

SECTION  
4

# Reading for Understanding

## ▶ Key Ideas

### BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

When power in a nation changes hands, there are often violent conflicts.

### NOW YOU WILL LEARN

South Africa made a successful change from a minority-rule nation to a majority-rule government but still faces many challenges.

## ▶ Vocabulary

### TERMS & NAMES

**Boer** a Dutch colonist or descendant in South Africa

**Cape Colony** South African land settled by Dutch colonists called Boers in the 1600s and 1700s

**Afrikaner** a South African of European ancestry who speaks a language called Afrikaans

**apartheid** (uh•PAHRT•hyt) the official policy of racial segregation practiced in South Africa

**African National Congress (ANC)** South African political party opposing apartheid

**sanction** a penalty or pressure applied to a country for not obeying an order or law

**Nelson Mandela** South Africa's first African president

### BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

**Commonwealth of Nations** an association of British colonies

**segregation** the policy of separating people of different races

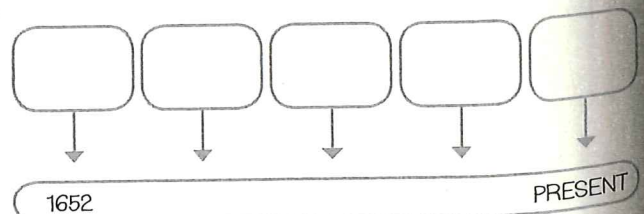
## ▶ Reading Strategy

Re-create the time line shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the time line to order events related to South Africa.



Skillbuilder Handbook, page R6

### SEQUENCE EVENTS



GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Go to Interactive Review @ClassZone.com

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FOCUS ON

# South Africa

## Connecting to Your World

In the presidential election of 2004, just over half the eligible adults in the United States cast ballots. In contrast, in the South African elections of 1994, almost 90 percent of eligible voters came to the polls. Millions of people stood in long lines, patiently awaiting their turn to vote. Some had to wait for a day or more, but they didn't mind. The 1994 election in South Africa was the first time most South Africans had ever been allowed to vote.



**Voting Lines** South Africans wait to vote in the 1994 election.

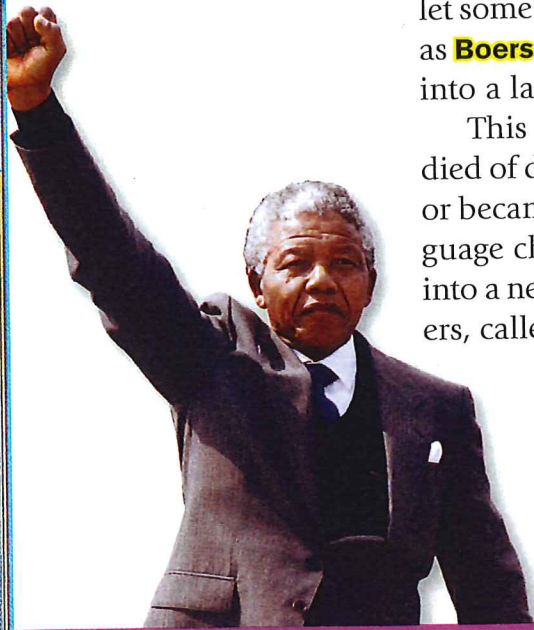
## Competition for the Land

**KEY QUESTION** What forms of external and internal protest helped bring an end to South Africa's minority rule?

The San, hunter-gatherers who lived in small bands, were the earliest modern human beings to populate the area. Around A.D. 100, a related group called the Khoikhoi (KOY•koy) migrated from the north. Today these groups are called the Khoisan. The great Bantu migration later brought Bantu speakers from the north. These peoples included the Zulu, the Xhosa (KOH•sah), the Sotho, and the Tswana. They herded cattle, raised grain, made iron tools and weapons, and traded with other peoples.

