

# St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi - 110092

Session: 2024-2025- Notes

Class: X

Subject: English

Topic: Ch-2 Nelson Mandela:

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Long Walk to Freedom

Answer the following questions:

Q1. Can you say how 10 May is an 'autumn day' in South Africa?

Ans. Autumn is at once symbolic of plenty, ripening, harvest, and abundance; and at the same time, a symbol of decay, decline, old age, and even death. 10 May was therefore typically an 'autumn day' in South Africa because on this day, there was the largest gathering of international leaders on South African soil for the installation of South Africa's first democratic, non-racial government, marking the end of centuries of apartheid.

Q2. Why were two national anthems sung?

Ans. The day of the inauguration saw yet another spectacular event. The two national anthems of the country were played. It was symbolic because the Whites sang the anthem of the Blacks 'Nkosi Sikeli-Africa' and the Blacks sang 'Die Stem' the anthem of the Whites. This was indicative of the beginning of a new era in the history of South Africa.

Q3. How did Mandela's 'hunger for freedom' change his life?

Ans. Mandela realised in his youth that it was not just his freedom that was being curtailed, but the freedom of all Blacks. The hunger for his own freedom became the hunger for the freedom of his people. This desire of a non-racial society transformed him into a virtuous and self-sacrificing man. Thus, he joined the African National Congress and this changed him from a frightened young man into a bold man.

Q4. What did Nelson Mandela pledge when he was sworn in as President?

Ans. Nelson Mandela pledged to uphold the Constitution of his country and devote himself to liberate his people from the bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discriminations. There would be freedom and justice for one and all, irrespective of their gender or race.



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Q5. Write down Mandela's views about the policy of Apartheid.

Ans. Mandela says that the policy of Apartheid created a deep and lasting wound in his country and his people. It was such a deep wound that all of them would take many years, if not generations, to recover from. The people of South Africa had to suffer decades of oppression and brutality. This had another unintended effect. It produced men of extraordinary courage, wisdom and generosity among the Blacks. The deeper the oppression, the stronger becomes the character that suffers it. Mandela says his country is rich in the minerals and gems that lie beneath its soil, but its greatest wealth is its people who are finer and truer than the purest diamonds. The policy of Apartheid practiced by the Whites brought to light these purest diamonds among the Blacks of South Africa.



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