

GRADE 11 HISTORY

TERM 3 COMPREHENSIVE STUDY BOOKLET

SOUTH AFRICA: THE RISE AND FALL OF APARTHEID

CAPS-Aligned | Updated with Learner Resources

TOPICS COVERED IN THIS BOOKLET

1. How did segregation lay the foundations for Apartheid?
2. The National Party Victory in 1948
3. Legalising Apartheid
4. Overcoming Apartheid — The Nature of Resistance
5. The Sharpeville Massacre and the Beginning of the Armed Struggle
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SECTION 1: HOW DID SEGREGATION LAY THE FOUNDATIONS FOR APARTHEID?

1.1 What was Apartheid?

Apartheid was the racial policy introduced by the National Party in 1948 that enforced the total separation of racial groups — politically, economically, socially and culturally. The word comes from Afrikaans and means 'apartness'.

DEFINITION: APARTHEID

- A policy of 'separate development' between Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, based on the philosophy that the white race is superior to other races.
- It rested on belief in racial inequality and the commitment to legalised separation of races.
- Implementing it involved selective legislation, unequal treatment and exploitation of Black people.
- According to the apartheid doctrine, each race had its own distinct identity that had to be kept separate and 'pure'.
- The ideology was developed by Afrikaner intellectuals who believed they were chosen by God to maintain white supremacy.

1.2 How did Apartheid differ from Segregation?

Racial discrimination was not new in South Africa — it had existed since colonial times. However, apartheid was far stricter and more comprehensive than the segregation that already existed.

Feature	Segregation (pre-1948)	Apartheid (post-1948)
Enforcement	Inconsistent, partially applied	Rigid, total, legally enforced in all spheres
Racial Classification	Informal/partial	Formal — every person classified by race
Purpose	White economic advantage	Total racial separation + Afrikaner nationalism
Resistance	Some peaceful protest possible	Brutally suppressed; organisations banned
Homelands	Reserves existed but limited	Bantustans formally created; citizenship stripped
International	Little attention	Global condemnation, sanctions, isolation

1.3 Racism and Segregation in the World — 1920s and 1930s

- Racism and racial segregation were not unique to South Africa in the early 20th century.
- In the United States, African Americans were segregated in facilities — buses, schools, workplaces — under Jim Crow laws.

- In European colonies across Africa and Asia, colonised people had no political rights and were discriminated against in employment, housing and education.
- In South Africa, racism was deeply embedded in both British colonial and Afrikaner settler traditions.

1.4 Segregation after the Formation of the Union of South Africa (1910)

1.4.1 The Union of South Africa

- On 31 May 1910, the four colonies (Cape, Natal, Transvaal, Orange River Colony) united to form the Union of South Africa.
- South Africa became a self-governing dominion of the British Empire, part of the British Commonwealth.
- Political power was placed almost entirely in the hands of white people.
- Black South Africans were largely excluded — not only were they denied rights, but no provision was made for them to be included later.
- Racial segregation became official policy throughout the Union and laid the direct foundations of apartheid.
- From 1910 to 1948, Black South Africans tried repeatedly to win political rights but were repeatedly denied.

1.4.2 Segregation in the Workplace

- Special laws reserved skilled positions in the mines and factories for white workers only.
- The Mines and Works Amendment Act (1911) — also called the Colour Bar — reserved skilled jobs for whites.
- By 1926, skilled jobs were extended to Coloureds in some categories, but Indians and Africans remained excluded.
- The Industrial Conciliation Act (1924) recognised only white trade unions and denied Black workers the right to strike or join registered trade unions.
- In the 1920s, the 'civilised labour policy' gave white workers preference for government jobs such as the railways.
- Thousands of Black workers were dismissed and replaced by white workers.
- Black workers were confined to low-paid, unskilled manual labour.

1.4.3 Segregation in Land Ownership

- The Natives Land Act (1913) stated that Africans could own land only in designated reserves — covering just over 7% of the country's land.
- Thousands of people were forced off their land and removed to overcrowded, impoverished reserves.
- The Land Act was extended in 1936, and even more people were removed to the reserves.
- During the Great Depression, the Native Economic Commission (1932) focused only on uplifting whites, while Blacks were to remain in the reserves.

1.4.4 Segregation in Towns and Cities

- The Natives Urban Areas Act (1923) forced Black and Coloured residents into separate townships on the outskirts of cities.
- These townships were characterised by poor infrastructure, overcrowding and inadequate services.
- The government used the pass system to control movement from reserves to towns.

- Local councils had the power to force people back to the reserves if no jobs were available in the city.
- The Native Laws Amendment Act (1937) enforced stricter regulation of pass laws and prohibited Africans from buying land in urban areas from whites.
- Influx controls reduced Black access to cities; thousands were removed from urban slums to townships such as Alexandra and Orlando East.

1.4.5 Segregation in the Army

- Only white soldiers were allowed to serve in the South African Army.
- Black soldiers could only serve as unarmed auxiliaries — as cooks or drivers.

1.4.6 Segregation in Administration and the Legal System

- The government set up separate tribal councils to administer the reserves.
- Traditional chiefs were given limited powers under a separate system of 'Native Law'.
- The belief was that Black people should be ruled separately under their own 'traditional' structures — which were in fact controlled by the white government.

1.4.7 Segregation in Politics

- Before the 1930s, Africans in the Cape had limited voting rights under the Cape Qualified Franchise.
- The Representation of Natives Act (1936) removed Africans in the Cape from the common voters' roll — despite this right having been supposed to be protected in the Union Constitution.
- Instead, Black South Africans would be represented in Parliament by elected white representatives.
- The government established a Natives' Representative Council (NRC) with advisory powers only — it had no real power and was widely resented.
- The Electoral Laws Amendment Act (1937) created compulsory registration for white voters.

