



LESSON PLAN: SOUTH AFRICA AFTER TEN YEARS OF FREEDOM

MATCHING EXERCISE: Comparing Apartheid and Post Apartheid

Column A: Conditions of South Africa Under Apartheid

1. An oppressive regime supporting violent repression of a majority Black and Colored population segregated into strictly enforced residential areas called townships in urban areas and Bantustans in rural areas with marked class differences [*Research Soweto, Langa, Khayelitsha, District Six*]
2. A country marked by violence and revengeful acts of atrocity by both sides to maintain or oppose the system [*Research Amnesty cases of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; see Sharpeville massacre*]
3. The wealthiest economy on the African continent in which large and small multinational companies and government policies from the European Union, the Nordic Council, the Commonwealth, the United States and Canada showed their opposition to the regime by cooperating with a United Nations sponsored policy of economic sanctions, arms embargo, severe restrictions on trade and aid [*Research the economic sanctions process in South Africa*]
4. The threat of civil war to cause a regime change with military aid coming from both sides -- the United States and the Soviet Union -- during the Cold War years [*Research sources of military aid to the Nationalist government and to African National Congress*]
5. A country in which only people of European [Dutch and English] background -- less than 20% of its citizenry -- could vote [*Research voting procedures during the 1949 – 1994 years*]
6. Limited and crowded education existed for the majority of students (all those of color) producing a generation of radicalized Black youth leading protests, demonstrations and school boycotts [*Research the Soweto uprising*]

Column B - Conditions of Post Apartheid South Africa

- A. Ongoing efforts under way to adjust school policies, admission procedures, resources including computer instruction, student exchange programs, opportunities for post secondary education to growing numbers of students whose parents never had such options

B. Still the wealthiest African economy, though not the most populous, now supported by a large and growing number of foreign investors, the presence of a strong and growing multinational corporate sector as well as the presence of expanding Black and Colored business ventures

C. South Africa continues to experiment with a concept of restorative justice, which aims to move beyond retaliation for crimes committed during the apartheid era to understanding, forgiveness and cooperation, including removal of the death penalty

D. Legislatively there are more equal opportunities for all its citizens; some integrated residential areas exist for those who can afford them

E. A new constitution hailed as one of the world's most enlightened, a Truth and Reconciliation process aimed at healing the wounds of apartheid as perpetrators and victims came forward to tell their stories and receive amnesty for their wrongdoings, a multiracial Parliament, a functioning multiparty system with successful participation by political parties previously declared illegal and ineligible, and a thriving free press

F. South Africa is holding its third election in its "first decade of freedom," as the current President has called it, allowing participation by all of South Africa's citizens with 89% voter turnout recorded for the last national election in 1999.