

# Comprehension

Answer the following questions using information from the reading texts. Write answers in the spaces provided, or blacken the appropriate circles.

**For questions 1-10, refer to the foreword and the film review on pages 166-167.**

1 Find a phrase on page 166 that has a similar meaning to 'biographical film'.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 According to paragraph 1, which of the following is true?

- A. Justin Chadwick was praised for using hagiography to depict a legendary figure.
- B. The film, *Jobs*, was criticised for misrepresenting facts about a legendary figure.
- C. Films about heroes are less popular among viewers than those about villains.
- D. A less appealing side to Mandela has been covered up in the reviewed film.

- A     B     C     D

3 List the biographical films mentioned in the foreword and the film review.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Complete the paragraph below about the young Mandela in Justin Chadwick's film. You may use NO MORE than three words for any of the blanks. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

The (i) \_\_\_\_\_ begins with Mandela, played by actor (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, as a young (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ living in (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ in the (v) \_\_\_\_\_ era. Uninterested in power and politics, the young man of (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ roots refused an invitation to get involved with the (vii) \_\_\_\_\_ and was far more happy to help the (viii) \_\_\_\_\_ who sought him out for help. However, he was forced to change his mind when he witnessed the terrible actions of the (ix) \_\_\_\_\_.

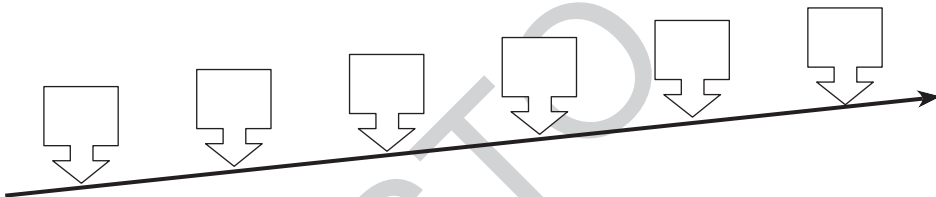
5 According to paragraph 5, the film focuses on ...

- A. showing the dangers of radicalism through the story of modern South Africa.
- B. picturing little known aspects of Mandela to please audiences.
- C. Mandela's political actions and personal sacrifices.
- D. the personal drama of Mandela's life journey.

- A     B     C     D

6 Match the descriptions (A-F) to the correct place on the timeline to show the order of the events in Nelson Mandela's life.

- A. Mandela's second wife is suspected of links with the torture by necklacing of government informers.
- B. Mandela gets involved in a radical campaign to protest against the Sharpeville massacre.
- C. Mandela and his comrades fall trial by the apartheid regime.
- D. Mandela practises law in Johannesburg.
- E. Mandela gets an early release from jail.
- F. The African National Congress (ANC) first approaches Mandela to try to get him involved in their work without success.

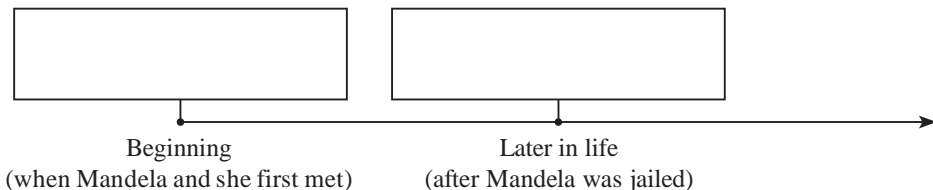


7 Complete the following summary about the female lead in Mandela's biopic using ONE word for each blank. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Jenny McCartney credits actress (i) \_\_\_\_\_ for her realistic portrayal of (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in the film, *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, though she is of a much (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ build than the lady herself. The actress fills the screen glamorously playing the young and outspoken Winnie (aged (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ ) who works as a (v) \_\_\_\_\_ when Mandela first meets her.

8 Find suitable words from the list below to describe the different emotional states Winnie Madikizela experienced as portrayed in the film. Enter your choices in the correct boxes.