WHY SEGREGATION = FOUNDATION OF APARTHEID

- Urban segregation (townships, passes) directly led to the Group Areas Act and influx controls.
- Workplace discrimination led to the Bantu Education Act and labour apartheid laws.
- Land dispossession led to the Bantustans (Homelands) policy.
- Political exclusion laid the groundwork for stripping Black South Africans of citizenship.
- The pass system was expanded and enforced under apartheid to an even greater extent.
- As one essay explains: 'Segregational laws in the 1930s and 1940s played a significant role in laying the foundation for apartheid — these practices established racial divisions and limited the rights, opportunities and movement of black and coloured communities.'

SECTION 2: THE NATIONAL PARTY VICTORY IN 1948

2.1 Background: Why did Segregation Begin to Break Down?

- During World War II (1939–1945), segregation began to break down as South African industries expanded rapidly to support the war effort.
- There was a shortage of labour — Black South Africans began filling skilled jobs in factories and mines.
- Large numbers of Africans moved permanently to the cities; many built informal settlements on the Witwatersrand.
- The growth of Black urban labour led to increasing demands, strikes, and political activism.
- The 1946 Mineworkers' Strike — 75,000 Black mineworkers went on strike, alarming white employers and the government.
- The breakdown of segregation, growth of informal settlements, and rising Black activism worried white voters deeply.
- White voters were also concerned about the rise of African nationalism, especially the demands coming from the ANC Youth League (ANCYL).

2.2 The 1948 Election

2.2.1 The National Party's Campaign

- The National Party (NP), led by Dr. D.F. Malan, campaigned on a platform of strict apartheid — 'separate development' of the races.
- The NP used the concept of 'swart gevaar' (Black peril/fear) — exploiting white fear of being 'swamped' by Black South Africans.
- They promised Afrikaner voters protection of their language, culture, jobs, and identity.
- The NP promoted Afrikaner unity — uniting poor and rich Afrikaners into one 'volk' (nation).
- The Sauer Report (1947) outlined the NP's detailed apartheid programme.

2.2.2 Why the NP Won

- The minority of South Africa's population — white voters only — voted in the 1948 election.
- The NP won 70 seats; the UP won 65 seats. A coalition with the Afrikaner Party (9 seats) gave the NP a governing majority.
- Despite the UP winning more total votes, rural constituency boundaries favoured the NP.
- Afrikaner nationalist sentiment ran high — many Afrikaners felt marginalised economically and culturally by English-speaking dominance.
- The Broederbond (secret Afrikaner brotherhood founded in 1918) actively mobilised support for the NP.
- Smuts (UP) had neglected domestic racial policy while focusing on international affairs.
- Dr. D.F. Malan became Prime Minister on 4 June 1948. The apartheid era had begun.

2.3 Why did the NP adopt the Policy of Apartheid?

THREE EXPLANATIONS FOR APARTHEID

- **IDEOLOGICAL:** Afrikaner nationalists believed in the superiority of the Afrikaner

'volk'. The Dutch Reformed Church provided theological justification, claiming apartheid was God's will and supported by the Bible.

- **RACIAL FEAR:** Afrikaners feared their identity and existence would be threatened if large numbers of Black people lived among them. Apartheid was seen as necessary for Afrikaner survival and to guarantee white privileges.
- **ECONOMIC:** Apartheid laws were designed to secure cheap, easily controlled labour for white farmers and industries. The system locked Black workers into low-wage manual labour.

SECTION 3: LEGALISING APARTHEID

3.1 Overview: What did Apartheid Laws Aim to Do?

After coming to power in 1948, the National Party wasted no time passing discriminatory legislation. These laws affected every detail of the lives of all South Africans. White lives became increasingly privileged and comfortable; Black lives became characterised by hardship, restriction, and humiliation.

THE FOUR PILLARS OF APARTHEID LEGISLATION

- 1. RACE LAWS — classified people by race and controlled marriage and sexual relations between races.
- 2. MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS — controlled where people could live, work and travel (Group Areas Act, pass laws).
- 3. SEPARATE AMENITIES — enforced racial separation in all public spaces.
- 4. EDUCATION AND LABOUR LAWS — created inferior education for Black children and controlled the labour force.

3.2 Race Laws

3.2.1 The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act (1949)

- Made marriages between white people and people of other races illegal.
- Based on the apartheid belief in racial purity.

3.2.2 The Immorality Amendment Act (1950)

- Prevented sexual relations between white and non-white South Africans.
- Aimed at maintaining the racial purity of whites.

3.2.3 The Population Registration Act (1950)

- Required every South African to be classified into one of four racial categories: White, Asian (Indian), Coloured, or Native (African/Black).
- Classification was based on appearance, social acceptance and descent.
- A person could not be classified as white if one of their parents was non-white.
- Each person's name, address, race classification and employer was recorded.
- This Act formed the legal foundation of the entire apartheid system — all other laws depended on it.

3.3 Restricted Movement

3.3.1 The Group Areas Act (1950)

- Designated separate residential and business areas for each racial group.
- If an area was declared for a particular race, all others were forced to move to designated areas.
- Led to massive forced removals — over 3.5 million people were forcibly removed between the 1960s and 1980s.

- Examples: District Six (Cape Town) — Coloured community removed; Sophiatown (Johannesburg) — Black community removed to Meadowlands, Soweto (1955).
- Cato Manor (Durban) was declared a white area; Indians were moved to Chatsworth, Coloureds to Wentworth, Africans to Umlazi.

