

Mandela: a great man

1) Circle all the adjectives that suit best the personality of Nelson Mandela.

Calm	caring	gentle	sensible	sophisticated
Open-minded	generous	narrow-minded	devoted	stubborn
Aggressive	authoritative	charming	nervous	confident
Tolerant	wise	optimistic	fearful	weak
Hopeful	educated	pessimistic	determined	respectful
Rude	selfish	sensitive	pacifist	clumsy

2) For each adjective, give a justification taken from the film.

Ex: Mandela was hopeful because he was thinking of a better future for South Africa.

3) Listen to Rob (from Wales) talking about Nelson Mandela and get information.

President	from to
Before he was	
Arrested	in
Afflicted	of
Sentenced	to in
He served years
His priority as President	- -
Number of awards in decades
In 1993	
In the film Invictus	
His opinion on Mandela	

<http://www.audio-linqua.eu/spip.php?article2363> (april 2012)

3) A l'aide de ces informations, reformuler oralement la présentation de Nelson Mandela.



4) Introduce another famous person who also fought for black identity and equality.

Invictus – Step 4

Prisoner on Robben Island (→ 1'17 to 1'20)

1) Circle the correct information:

- ↳ Mandela was sent to prison in: 1962 1963 1964
↳ His cell number was: 46646 46664 64446

2) Describe his cell:
.....

Describe his activities:

Describe his feelings:

3) Read Mandela's favourite poem

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate :
I am the captain of my soul.

William Ernest Henley, 1931

- A. Relevez le champ lexical de la souffrance.
- B. Quels mots ont par opposition une connotation positive ?
- C. Associez les 4 strophes, ici traduites et mélangées, aux 4 strophes originales.
- D. Quel est le message de ce poème ?

En ce lieu de colère et de pleurs,
Se profile l'ombre de la mort,
Et je ne sais ce que me réserve le sort,
Mais je suis et je resterai sans peur,

Aussi étroit soit le chemin,
Nombreux les châtiments infâmes,
Je suis le maître de mon destin,
Je suis le capitaine de mon âme.

Dans de cruelles circonstances,
Je n'ai ni gémi ni pleuré,
Meurtri par cette existence,
Je suis debout bien que blessé,

Dans les ténèbres qui m'enserrent,
Noires comme un puits où l'on se noie,
Je rends grâce aux dieux quels qu'ils soient,
Pour mon âme invincible et fière,

Traduction d'après la VF du film *Invictus*

4) Imagine 5 questions you would have asked if you had interviewed Nelson Mandela in 1994.