**cheery / bright / angry / passionate / vengeful / bitter**



- 9 Match the descriptions of main ideas (A-E) to the paragraphs in the review by writing the correct letter in the space next to each paragraph or set of paragraph numbers.

Descriptions of main ideas	Paragraph(s)	A-E
A. A lesson in South African history	1	
B. The early years	2-3	
C. Great acting and direction	4	
D. The sacrifices	5	
E. Director's minefield	6-9	

- 10 Describe what the writer means when she describes Mandela as moving in 'the opposite direction' (lines 47-48).

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For questions 11-22, refer to the text on pages 168-169.

- 11 What is the main idea in the prologue (the short text at the top of page 168)?
- A. Mandela led a life rich in triumphs.  
 B. Simon Kuper's article has stirred up much argument.  
 C. Future world leaders have a lot to learn from Mandela.  
 D. Some of Mandela's high moral standards are impossible to reach.
- A      B      C      D
- 12 What specifically is the 'ordinary respect' referred to in paragraph 1?
- A. a form of aid to fellow countrymen  
 B. a small detail of others that may be easily overlooked  
 C. general guiding principles for achieving social harmony  
 D. a basic degree of acceptance and understanding towards others
- A      B      C      D
- 13 Having to 'accept that you can never start with a blank slate' (para. 4/heading) means ...
- A. staying positive when things are going wrong.  
 B. refusing to let misunderstandings stop negotiation.  
 C. admitting to your faults and trying to reach an agreement.  
 D. acknowledging that there are items or issues that can't be resolved.
- A      B      C      D
- 14 The writer concludes paragraph 4 with the statement 'had his son done likewise in 2001, he might have saved himself lots of trouble' (line 15).
- i) Who does 'his son' refer to? \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) What had not been done? \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) What specifically does 'lots of trouble' refer to? \_\_\_\_\_

15 Why do you think Mandela studied Afrikaans and Afrikaners?

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16 Quote information about Mandela mentioned in paragraph 6 in support of the statement below.  
'Successful politicians are unbending on very few issues.' (lines 27-28)

→ This is true in Mandela's case for he was unbending \_\_\_\_\_

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17 Give ONE piece of evidence from paragraph 6 that shows Mandela's flexible approach towards lesser matters.

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18 Why does the writer say that 'Egyptians, Libyans and Syrians should take note.' (line 33)?

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19 Decide whether the following statements are **True**, **False**, or the information is **Not Given**. Blacken ONE circle only for each statement.

	T	F	NG
i) Apartheid was a sign of respect towards black people.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ii) Most Afrikaners were supportive of apartheid.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iii) Mandela retired after one term as South African president.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iv) Mandela was a member of the Madiba clan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20 Put a tick (✓) next to the examples Mandela was known for according to the text.

- \_\_\_ realistic about his goals
- \_\_\_ ready to reflect on his own shortcomings
- \_\_\_ paid respect to his political opponents
- \_\_\_ very focussed in his targets

21 This text can be considered as ...

- A. a self-reflection piece.
- B. an autobiographical extract.
- C. an article written to demonstrate democracy.
- D. a set of guidelines based on real-life events.

A B C D

22 Which of the following types of publication is the text NOT likely to be found in?

- A. history and politics
- B. humanities studies
- C. african studies
- D. economics

A B C D

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# Vocabulary

A Learn more about the words and expressions used in the reading texts.

