

DARPL – TEACHERS’ NOTES to accompany PowerPoint slides. (Please tailor slides according to your needs / age of learner, as notes are a guide)

Nelson Mandela and Swansea

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Note – A selection of suggestions for teacher questions are posed in blue as below:

Slide 1	Cover slide
Slide 2	Guide on how to use ppt slides
Slide 3	What is the connection between? 1. Swansea, Wales 2. Rugby 3. Nelson Mandela 4. Apartheid 5. South Africa
Slide 4	Shows a news report from the BBC and depicts the ‘Battle of Swansea’ The so called ‘Battle of Swansea’ began on 15th November 1969. The game of Rugby, the national game of Wales, became a battle ground, when the visiting South African Springboks rugby team, were due to play against Wales at Swansea’s St Helen’s rugby ground. Peaceful demonstrations against the match by anti-apartheid protestors became violent and hundreds were either hurt or arrested. News reports at time suggested the Welsh team hired vigilantes, who were tasked to fight with the demonstrators. The ‘Battle of Swansea’ sent shockwaves not only around the sporting world - but the political one too. The then-Home Secretary and future Prime Minister James Callaghan told Parliament that the behaviour at Swansea had caused ‘public disquiet’. Larger protests followed the Springboks tour in the UK and every game was played in an atmosphere of violence and heavy policing - but there was no repeat of the Swansea violence.
Slide 5	This slide shows an image depicting protestors holding up signs against Apartheid. What do learners know about Apartheid? What do they think it was?
Slide 6	Peter Hain, who would later become Lord Hain and a member of parliament for Neath, was a key proponent of the anti-apartheid movement in Wales. When the protest in Swansea took place, he was a 19-year-old student and already an ardent anti-racism campaigner. He helped to highlight the heinous injustices that were apparent in South Africa during Apartheid. Hain was telling the world and Welsh rugby the horrors that were going on, but at that time, Welsh rugby was not listening. The issue being that they were focused on the game, rather than the atrocities in South Africa. As Peter Hain said -

	"Frankly it was a dialogue with the deaf between anti-apartheid protestors, and players and spectators, We tried to engage with them to say they were collaborators with the most evil and racist system in the world, but they just thought we were interfering with their game - and they really hated us for it." (Lloyd, M. 2019)
Slide 7	Slide depicting the Apartheid Regime. Apartheid was a system of racial segregation that existed in South Africa from 1948 until the early 1990s. It was a political ideology and culture based on the idea that white people were superior to Black or Brown people. This regime ensured that South Africa was governed politically, socially, and economically by the nation's minority white population. The white politicians devised a classification system, whereby white citizens had the highest status, followed by Asians and 'Coloureds' (mixed race or lighter skinned people), then Black Africans at the bottom. The economic legacy and social and cultural effects of apartheid continue today. The citizens of South Africa were segregated by the colour of their skin into separate public facilities and social events. They were allocated districts where they could live and work. Black South Africans came off worse through this brutal system and many lived their lives in abject poverty and fear. Further information on the Apartheid regime is in the 'further reading' section.
Slide 8	Nelson Mandela Nelson Mandela was the leader of the African National Congress (ANC) who was classed as a terrorist by the South African government and sent to prison for 27 years. By imprisoning him, his sentence brought international visibility to the struggles of Black South Africans. He was finally released through international pressure in 1990. On his release from prison, he worked tirelessly to end apartheid. Eventually in 1994 all people in South Africa were allowed to vote. Nelson Mandella won this election and became president of South Africa. Nelson Mandella visited Wales in in 1998, where he met Peter Hain and praised the contribution of Welsh people to the anti-apartheid fight. How did the people of Wales support the fight against apartheid? What did they do? Learners can undertake research to find out.
Slide 9	How things have changed – Fifty years on from the 'Battle of Swansea' in 2019, South Africa had their first Black rugby captain of the Springboks team, when Siya Kolisi was appointed captain. He then led the team to victory in the 2019 Rugby world cup against England.

Suggested Further Reading:

Information about Lord Peter Hain and publications - <https://peterhain.uk/about-peter/>

The 'Battle of Swansea' : <https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/swansea-rfc-south-africa-apartheid-19955879>

Information on Apartheid in South Africa:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0160mtw>

Lloyd, M. (2019, online) Rugby and apartheid: 50 years on from the 'Battle of Swansea'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-50422755>

Van Wyk, C., Mandela, N., (2014) Abridged. Long Walk to Freedom: Illustrated children's edition. London: Macmillan Children's Books; Main Market edition.