**Johannesburg** The Hillbrow Tower dominates the skyline of South Africa's largest metropolitan area.





## HISTORY MAKERS

### Nelson Mandela (born 1918)

Nelson Mandela, head of the African National Congress, spent almost 30 years in prison for resisting apartheid. In 1993, three years after his release from prison, Mandela accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of all South Africans who had sacrificed so much for freedom. In 1994, Mandela won South Africa's first free democratic election, and he served as the country's president until 1998.



#### ONLINE BIOGRAPHY

For more on the life of Nelson Mandela, go to the Research & Writing Center @ [ClassZone.com](http://ClassZone.com)

**Colonizers Clash** European settlers working for the Dutch East India Company landed in South Africa in 1652. In 1657 the company let some workers start their own farms. These farmers became known as **Boers**. By the end of the 1700s, the Boer population had expanded into a large section of land called the **Cape Colony**.

This European intrusion shattered the Khoikhoi and San. Many died of diseases, such as smallpox. The survivors fought the colonists or became their slaves and servants. Gradually the Boers' Dutch language changed, blending with San, Khoikhoi, and other languages into a new language called Afrikaans. By 1770, white Afrikaans speakers, called **Afrikaners**, began to spread beyond the Cape Colony.

British settlers began arriving in 1820, after Britain won control of the Cape Colony. The British clashed with the Boers, defeating them in 1902. Five years earlier, Britain had defeated the last independent Zulu kingdom in South Africa. The Union of South Africa, which was established in 1910, joined the British **Commonwealth of Nations** in 1931.

**Apartheid and Its Overthrow** Afrikaners and English-speaking whites controlled South African politics, excluding the black majority from power. Some Afrikaners wanted to make Afrikaans a national language and to enforce stricter **segregation**, or separation, between blacks and whites. After World War II, the Afrikaner National Party put into place a harsh program of **apartheid** (uh•PART•hyt), which made segregation a law. The new laws classified South Africans by race and separated the groups into their own schools and neighborhoods.

In South Africa, many groups opposed apartheid, including the **African National Congress (ANC)**, a black political party. Internal protests took the form of boycotts, strikes, marches, and occasional violence. The United States and other countries applied **sanctions**, or economic pressure, on South Africa, refusing to trade with the country. South Africa left the Commonwealth of Nations. It was banned from competing in the Olympics for nearly 30 years. In 1990 and 1991, the South African government repealed all its apartheid laws. The country's first free multiracial election in 1994 awarded the presidency to ANC leader **Nelson Mandela**. In 1996, South Africa adopted a new constitution guaranteeing basic freedoms to all its citizens.



**COMPARE** Compare the internal and external protests that helped end apartheid.

## South African Life and Culture

**KEY QUESTION** How are South Africans adjusting to life after apartheid?

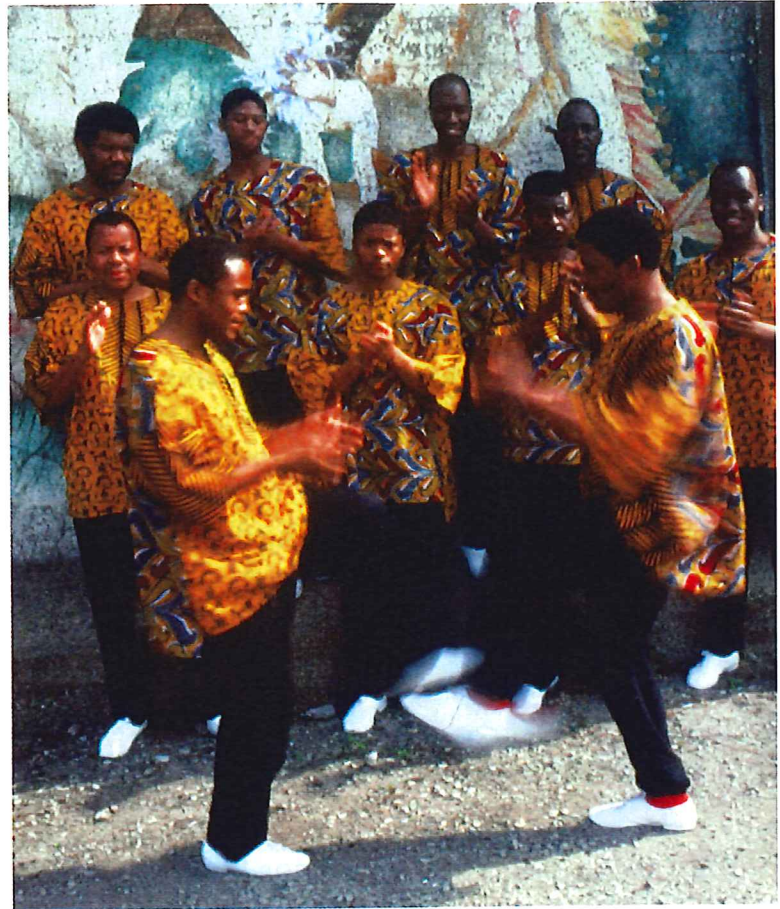
The effects of apartheid linger in today's South Africa. Whites still have higher-paying jobs and enjoy a better standard of living than other groups. The government wants to correct these inequalities, but it takes time.