3.3.2 The Abolition of Passes and Co-ordination of Documents Act (1952)

- Despite its misleading name, this Act required all Africans to carry a single pass book (reference book), known as the dompas.
- The pass book contained the holder's name, address, photograph, ID number, tax receipt, and employer's signature.
- All Africans over 16 had to carry it at all times; failure to produce it meant arrest.
- The basic aim was to control the movement of Africans between homelands and the rest of the country.
- The system was later extended to women in the late 1950s, provoking the Women's March of 1956.

3.3.3 The Urban Areas Act (1954)

- Restricted Africans from being in urban areas for more than 72 hours without authorisation.
- Limited rights to remain permanently in urban areas to those who were born there, had worked continuously for the same employer for 10 years, or had lived in the area for 15 continuous years.

3.4 Separate Amenities

3.4.1 The Separate Amenities Act (1953)

- Empowered the government to reserve public facilities — parks, beaches, toilets, buses, cinemas, sports facilities, restaurants — for specific racial groups.
- Whites were always given the best facilities; facilities for Black people were inferior.
- Sports activities were also completely segregated.
- Anyone breaking these laws could be arrested and prosecuted.

3.5 Education and Labour Laws

3.5.1 The Bantu Education Act (1953)

- Created a deliberately inferior education system for Black children.
- The curriculum was designed to give a limited education — only enough to make Black children useful as manual labourers.
- Minister Hendrik Verwoerd stated that Black children should not be taught to aspire to occupations not available to them. This became known as 'education for servitude'.
- Mission schools that refused to teach the new curriculum were forced to close.
- Far less money and resources were spent on Black schools than on white schools.
- Schools became overcrowded and understaffed, leading to a decline in the quality of Black education.
- Black children were not allowed to attend government or private schools set aside for other race groups.

3.5.2 The Separate Universities Act (1959)

- Students had to study at racially separate universities.

- Previously 'open' universities (UCT, Wits, Natal) were now forced to accept only white students.
- Separate universities were built: University of the Western Cape for Coloureds, Durban-Westville for Indians, University of the North for Sotho-speaking students, University of Zululand for Zulu students.

3.5.3 The Bantu Labour Settlement of Disputes Act

- Forbade employers from recognising or negotiating with African trade unions.
- Made African trade unions powerless to improve working conditions for their members.
- A direct response to the 1946 Mineworkers' Strike and growing worker militancy.

3.6 Political Suppression

3.6.1 The Suppression of Communism Act (1950)

- Banned the Communist Party of South Africa (CPSA) — which disbanded itself just before the law came into effect.
- Defined 'communism' so broadly that virtually any opposition to apartheid could be classified as communist.
- Gave the government power to ban any similar organisation and to place banning orders on individuals.
- A banned person was restricted to their district, had to report to police twice a day, could not be in the company of more than one person, and could not be quoted in public.

3.7 The Bantustans (Homelands)

- The Promotion of Bantu Self-Government Act (1959) created 8 (later 10) 'homelands' or Bantustans — one for each Black ethnic group.
- Black South Africans were declared citizens of their designated homeland, stripping them of South African citizenship.
- Bantustans covered only about 13% of South Africa's land — the least productive, most remote areas.
- The homelands were economically unviable and deeply impoverished, dependent on migrant labour to white areas.
- Some Bantustans were later declared 'independent' (e.g. Transkei in 1976) but were recognised by almost no foreign country.
- Examples: Transkei (Xhosa), KwaZulu (Zulu), Bophuthatswana (Tswana), Venda (Venda).

3.7.1 Verwoerd: The Architect of Apartheid

- Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd served as Minister of Native Affairs (1950–1958) then Prime Minister (1958–1966).
- He personally drove the Bantu Education Act and the Bantustan policy.
- He believed in total racial separation ('separate development') as the only solution for South Africa.
- He was assassinated in Parliament by Dimitri Tsafendas in September 1966.

SECTION 4: OVERCOMING APARTHEID — THE NATURE OF RESISTANCE

4.1 Introduction: Forms of Resistance

From the 1940s to the 1970s, resistance to apartheid took many different forms. In the 1940s, the resistance movement was still moderate. In the 1950s, it turned to open but non-violent confrontation. In the early 1960s, it took up arms. The state met every attempt at resistance by increasing its repression.

METHODS OF RESISTANCE — OVERVIEW

- Mass protests, marches and demonstrations.
- Civil disobedience — deliberately breaking apartheid laws to flood the jails.
- Bus boycotts, consumer boycotts, stay-aways.
- Alliance building between organisations.
- Petition writing and deputations.
- Underground organisation.
- Armed struggle (from 1961 onwards).
- International lobbying and solidarity campaigns.
- Cultural resistance — music, art, poetry, theatre.

4.2 The ANC and the ANC Youth League

4.2.1 Early ANC

- The African National Congress (ANC) was founded in 1912 as the South African Native National Congress (SANNC).
- In its early decades, the ANC favoured moderate resistance — petitions, deputations, and appeals to the government and British Crown.
- This approach was criticised as too cautious and elitist, attracting mainly educated 'intellectuals' and failing to mobilise the masses.
- As Joe Matthews of the Youth League put it: the old approach of sending deputations to government ministers every time there was a crisis had to end.

4.2.2 The ANC Youth League (ANCYL) — Founded 1944

- The ANCYL was founded in 1944, transforming the ANC into a more mass-based movement.
- Youth Leaguers such as Anton Lembede (first president), Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu called for a militant programme of action.
- They demanded strikes, boycotts, civil disobedience and passive resistance — not just petitions.
- Their Programme of Action was adopted by the ANC in 1949, after Youth Leaguers began playing a prominent role.
- The ANC dedicated itself to mass action — a major turning point in the history of the liberation movement.

