Comprehension Check

1. Where did the ceremonies take place? Can you name any public buildings in India that

are made of sandstone?



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2. Can you say how 10 May is an 'autumn day' in South Africa?



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3. At the beginning of his speech, Mandela mentions "an extraordinary human disaster".

What does he mean by this? What is the

"glorious ... human achievement" he speaks of at the end?



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4. What does Mandela thank the international leaders for?



5. What ideals does he set out for the future of South Africa?



Oral Comprehension Check

1. What do the military generals do? How has their attitude changed, and why?



2. Why were two national anthems sung?



3. How does Mandela describe the systems of government in his country (i) in the first decade, and (ii) in the final decade, of the twentieth century?



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4. What does courage mean to Mandela?



5. Which does he think is natural, to love or to hate?



6. What "twin obligations" does Mandela mention?



7. What did being free mean to Mandela as a boy, and as a student? How does he contrast

these "transitory freedoms" with "the basic and honourable freedoms"?



8. Does Mandela think the oppressor is free? Why/Why not?



Thinking About The Text

1. Why did such a large number of international leaders attend the inauguration? What did it signify the triumph of?



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2. What does Mandela mean when he says he is "simply the sum of all those African patriots" who had gone before him?



3. Would you agree that the "depths of oppression" create "heights of character? How does Mandela illustrate this? Can you add your own examples to this argument?



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4. How did Mandela's understanding of freedom change with age and experience?



5. How did Mandela's 'hunger for freedom' change his life?



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Thinking About Language

1. There are nouns in the text (formation, government) which are formed from the corresponding verbs (form, govern) by suffixing – (at)ion or ment. There may be change in the spelling of some verb – noun

pairs: such as rebel, rebellion, constitute, constitution.

Make a list of such pairs of nouns and verbs in the text.





2. Read the paragraph below. Fill in the blanks with the noun forms of the verbs in brackets.

Martin Luther King's _____ (contribute) to

our history as an outstanding leader began

when he came to the	_ (assist) of Rosa
Parks, a seamstress who refused to give up her	
seat on a bus to a white pas	senger. In those
days American Blacks wer	e confined to
positions of second class	citizenship by
restrictive laws and customs. To break these	
laws would mean (subjugate) and	
(humiliate) by the police and the	
legal system. Beatings,	(imprison)
and sometimes death awai	ted those who
defied the System. Martin Lither King's tactics	
of protest involved non-vi	iolent
(resist) to racial injustice.	

3. Here are some more examples of 'the' used with proper names. Try to say what these sentences mean. (You may consult a dictionary if you wish. Look at the entry for 'the')

Mr Singh regularly invites the Amitabh

Bachchans and the Shah Rukh Khans to his



parties.

4. Here are some more examples of 'the' used with proper names. Try to say what these sentences mean. (You may consult a dictionary if you wish. Look at the entry for 'the')

Many people think that Madhuri Dixit is the Madhubala of our times.



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5. Here are some more examples of 'the' used with proper names. Try to say what these sentences mean. (You may consult a dictionary

if you wish. Look at the entry for 'the')

History is not only the story of the Alexanders, the Napoleons and the Hitlers, but of ordinary people as well.



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6. Match, the italicised phrases in Column A with the phrase nearest meaning in Column B. (Hint: First look for the sentence in the text which the phrase in column A occurs.)







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