**Cultural Characteristics** Black Africans make up about 79 percent of South Africa's population. Ten percent of the population is white, about 9 percent are mixed race, and 2 percent are Asian. Four out of five South Africans are Christians. Many black South Africans belong to African independent churches that mix Christian and African beliefs. Before apartheid ended, English and Afrikaans were the country's only official languages. Today nine African languages also have official status, including Zulu, Xhosa, Sepedi, and Setswana. More than half of black South Africans and about 90 percent of whites live in urban areas.

**Varied Ways of Life** Many white South Africans live in roomy single-family suburban homes. English and Afrikaans speakers have recently begun to mix, moving into each other's neighborhoods. While there is a growing black urban middle class, many blacks still live in poor, segregated areas far from city centers, or in shelters. In rural areas, some blacks work as subsistence farmers on small farms, or on larger white-owned farms that raise cash crops.

South African artists excel in dance, painting, music, and writing. This country's wealth of languages has produced a rich literature in English, Zulu, Sotho, and Afrikaans. The vocal group Ladysmith Black Mambazo introduced the world to South African harmony singing, performed in an African humming style. Another popular South African group, the African Jazz Pioneers, performed for President Mandela.

**IDENTIFY CAUSES** Describe how life has changed in South Africa since the end of apartheid.



**Ladysmith Black Mambazo** This popular ten-member group takes its name from a Zulu village called Ladysmith. "Mambazo" is a Zulu word for "axe."

## Government and Economics

**KEY QUESTION** How is South Africa's national government like and unlike that of the United States?

While creating its new constitution, South Africa gave its citizens a large role in the decision-making process. Local leaders met with the public and gathered ideas on how the new government should work. South Africa's constitution, adopted in 1996, includes a Bill of Rights which guarantees rights of religious freedom, security, health care, property, education, and self-expression.

Like the United States, South Africa has three branches of government: executive, judicial, and a two-house legislative branch. However, the legislative branch operates in a British parliamentary style. The lower house of parliament, the National Assembly, chooses the president from among its members. The National Council of Provinces, or upper house, protects regional interests such as ethnic traditions. Also, South Africa has a separate capital for each branch of government. The parliament meets in Cape Town. The executive branch is based in Pretoria, while South Africa's highest court, the Constitutional Court, meets in Bloemfontein.

South Africa enjoys Africa's most advanced economy and turns out one-fourth of the goods and services produced by the entire continent. Having many different economic activities keeps the country's economy strong and protects against a fall in demand for any one product.

### CONNECT to Economics

A country's economic activities can tell you about its level of development. Instead of a GDP based heavily on agriculture, developed economies have more industry and service jobs. In South Africa's developed economy, less than 3 percent of GDP comes from agriculture, 30 percent from industries such as manufacturing, and over 67 percent from service industries.