4.2.3 The May Day Stay-at-Home (1950)

- On 26 March 1950, the ANC held a 'Defend Free Speech' convention reacting to the Suppression of Communism Act.

- The ANC called for a May Day stay-at-home in demand of the vote.
- More than half the Black Johannesburg workforce adhered to the call — a significant success.
- The day ended tragically when police opened fire on gatherings, killing 19 and injuring 30.
- The ANC declared 26 June as a national day of mourning, observed annually as Freedom Day.

4.3 The Defiance Campaign (1952)

The Defiance Campaign of 1952 was the largest organised act of civil disobedience in South African history up to that point. It was jointly organised by the ANC and the South African Indian Congress (SAIC).

4.3.1 How It Worked

- On 26 June 1952, the campaign was officially launched. Groups of protesters in towns and cities across South Africa set out to peacefully but deliberately break apartheid laws.
- They walked through 'Europeans Only' entrances, sat in parks reserved for whites, broke curfew, and refused to carry their passes.
- African men burned their passes publicly.
- The idea: get arrested and flood the country's prisons, drawing public attention and forcing the government to scrap the laws.

4.3.2 Impact

- Over 8,000 people were arrested during the campaign.
- ANC membership swelled from 7,000 to 100,000 — an enormous growth.
- For the first time, the South African freedom struggle gained some international support.
- The campaign demonstrated the potential of mass mobilisation.
- However, police responded with extreme violence, especially in the Eastern Cape.
- The government imposed heavy fines and jail sentences, forcing the ANC to call off the campaign.
- The state passed the Public Safety Act (1953), enabling the government to declare a state of emergency if it believed public order was threatened.
- The Criminal Law Amendment Act imposed heavy penalties on those who defied the law.

4.4 Repressive Government Legislation and Actions in the 1950s

- The Suppression of Communism Act (1950) banned the CPSA and gave the government power to declare any similar organisation illegal.
- The Public Safety Act (1953) enabled the government to declare a state of emergency.
- Banning orders were placed on political activists — a banned person was restricted to their district, had to report to police twice daily, could not be in company of more than one person, and could not be quoted.
- By the end of 1955, 42 ANC leaders had been banned following the Freedom Charter meeting.

4.5 The Congress Alliance and the Freedom Charter (1955)

4.5.1 The Congress Alliance

- In the 1950s, different groups within the liberation movement came together to form the Congress Alliance.

- The Alliance included: the ANC, the South African Indian Congress (SAIC), the South African Congress of Democrats (COD — whites opposed to apartheid), the Coloured People's Organisation (SCAPO), and the South African Council of Trade Unions (SACTU).
- SACTU was founded in 1955 as a non-racial alliance of trade unions, politically aligned with the Congress Alliance.

4.5.2 The Congress of the People (June 1955)

- The Congress Alliance launched the Congress of the People Campaign — volunteers travelled throughout South Africa collecting the demands of ordinary South Africans for a just and free society.
- On 26 June 1955, over 3,000 delegates gathered at Kliptown, Johannesburg.
- Police watched over the events, searched people on arrival and departure, and conducted interrogations.
- The Freedom Charter was presented to and adopted by the Congress of the People.

4.5.3 The Freedom Charter

We, the people of South Africa, declare for all our country and the world to know: That South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people. The people shall govern. All national groups shall have equal rights. The people shall share in the nation's wealth. The land shall be shared by those who work it. All shall be equal before the law. All shall enjoy equal human rights. There shall be work and security for all. The doors of learning and culture shall be opened. There shall be houses, security and comfort. There shall be peace and friendship.

— The Freedom Charter, Kliptown, 26 June 1955

- The Freedom Charter mobilised people over a lengthy period and helped to revive the ANC.
- The ANC formulated a programme for the Congress Alliance that would guide it for the next forty years.
- Many principles of South Africa's current Constitution were directly inspired by the Freedom Charter.

4.6 The Treason Trial (1956–1961)

- The government regarded the Freedom Charter as a treasonable document and claimed the Congress Alliance was plotting to overthrow the state.
- In December 1956, police arrested 156 members of the ANC and other political movements, charging them with high treason.
- The preliminary hearing began January 1957, with the accused in cages.
- The prosecution claimed the Freedom Charter was part of a communist conspiracy to overthrow the government.
- The defence argued there was no evidence the ANC was violent or had planned to overthrow the state.
- By end of 1957, the state released 65 of the accused; the case continued with the remaining 91.
- In 1961, the last remaining 30 accused — including Mandela — were found not guilty. All were eventually acquitted.

- The Treason Trial was the government's attempt to break the ANC by removing leaders and causing financial and psychological damage. It failed.

4.7 The Women's March — 9 August 1956

- In the 1950s, the government tried to extend pass laws to African women as a way of controlling their movement to cities.
- Women had been at the forefront of resistance since the 1940s, partly because they faced fewer restrictions than men.
- Their resistance grew into a national movement by 1956.
- On 9 August 1956, approximately 20,000 women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria.
- Leaders included Raheema Moosa, Lilian Ngoyi (president of the ANC Women's League), Helen Joseph, and Sophie Williams.
- They handed over letters of protest against the proposed pass laws to Prime Minister J.G. Strijdom.
- They sang: 'Wathint' abafazi, wathint' imbokodo!' — 'You strike a woman, you strike a rock!'
- The women's resistance ultimately failed to prevent the extension of pass laws to women — by 1960, nearly four million women had been registered for pass books.
- However, the march was a powerful symbol of resistance and courage. Today, 9 August is National Women's Day in South Africa.

