

SOME DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR OLDER STUDENTS

Why was the Sharpeville massacre such a turning point for Mandela?

Why do you think the ANC chose Mandela as the focus of its campaign, when he was one of many black political prisoners?

Martin Luther King and Ghandi spoke of passive resistance as a way to achieve change. Why do you think Mandela and the ANC decided that they needed direct action?

Mandela as head of Spear of the Nation planned to destroy government buildings like power plants as well as telephone lines and railways. Does that make Mandela a terrorist?

Why do you think President de Klerk decided to free Mandela?

Do you think Nelson Mandela was an important figure in history? Why?