### Activity

#### Make a Pie Graph

##### Materials

- paper
- colored pens
- protractor
- compass
- scratch paper or calculator

1. Research the economic activities of an African country. Look for data given as a percentage of the country's GDP.
2. Convert the percentages into decimals, then multiply each decimal by 360. This gives you the angles of each "slice" of your pie chart.
3. Use a compass and protractor to draw a large circle and angles within the circle.
4. Label each slice of the pie chart, then give your chart a title.

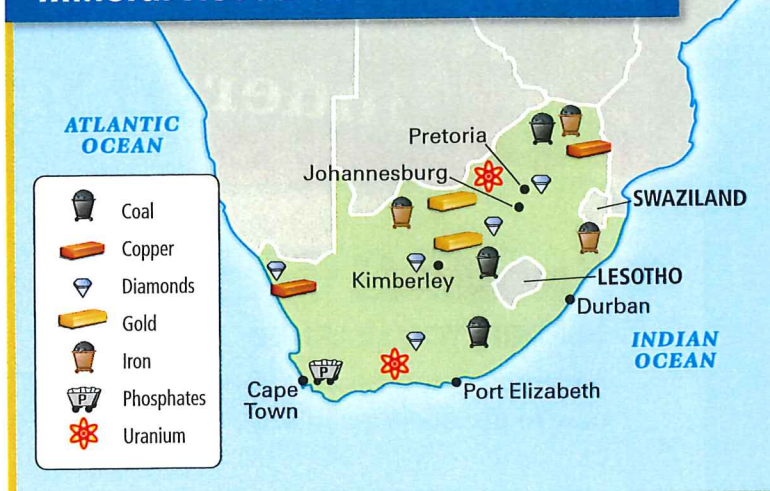


South Africa's strong industries include mining, agriculture, fishing, and manufacturing. South Africa supplies one-third of the world's gold and produces coal, copper, diamonds, iron, and other minerals. South Africa's farms grow most of the country's food, and export fruits, corn, potatoes, sugar, wheat, and wool. Rich coastal waters produce fish and shellfish for export, while South African factories turn out chemicals, clothing and textiles, steel, machinery, motor vehicles, and processed foods. South Africa's trade is helped by the continent's best-developed infrastructure.

Unfortunately, black poverty and unemployment remain as effects of apartheid. Blacks are moving into better-paying jobs, but whites still occupy the most powerful roles.

**COMPARE AND CONTRAST** Describe the similarities between the United States government and South Africa's.

## Mineral Resources of South Africa



### CONNECT Geography & History

**Location** Which resource would require the most transportation infrastructure, and why?

## Section 4 Assessment

**ONLINE QUIZ**  
For test practice, go to  
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### TERMS & NAMES

#### 1. Explain the importance of

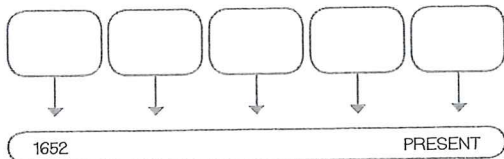
- Boer
- Afrikaner
- apartheid
- Nelson Mandela

### USE YOUR READING NOTES

#### 2. Sequence Events

Use your completed graphic organizer to answer the following question:

For how long were there European colonies in what is now South Africa?



### KEY IDEAS

3. Which two European countries colonized South Africa?
4. What are three of South Africa's official languages?
5. What are some of South Africa's leading industries?

### CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Make Inferences** What makes Afrikaans an African language?
7. **Draw Conclusions** How do you think trade sanctions pressured South Africa to end apartheid?
8. **CONNECT to Today** South Africa's coastal waters produce tons of fish and seafood each year. But overfishing has severely reduced fish stocks. What can South Africa do to protect the fishing industry in the future?
9. **LANGUAGE ARTS Give a Speech** Research the writings and speeches of Nelson Mandela. Memorize a paragraph from a speech that you especially like and deliver it to your class. Explain the circumstances of the speech in a brief introduction.