4.8 The Bus Boycott (1957) and Other Resistance

- In 1957, the Alexandra Bus Boycott — thousands of residents walked 20km to work daily to protest against fare increases, until fares were reduced.
- In 1958, protests were held to coincide with the whites-only elections.
- During the year there were also protests against beer halls, wages, passes, and living conditions.
- Music played a vital role in the struggle — freedom songs sustained morale in jails, in exile, and in communities.

SECTION 5: THE SHARPEVILLE MASSACRE AND THE ARMED STRUGGLE

5.1 The Formation of the PAC (1959)

- In 1959, a group within the ANC led by Robert Sobukwe, P.K. Leballo and Zeph Mothopeng broke away and formed the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC).
- As Africanists, they were opposed to working with organisations that were not African.
- They were particularly opposed to the Congress Alliance, which included the white-based Congress of Democrats.
- Sobukwe stated: 'We firmly hold that we are oppressed as an African nation. To us, therefore, the struggle is a national struggle.'
- The PAC viewed the struggle as a national liberation movement, not a class struggle.
- Despite the split, both the ANC and PAC organised anti-pass campaigns in 1960.

5.2 The Sharpeville Massacre — 21 March 1960

5.2.1 Background

- The PAC planned a nationwide anti-pass campaign for 21 March 1960.
- Protesters were to leave their passes at home, march to local police stations, hand in their passes and surrender themselves for arrest.
- The plan was to make the pass system unworkable through non-violent mass non-cooperation and to flood the jails.

5.2.2 What Happened at Sharpeville

- A large crowd gathered outside the police station at Sharpeville (near Vereeniging, Transvaal).
- Historians estimate the crowd at approximately 5,000–7,000; government sources claimed 20,000.
- At approximately 1:15 PM, a scuffle broke out at the gate. A police officer was pushed over.
- Inexperienced constables began firing their guns spontaneously — without an order being clearly given.
- 69 people were killed and approximately 180 were wounded.
- The majority of those killed were shot in the back as they fled — proving they posed no threat.
- Eight women and ten children were among the dead.

5.2.3 Conflicting Accounts of Sharpeville

The Sharpeville Massacre is an excellent example of why historians must carefully evaluate sources. Different accounts give very different versions of what happened:

Source	Account	Reliability Assessment
Historian T. Lodge (Source A)	Spontaneous firing by inexperienced constables after a scuffle; majority shot in the back.	Secondary source; based on wide range of evidence; generally reliable.

Photographer's photo (Source B)	Shows police firing on a retreating, fleeing crowd.	Visual evidence; powerful but may not show full context.
Journalist Humphrey Tyler (Source C)	Only 3 policemen hit by stones; yet over 200 Africans shot. He saw no weapons among the bodies.	Eyewitness; credible; not biased toward either side.
SA High Commissioner (Source D)	Claims 20,000 demonstrators attacked police with firearms; police fired in self-defence.	Government official; highly biased; contradicted by other sources.

ABC METHOD FOR EVALUATING SOURCES

- A is for AUTHOR: Who wrote/created the source? Does their identity make them trustworthy or biased?
- A is for AUDIENCE: For whom was the source intended? What was the writer's purpose?
- B is for BIAS: Does the source give only one side? Does it use emotional or exaggerated language?
- C is for CONSISTENCY: Do the facts in the source support each other?
- C is for COMPARISON: Is the information backed up by similar information in other sources?

5.3 The Aftermath and Impact of Sharpeville

5.3.1 Government Response

- The government declared a State of Emergency.
- The ANC and PAC were banned under the Unlawful Organisations Act on 8 April 1960.
- Thousands were detained without trial; many were tortured in custody.
- Robert Sobukwe was imprisoned on Robben Island for six years.
- The government introduced even harsher legislation to suppress resistance.

5.3.2 International Reaction

- The Sharpeville Massacre caused international outrage — newspapers worldwide reported on the killings.
- The UN Security Council passed Resolution 134, condemning the massacre.
- Capital fled South Africa and the stock market crashed.
- In 1960, the Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) was formed in Britain — an umbrella body of trade unions, student bodies and political parties opposing apartheid.
- International pressure for economic sanctions grew significantly after Sharpeville.
- 21 March is now Human Rights Day in South Africa.

5.3.3 The Nature of Resistance Changed

- Both the ANC and PAC had to rethink their strategies after being banned.
- They continued their work underground and illegally.
- Some members left the country to continue the struggle from exile.
- Members of both the ANC and the South African Communist Party (SACP — banned since 1950) worked together underground.

5.4 The Move to Armed Struggle

5.4.1 The Debate

- With the ANC banned, there was intense debate about what steps to take next.
- ANC President Albert Luthuli was personally opposed to an armed struggle.
- However, public support favoured political violence after years of peaceful protest being met with repression.
- It was believed that non-violence could no longer achieve meaningful change.
- As Ruth Mompati (a long-standing ANC member) explained: 'All the time that the ANC was using peaceful means to try to bring change, the reaction from the regime was violent. People were shot at peaceful meetings... We decided that if the gun is what the South African regime has used to rule us, it will have to be the gun that breaks that rule.'

5.4.2 Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) — 'Spear of the Nation'

- In June 1961, the ANC executive agreed to form an armed wing — Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), meaning 'Spear of the Nation'.
- Nelson Mandela was appointed first Commander-in-Chief.
- MK's initial strategy was controlled sabotage — targeting infrastructure (power stations, rail lines, post offices, government buildings) without loss of life.
- On 16 December 1961, MK performed their first acts of sabotage — attacks on post offices and other buildings in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Durban.
- Between 1961 and 1963, approximately 200 acts of sabotage took place across South Africa.
- The PAC also established its military wing, Poqo (meaning 'standing alone'), which was prepared to use violence.
- Mandela secretly travelled to other African countries (Ethiopia, Algeria) for military training and to seek support.

