

Pre-watching activity

***THE RAINBOW NATION STARTS HERE.  
RECONCILIATION STARTS HERE.  
FORGIVENESS LIBERATES THE SOUL, THAT'S WHY IT'S SUCH A POWERFUL  
WEAPON.***

( quotation from the film "INVICTUS")

"Google" this information, take down notes. Then tell the class.



1- What does the term "apartheid" mean?

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2- What did the system segregate?

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3- Who put it into practice and when did it start and finish?

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4- Who won the first multi-racial democratic elections in 1994?

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5- Who was Nelson Mandela?

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6- How many years did he spend in prison?

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7- Which important prize did he get and why?

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8- What did he do while he was in prison?

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# FILM SESSION

# Worksheet 1

**Invictus** is a 2009 biographical drama film based on events in South Africa before and during the 1995 Rugby World Cup, hosted in that country following the dismantling of apartheid.

Directed by Clint Eastwood, the film stars **Morgan Freeman** as South African President **Nelson Mandela** and **Matt Damon** as **François Pienaar**, the captain of the **Springboks**, the South African rugby union team.



1- Watch the SCENES 1 - 10 and write down who says these words.  
Then answer the questions below.

<b>FRANCOIS PIENAAR</b>	<b>BRENDA</b> (Mandela's Chief of Staff)
<b>JASON</b> (Chief of Presidential Security Team)	<b>FRANCOIS'S FATHER</b>
<b>COACH</b> at rugby field	<b>MANDELA</b>

- Remember these days boys. This is the day our country went to the dogs.  
 .....
- Never, never and never again shall it be, that this beautiful land will experience the oppression of one by another and suffer the indignity of being the skunk of the world.  
 .....
- We're next...they're gonna take our jobs and they're gonna drive us into the sea.  
 .....
- Not long ago these guys tried to kill us.....
- Come on. We need to focus! .....
- You're risking your future as our leader...at least, risk it for something more important than rugby. ....
- Our enemy is no longer the Afrikaner. They are our fellow South Africans, our partners in democracy. ....
- I'd like to propose a toast: to the taste of defeat. Drink it, remember this and promise never to taste it again.....
- He wants me over for tea, week after next.  
 .....
- How do we inspire everyone around us?  
 .....



➤ Put the events in the order they appear in scenes 12 - 21:



- A Chester watches the match against Australia.
- A Mandela is found lying on the floor. He 's overstressed.
- A The Springboks win against Samoa.
- A The Springboks watch the match between England – New Zealand.
- A Mandela personally gives the poem "Invictus" to François.
- 1** *The Springboks conduct coaching clinics in townships all over the country.*
- A Mandela asks for a report on the All Blacks.
- A François gets four tickets for the final match.
- A Jason sees a jet coming towards the stadium.
- A The team is taken to Robben Island to see the prison where Mandela was.
- A Blacks and whites alike at Ellis Park cheer the President.



*I am the master of my fate:  
I am the captain of my soul.*

## Film Session: INVICTUS

## After-viewing activities

Read the plot and put the following words into the correct blanks.

SUCCEED	AMAZEMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	TENSIONS	
DISLIKED	APARTHEID	ARRANGES	ENTHUSIASTICALLY	BECOMES
SHARING	INSPIRING			
	CHEER	TRAFFIC-JAMMED	HOST	
	VERBALIZE	SURPASS		

After decades in a *Robben Island* prison, Nelson Mandela (*Morgan Freeman*) is released in 1990 and works immediately to bring about the end of **1**-..... and the initiation of full democratic elections; in such an election, the black majority population can vote. Mandela wins and **2**-.....the President of South Africa in 1994.

Racial **3**-..... from the apartheid era have not completely disappeared. This is seen, in part, through Mandela's security team, which consists of both new black and old white officials, who are immediately hostile to each other despite **4**- ..... the same job and goal.

While Mandela tries to deal with the country's largest problems—including crime and **5**..... —he attends a game of the *Springboks*, the country's rugby union team. Mandela observes that non-whites in the stadium **6**-..... *against* their home team, as the *Springboks* (their history, players, and even their colours) represent prejudice and apartheid in their minds.

Knowing that South Africa is going to **7**-..... the *1995 Rugby World Cup* in one year's time, Mandela convinces a meeting of the South African Sports Committee not to change the Springboks' name and colours. He then **8**- ..... a meeting with the captain of the Springboks rugby team, François Pienaar (*Matt Damon*).

Although Mandela does not **9**- ..... his true meaning during their meeting, Pienaar understands the message: if the Springboks can gain the support of non-white South Africans and **10**- ..... in the World Cup, the country will be unified and inspired. Mandela also shares with Pienaar that a poem, "*Invictus*", had been **11**.....to him during his time in prison, helping him to "stand when all he wanted to do was lie down".

During the opening games, support for the Springboks begins to grow amongst the non-white population. As things progress, even the security team members become at ease with each other and the black members who **12**- ..... the sport eventually began to **13**- ..... support their national team together with their white colleagues.

The Springboks **14**- ..... all expectations and make it to the final, only to face the *New Zealand All Blacks*—the most successful rugby team in the world.

The night before the match, Pienaar mentions his **15**- ..... that Mandela "*could spend thirty years in a tiny cell, and come out ready to forgive the men who put him there.*"

In the last scene, Mandela's car is seen driving away in the **16**..... streets leaving the stadium, and the film ends with Freeman reciting the last stanza of the poem for which the film is named, *Invictus*.