<b>hagiography</b> (line 3)	/ˌhæɡiˈɒɡrəfi/	(n) a biography that handles its subject with supreme reverence and respect, portraying a saint-like figure <i>We were surprised to read about the good deeds done by the notorious historical figure in his <b>hagiography</b>.</i>
<b>remedy</b> (line 9)	/ˈremədi/	(v) fix, solve or cure something <i>You can <b>remedy</b> your headache by taking painkillers.</i>
<b>infidelity</b> (line 28)	/ˌɪnfɪˈdeləti/	(n) betrayal, an act of disloyalty (often by a husband or wife towards their spouse) <i>He is struggling to cope with his wife's <b>infidelity</b>.</i>
<b>chastise</b> (line 49)	/tʃæˈstaɪz/	(v) tell off, discipline or criticise; literally to 'make chaste' (pure) <i>Yesterday, she was <b>chastised</b> at school for her inappropriate attire.</i>
<b>blank slate</b> (para. 4 heading)	/blæŋk.sleɪt/	(n) a new start, a fresh beginning (that avoids what has come before) <i>Having forgotten everything about her past, her mind was like a <b>blank slate</b>.</i>
<b>non-negotiable</b> (line 20)	/nɒn.nɪˈɡəʊʃjəbl/	(adj) not open for debate, unchangeable (usually related to a proposal or agreement) <i>As they discussed the terms of her employment, she made clear which terms were <b>non-negotiable</b>.</i>
<b>nationalise</b> (line 24)	/ˈnæʃnəlaɪz/	(v) bring companies under government control or influence, in theory for the benefit of the people <i>The government introduced <b>nationalised</b> health care for everyone in the country.</i>
<b>bargaining chip</b> (line 28)	/ˈbɑːɡeɪnɪŋ.tʃɪp/	(n) something used to help your negotiations with someone else, an advantage that you can bring to discussions <i>With his promise to target poverty as a <b>bargaining chip</b>, the politician won many more votes.</i>
<b>pact</b> (line 29)	/pækt/	(n) a serious agreement <i>My wife and I have made a <b>pact</b> not to argue unnecessarily.</i>
<b>affirm</b> (line 31)	/əˈfɜːm/	(v) assert or push your point as the truth <i>During the trial, the witness <b>affirmed</b> the defendant's innocence.</i>

B Match each word or expression in Column A to the correct definition in Column B.

Column A		Column B
1. mutually beneficial	_____	A. honest and cannot be bribed, or made to do wrong or dishonest things
2. incorruptible	_____	B. a way of reaching an agreement with concessions from both sides (each giving up something they want)
3. peacemaker	_____	C. advantageous to both sides
4. compromise	_____	D. someone who tries to persuade people, or nations, to stop fighting
5. persecute	_____	E. to choose someone to take up a particular job by voting
6. elect	_____	F. to treat someone cruelly especially because of their political beliefs, religion or race

C Complete the following text with the words and phrases from the box. Use the correct form. Refer to the vocabulary list in Appendix to check meanings if needed. Use each word or phrase ONCE only.

comfort zone	cope	courage
overseas	successful	

### Courage and Determination: Chong Chan-yau's Story

It is easy to set out the basic facts of Mr Chong's career: a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Hong Kong, then a Master of Science in the design and management of information systems at the University of London. Next came a move into the private sector and also into university teaching. When we add that Mr Chong became Executive Director of Oxfam Hong Kong, we have already outlined a career which is very (1) \_\_\_\_\_ by any standards. However, there is more to Mr Chong's story. He has had to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ with blindness, together with all the added practical difficulties and challenges it brings.

His story is a good example of human (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and determination. Not only did he perform well in his studies, he was also very brave in choosing to move beyond his familiar surroundings, leaving Hong Kong to gain further qualifications (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Mr Chong opted not to stay within his (5) \_\_\_\_\_ but to push forward.

We can learn a lot from him.

## Writing

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A local newspaper recently featured a column highlighting our society's ignorance and apathy towards racism.

Create a poster to raise awareness about racism. Be sure to include reasons why racism should not be tolerated.

## Speaking

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### Group interaction

Your group is organising an anti-discrimination campaign. Discuss with your group how to go about the campaign.

You may want to talk about:

- what kinds of discrimination people may face
- what activities you could organise to encourage anti-discrimination
- why people might discriminate against others

### Individual response

Do you think Hong Kong is very accepting of people who are not from Hong Kong?