5.4.3 Government Response to Armed Resistance

- The Sabotage Act (1962) — sabotage was made a treasonable offence with a minimum of five years' imprisonment and a maximum penalty of death. A 'communist agitator' could be placed under house arrest.
- The General Laws Amendment Act (1963) — gave police the power to detain a person for 90 days without trial. During this period, the suspect had no access to legal advice or visitors. In the next 18 months, more than 1,000 people were detained under this law.
- Many people were banned or placed under house arrest, and the ANC network was destroyed by the mid-1960s.
- Some people were held in detention where torture was the norm. Some lost their lives.

SECTION 6: THE RIVONIA TRIAL (1964) AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

6.1 Lilliesleaf Farm — The Secret Headquarters

- The secret headquarters of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) were at a farm called Lilliesleaf in Rivonia, a suburb of Johannesburg.
- MK leaders used the farmhouse for shelter, attended meetings there, and debated political and military policy and tactics.
- Operation Mayibuye — a top-secret plan for full guerrilla warfare with Cuban and Soviet support — was drafted there, though it was still being debated when the raid occurred.

6.2 The Police Raid — 11 July 1963

- On 11 July 1963, the South African Police raided Lilliesleaf Farm.
- The entire leadership of MK present was arrested, including Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Denis Goldberg, Rusty Bernstein, Andrew Mlangeni, and Elias Motsoaledi.
- Police found crucial documentary evidence: plans, lists of sabotage targets, maps, financial records, and drafts of Operation Mayibuye.
- Before and after the raid, other MK members were arrested and held under the 90-Day Detention Law.
- White detainees were psychologically tortured; their Black comrades were physically tortured as well.
- Nelson Mandela was already in prison, having been arrested in August 1962 for incitement and leaving the country illegally.

6.3 The Rivonia Trial (October 1963 — June 1964)

6.3.1 The Charges

- The accused were charged with recruiting people for training in sabotage and guerrilla warfare for the purpose of violent revolution.
- They faced potential death sentences — the prosecution called for the maximum penalty.
- The trial began at the Palace of Justice, Pretoria, on 9 October 1963.

6.3.2 The Accused

The main accused were: Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, Andrew Mlangeni, Denis Goldberg, Ahmed Kathrada, Rusty Bernstein, James Kantor, Bob Hepple, and Lionel Bernstein.

6.3.3 The Defence

- The defence team was led by Bram Fischer (himself a committed anti-apartheid activist who would later be imprisoned for life).
- The accused chose not to deny their activities but to justify them as the only remaining response to apartheid.
- Nelson Mandela delivered a four-hour statement from the dock — one of the most powerful political speeches in history.

During my lifetime I have dedicated my life to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.

— Nelson Mandela, Statement from the Dock, Rivonia Trial, 20 April 1964

6.4 The Verdict and Sentencing — June 1964

- On 11 June 1964, eight of the main accused — Mandela, Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Mhlaba, Motsoaledi, Mlangeni, Kathrada, and Goldberg — were found guilty of sabotage and conspiracy.
- On 12 June 1964, they were sentenced to life imprisonment — not death, which was a relief to supporters worldwide.
- Denis Goldberg was sent to Pretoria Central Prison (as a white prisoner).
- The other seven were sent to Robben Island.
- The Rivonia Trial and the imprisonment of the ANC leaders broke the power of MK and the ANC inside South Africa.

6.5 Robben Island

- Robben Island, 12km off Cape Town, was a maximum security prison used to hold political prisoners.
- Prisoners performed hard labour (breaking rocks in the lime quarry) and lived in harsh conditions.
- Prisoners were classified by race — Black prisoners received the worst food and conditions.
- Despite conditions, prisoners organised themselves into a 'University' — studying, debating, and educating each other. Mandela called it 'the University of Robben Island'.
- Nelson Mandela spent 18 of his 27 years in prison on Robben Island.

6.6 Consequences of the Rivonia Trial

6.6.1 For the ANC

- Seventeen Umkhonto we Sizwe leaders were sent to prison for life.
- All internal ANC structures were in disarray after the trial. The ANC had to rebuild from exile.
- Oliver Tambo escaped from South Africa and became president of the ANC in exile, based in Lusaka, Zambia.
- Finding a way to get trained soldiers back into South Africa proved extremely difficult — neighbouring states were initially hostile to the ANC.
- The ANC identified four pillars of the struggle in exile: armed struggle, mass political struggle, underground structures inside South Africa, and international support.
- There would be no real internal activity until the 1970s, when strike action and the Black Consciousness Movement re-emerged.

6.6.2 For the Opposition Leadership

- Albert Luthuli, ANC president, had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1960 but was confined by the government to his rural home in Zululand until his death in 1967.

- Robert Sobukwe of the PAC's Poqo was jailed on Robben Island until 1969, then placed under a banning order and house arrest in Kimberley until his death in 1978.
- New and even more repressive laws made South Africa into a virtual police state.

6.6.3 For the International Community

- The Rivonia Trial increased international pressure on South Africa.
- The UN imposed a non-mandatory arms embargo in 1963, which became mandatory in 1977.
- International trade unions, student movements, and governments increased their support for the ANC.
- South Africa became increasingly isolated internationally.
- The Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) in Britain grew significantly, including student bodies, trade unions, the British Communist Party and sections of the British Labour Party.

