

## THE ROAD TO DEMOCRACY



### Checklist

Make sure you:

- revise the relevant content and context for this topic
- know how to analyse different types of sources
- are able to construct a coherent argument for an extend writing question



### Exam Questions

#### Question 1

(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 2.3)

Read Source 1A.

- 1.1 Why did Nonhle Mohapi blame the apartheid regime for the death of her husband? (1 x 2) (2)
- 1.2 What motivated Nonhle Mohapi to give her testimony at the TRC hearings? (1 x 2) (2)
- 1.3 Quote TWO reasons why Nonhle Mohapi was critical about the work of the TRC. (2 x 1) (2)

#### Question 2

(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 2.4)

Refer to Source 1B.

- 2.1 Why, according to the source, was the TRC regarded as controversial? (1 x 2) (2)
- 2.2 Comment on why you think Gobodo-Madikizela stated that the TRC was an attempt 'to make real that history'. (1 x 3) (3)
- 2.3 Explain what is implied by the statement 'reconciliation is an embrace of evil'. (2 x 2) (4)
- 2.4 Define the concept justice in your own words. (1 x 2) (2)
- 2.5 Explain to what extent Gobodo-Madikizela's assertion that the TRC was able to attain 'justice' can be regarded as valid. (2 x 2) (4)

#### Question 3

(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 2.5)

Using the information in the relevant sources and your own knowledge, write a paragraph of about EIGHT lines (about 80 words) explaining whether the TRC assisted South Africans to come to terms with the past. (8)

#### Question 4

(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 5)

An upsurge of violence in the 1990s was a desperate attempt by right-wing political organisations to derail the process of negotiations.

Do you agree with this statement? Use relevant examples to support your argument.

[50]

**Source 1A**

This testimony by Nonhle Mohapi was made at the TRC hearings in East London in 1996.

In 1976, I was widowed; I became a widow of the apartheid regime. When the TRC began I was sceptical (doubtful), not knowing what to expect from the process, yet I was forward looking. I persistently (patiently) reminded myself that my main purpose in choosing to be a witness at the TRC was to unlock the truth of how my beloved husband Mapetla Mohapi died. I expected to get the whole truth from the TRC process.

It is true that the TRC was a political process forging the concept of nation-building and the rainbow nation. But did it do so at the expense of thousands of African victims and families living in South Africa ...?

As a doting (loving) mother and wife I welcomed the opportunity after waiting patiently for nearly 20 years to stand before the commission and ask for the truth.

*[From: Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa: 10 Years On by C Villa-Vicencio and F du Toit]*

**Source 1B**

This account by Gobodo-Madikizela focuses on the value of the TRC.

'And so I think it's important to realise that sometimes there's a very thin line between history and reality. And what we're trying to do in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is to make real that history. Not to make it just an object of the past but something that is real. There's a lot of controversy about how the Truth Commission is embracing reconciliation, and sacrificing justice for truth, and how, in fact, reconciliation is an embrace of evil. But being in the Truth Commission and having watched several victims walk up to the witness box and talk about their story, I'm reminded every day how the way we define concepts such as justice, for example the way we frame those definitions, decides the conclusions we make about those concepts. Justice, as far as many victims who have come to the Commission are concerned, is something totally different from what someone who has not had that experience would define as justice.

'I have been struck many times at the Truth Commission [by] how, in fact, victims look at justice as a validation (confirmation) of themselves, as a reaffirmation (confirmation) of themselves, something that tells them that, "You were right. You were right. The system that demonized (threatened) you, the system that took away all that you had was wrong, but you were right!" And the opportunity for these victims to come and tell their stories, to talk about their loss and their pain – in fact, the pain of silence about talking about the pain – that is broken for the first time at the hearings of the Truth Commission, is, on its own, sufficient validation for family members. And that, for me, is superior to any quest for justice because that embodies justice in a very meaningful way. It is reparative justice; it is justice nonetheless.'

*[From: [www.facinghistoryandourselves.org](http://www.facinghistoryandourselves.org). Accessed on 18 September 2013]*



## Answers

### Exam Questions

#### Question 1

*(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 2.3)*

- 1.1 She became a widow as a result of the crime committed by the apartheid regime  
Any other relevant response
- 1.2 She wanted to hear the truth about her husband's death
- 1.3 She claimed that the TRC was a political process  
The TRC promoted nation building and the emergence of rainbow nation at the expense of human lives  
The TRC took place without giving due regard to psychological trauma that people underwent and how people actually felt

#### Question 2

*(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 2.4)*

- 2.1 It embraced reconciliation and sacrificed truth for justice  
The process of reconciliation embraced evil without taking into account the suffering and torment the families of the 'victims' faced  
Any other relevant response
- 2.2 It acknowledged the pain and suffering caused  
Wanted to reveal the truth of the past events  
Acknowledged the injustices of the system of apartheid  
Any other relevant response
- 2.3 To forgive perpetrators without first establishing the extent of the human rights violations that victims experienced  
Acceptance of verbal testimony as the truth without corroborating the evidence  
Come to terms with the evil that caused the hurt  
Any other relevant response
- 2.4 Matters that are dealt with fairness, honesty, integrity  
Any other relevant response
- 2.5 TRC acknowledged the apartheid system was wrong  
TRC highlighted violation of human rights  
TRC acknowledged the victims pain and suffering  
TRC broke the silence and allowed the truth to be told and heard  
Any other relevant response

**Question 3**

*(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 2.5)*

**YES**

- The TRC aimed to address the gross human rights violations
- It allowed for the truth to be made known
- Gave many family members of victims the closure they needed
- Confessions led to forgiveness
- Promoted healing
- Contributed to national unity and reconciliation
- Contributed to nation building and the concept of the rainbow nation
- Any other relevant response

**NO**

Candidates must substantiate their response with relevant examples

**Question 4**

*(Adapted from Exemplar 2014, Paper 2, Question 5)*

**SYNOPSIS**

Candidates need to indicate whether or not they agree with the statement and show how the violence negatively affected and hindered the negotiating process in South Africa in the 1990s.

If candidates DISAGREE with the statement, they must substantiate their response with relevant examples.

If candidates AGREE with the statement, they need to include the following aspects in their response:

**MAIN ASPECTS**

Candidates should include the following aspects in their essays:

- Introduction: Candidates need to take a stance and indicate the various challenges that led to the breakdown in the negotiating process.

**ELABORATION**

- Talks about Talks (brief background)
- Groote Schuur Minute
- Outbreak of violence in Sebokeng
- Pretoria Minute
- CODESA 1
- Boipatong massacre and its impact
- Record Of Understanding
- Bhishe massacre and its impact
- CODESA 2
- Multiparty Negotiating Forum
- Sunset Clause
- Assassination of Chris Hani
- Election date set and Mandela elected as first black president
- Any other relevant response
- Conclusion: Candidates should tie up their argument with a relevant conclusion.

[50]