6.6.4 Mandela as Symbol

- Mandela's statement from the dock made him a global symbol of the anti-apartheid struggle.
- The 'Free Mandela' campaign grew internationally throughout the 1970s and 1980s.
- He was released on 11 February 1990, when President F.W. de Klerk unbanned the ANC, PAC, and SACP.
- Mandela was elected South Africa's first democratically elected president on 27 April 1994.

SECTION 7: ESSAY WRITING SKILLS

7.1 How to Write a History Essay

The introduction is the most important part of your essay — it provides your reader with their first impression and will influence their judgement of your entire essay.

WHAT A GOOD INTRODUCTION MUST DO

- Identify the problem posed by the essay question.
- State your line of argument (LoA) — what is your position/answer?
- Outline how you are going to structure your argument in the essay.
- Useful phrases: 'This essay will argue that...', 'This essay will include...', 'The purpose of this essay is to...'
- Include a clear statement of extent — e.g. 'to a great extent', 'to a limited extent', 'to some extent'.

7.2 Essay Structure

- **INTRODUCTION:** State your argument and line of argument. Address the question directly.
- **BODY PARAGRAPHS:** Each paragraph = one main point, supported by evidence and examples. Use a PEEL structure: Point → Evidence → Explanation → Link back to question.
- **CONCLUSION:** Summarise your argument and give a final judgement that answers the question.
- Use specific names, dates, events, and laws as evidence throughout.
- Write in formal, academic language. Avoid vague or casual statements.

7.3 Sample Essay: To what extent did segregation lay the foundations for Apartheid?

INTRODUCTION:

Segregation policies in South Africa laid the foundations for apartheid to a great extent. Segregation in cities, towns and the workplace during the 1920s and 1930s set the stage for apartheid when the National Party came to power in 1948. This essay will argue that urban segregation, discriminatory employment practices, land dispossession, and political exclusion all combined to create the conditions that made apartheid not only possible but inevitable.

POINT 1 — Urban Segregation:

In cities and towns, segregation policies dictated how communities were to be organised. The Native Urban Areas Act of 1923 created separate townships for Black and Coloured residents on the outskirts of cities, characterised by poor infrastructure and overcrowding. The forced physical separation under this Act laid the direct foundation for the Group Areas Act (1950) under apartheid.

POINT 2 — The Pass System:

The government used the pass system to control the movement of Black South Africans into and out of towns. Passes restricted where individuals could live and work based on their racial

classification. This system laid the foundation for the more comprehensive and harshly enforced pass laws under apartheid, including the Abolition of Passes Act (1952) — which, despite its name, actually intensified the pass system.

POINT 3 — Workplace Discrimination (Colour Bar):

The 'Colour Bar' policies reserved skilled positions on the mines and in factories for white workers. The Industrial Conciliation Act (1924) denied Black workers the right to strike or join registered trade unions. The 'civilised labour policy' gave whites preference in government jobs, dismissing thousands of Black workers. These workplace laws laid the direct foundation for the Bantu Education Act (1953) — which created inferior education designed to produce a manual labour force — and for the Bantu Labour Settlement of Disputes Act, which banned African trade unions.

POINT 4 — Political Exclusion:

Before the 1930s, Africans in the Cape had limited voting rights. The Representation of Natives Act (1936) removed them from the common voters' roll entirely. This political exclusion, combined with the ineffective Natives' Representative Council, demonstrated that Black South Africans had no legitimate political voice. When the National Party came to power in 1948, they built on this tradition of exclusion to create a system in which Black South Africans were entirely stripped of citizenship through the Bantustan policy.

CONCLUSION:

Although discrimination based on race was not new to South Africa, apartheid was stricter and applied far more harshly than the segregation that already existed. Segregationist laws in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s played a significant role in laying the foundations for apartheid by establishing racial divisions and severely limiting the rights, opportunities and movement of Black and Coloured communities. The National Party's victory in 1948 marked the turning point — they institutionalised and intensified these discriminatory practices into the comprehensive, legally enforced system of apartheid.

SECTION 8: KEY TERMS AND GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
Apartheid	Afrikaans word meaning 'apartness'; the comprehensive system of racial separation enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994.
Bantustan / Homeland	Poor, rural 'homelands' created by the apartheid government for each Black ethnic group; declaring Black South Africans citizens of these areas stripped them of South African citizenship.
Banning Order	A government order restricting a person's activities — typically requiring them to report to police twice daily, remain in their district, not meet with more than one person, and not be quoted publicly.
Broederbond	Secret Afrikaner brotherhood founded in 1918 that promoted Afrikaner cultural and political interests; deeply influential in National Party politics.
Civil Disobedience	When people deliberately break the law as part of a political campaign — e.g. the Defiance Campaign.
Colour Bar	Laws that reserved skilled jobs in mines and factories for white workers only; also applied to other areas of life.
Congress Alliance	Alliance in the 1950s between the ANC, SAIC, COD, Coloured People's Organisation, and SACTU; produced the Freedom Charter.
Defiance Campaign	1952 campaign of non-violent civil disobedience by the ANC and SAIC against apartheid laws; over 8,000 arrested.
Dompas	Derogatory term for the pass book (reference book) all Black South Africans were required to carry under the pass laws.
Freedom Charter	Document adopted at Kliptown in June 1955 outlining the vision for a democratic, non-racial South Africa; remains a foundational ANC document.
Grand Apartheid	The large-scale political and territorial separation — homelands, separate political representation.
Groundswell	A gradual, powerful strengthening of popular opinion that becomes unstoppable.
Guerrilla Warfare	Small, often secret groups fighting an enemy using unconventional methods rather than direct battle confrontation.
MK / Umkhonto we Sizwe	'Spear of the Nation' — the armed wing of the ANC, formed in June 1961. Mandela was its first Commander-in-Chief.
Militant	Using strong pressure to achieve one's aims; more confrontational than moderate protest.
PAC	Pan Africanist Congress — broke away from the ANC in 1959; organised the anti-pass campaign that led to Sharpeville.
Pass Laws	Laws requiring Black South Africans to carry pass books at all times to justify their presence in white areas.
Petty Apartheid	Day-to-day segregation in public places — separate benches,

	toilets, entrances, transport.
Poqo	The PAC's military wing; the name means 'standing alone'. Used more direct violence than MK.
Programme of Action	The ANCYL's 1949 plan calling for strikes, boycotts and civil disobedience; adopted by the full ANC.
Rivonia Trial	The 1963–1964 trial of ANC leaders for sabotage and conspiracy; resulted in life sentences for Mandela and seven others.
Robben Island	Maximum security prison 12km off Cape Town where Mandela and other political prisoners were held; now a World Heritage Site.
Sabotage	Illegal destruction of property or equipment by people opposed to the state — MK's initial strategy.
Segregation	Racial separation through laws that existed before 1948; less systematically enforced than apartheid.
Sharpeville Massacre	The killing of 69 protesters at Sharpeville on 21 March 1960 by police — a major turning point in resistance to apartheid.
State of Emergency	A government declaration suspending normal legal protections, allowing mass arrests and restrictions on movement.
Swart Gevaar	Afrikaans for 'Black peril/fear' — the NP's campaign tactic exploiting white fear of being 'swamped' by Black South Africans.
Treason Trial	1956–1961 trial of 156 activists (including Mandela) charged with treason for the Freedom Charter; all were eventually acquitted.
Volk	Afrikaans word for 'nation' or 'people'; central to Afrikaner nationalist identity.

CHRONOLOGY: KEY DATES AT A GLANCE

DATE	EVENT
1910	Union of South Africa formed — Black South Africans largely excluded from political power.
1911	Mines and Works Act (Colour Bar) — skilled jobs reserved for white workers.
1912	SANNC (later ANC) founded. Black political organisation established to fight for rights.
1913	Natives Land Act — Black South Africans restricted to only 7% of the land.
1918	Broederbond founded to promote Afrikaner cultural and political interests.
1921	Communist Party of South Africa (CPSA) founded.
1923	Native Urban Areas Act — forced Black and Coloured people into separate townships.
1924	Industrial Conciliation Act — recognised only white trade unions.
1936	Representation of Natives Act — Black voters removed from Cape voters' roll.
1944	ANC Youth League (ANCYL) founded — Mandela, Tambo, Sisulu key leaders.
1946	Mine Workers' Strike — 75,000 Black mineworkers strike; violently suppressed.
1948	National Party wins election. Dr D.F. Malan becomes PM. Apartheid begins.
1949	ANC adopts Programme of Action; Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act passed.
1950	Population Registration Act, Group Areas Act, Suppression of Communism Act, Immorality Act all passed.
1950	May Day stay-at-home; 19 killed by police. ANC declares 26 June as Freedom Day.
1952	Defiance Campaign — over 8,000 arrested; ANC membership grows from 7,000 to 100,000.
1953	Bantu Education Act, Separate Amenities Act, Public Safety Act passed.
1955	Congress of the People; Freedom Charter adopted at Kliptown (26 June). SACTU formed.
1956	Women's March to Union Buildings — 20,000 women protest pass laws (9 August). Treason Trial begins.
1957	Alexandra Bus Boycott — residents walk 20km to work rather than pay higher fares.
1959	PAC formed by Robert Sobukwe. Promotion of Bantu Self-Government Act (Bantustans).
1960	Sharpeville Massacre (21 March) — 69 killed. ANC and PAC banned. State of Emergency.
1960	Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) formed in Britain. Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Albert Luthuli.
1961	South Africa becomes a Republic; leaves Commonwealth. MK formed; first

	sabotage ops (16 Dec).
1962	Mandela arrested (August). Sabotage Act passed.
1963	Lilliesleaf Farm raid (11 July); ANC leaders arrested. General Laws Amendment Act (90-day detention).
1964	Rivonia Trial verdict — Mandela and 7 others sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island.
1966	PM Verwoerd assassinated in Parliament. B.J. Vorster becomes PM.
1969	Steve Biko founds SASO — Black Consciousness Movement begins.
1976	Soweto Uprising (16 June) — students protest Afrikaans-medium education. Hector Pieterse killed.
1977	Steve Biko tortured and killed in police custody. UN mandatory arms embargo.
1990	Mandela released (11 February). ANC, PAC, SACP unbanned. Negotiations begin.
1994	First democratic elections (27 April). Mandela elected President of South Africa.

LIKELY EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

#	Essay / Extended Question
1	To what extent did segregation policies in South Africa lay the foundations for apartheid? (The most commonly examined essay topic for this section.)
2	Why did the National Party win the 1948 election? Discuss the factors that contributed to their victory.
3	'Apartheid was a total system of racial control.' Discuss with reference to specific legislation passed between 1948 and 1964.
4	Evaluate the effectiveness of the Defiance Campaign (1952) as a strategy of resistance against apartheid.
5	How did the Bantu Education Act serve the broader aims of the apartheid government?
6	Why was the Sharpeville Massacre of 1960 a turning point in the history of resistance to apartheid?
7	'Non-violent resistance had failed by 1960.' Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to specific events and campaigns.
8	Assess the significance of the Rivonia Trial for the anti-apartheid struggle inside and outside South Africa.
9	To what extent was the Freedom Charter a radical document? Explain your answer.
10	Discuss how the ANC Youth League transformed the nature of resistance to apartheid in the late 1940s and 1950s.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." — Nelson Mandela