

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Mahatma Gandhi

Before reading

1 Guess

Look at the picture of Gandhi at the beginning of the story. Which of these adjectives do you think describe him?

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| uneducated | <input type="checkbox"/> | principled | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| poor | <input type="checkbox"/> | vegetarian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| well-travelled | <input type="checkbox"/> | determined | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| sympathetic | <input type="checkbox"/> | aggressive | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Now read the timeline on pages 96–100. Change your answers if necessary.

While reading

2 Comprehension

Read the timeline on pages 96–100. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct any that are false.

- Gandhi studied law first in India, then in England.

- Gandhi spent three years in South Africa before his family joined him. _____
- He was imprisoned in South Africa for leading non-violent protests. _____
- He fought in the First World War under the British army.

- He was wounded at the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. _____
- He protested against the unfair taxes set by British rulers in India. _____
- He marched 385 kilometres from Gujarat to Delhi.

- He attended the second and third Round Table conferences in London. _____

3 Comprehension and writing

Who were the following people?

- Lord Irwin (page 91)

- the Davies family (page 91)

- the Harijans (page 92)

4 Comprehension and writing

Suggest a definition for the following Hindi terms. Only use the information in the reader.

- Ahimsa* (page 89)

- satyagraha* (page 90)

- swadeshi* (page 90)

5 Comprehension and writing

Note down Gandhi's beliefs about the following topics. Refer to the pages given.

- Jainism (page 87)

- Law (pages 87–88)

- Violence (pages 90–93)

- The future of India (pages 93–95)

After reading

6 Language

Choose the correct word to complete true sentences about Gandhi.

- Jainism taught Gandhi to be *reluctant/ tolerant*.
- Many Indian people were living lives of *prosperity/ hardship*.
- Gandhi felt a great deal of *frustration/ will-power* when he was subjected to discrimination laws.
- The British had a *colony/ monopoly* on salt production in India.
- Despite the violence within his country, Gandhi remained a *nationalist/ pacifist*.
- Gandhi was *assassinated/ gassed* in New Delhi in 1948.

7 Follow-up activity

Write three more vocabulary questions like those in activity 5. You can use either underlined words or other new vocabulary from the text that you have noted down.

8 Research

Do an online search and find out three facts about each of the following:

- The Natal Indian Congress
- Sabarmati Ashram
- The Jallianwala Bagh massacre

You can also use the 'Further Research' document to help you find more information.

ANSWER KEY (STUDENT ACTIVITIES)

Mahatma Gandhi

1 Guess

Suitable adjectives are: well-travelled, sympathetic, principled, vegetarian, determined.

2 Comprehension

- 1 F – Gandhi studied law in England.
- 2 T
- 3 T
- 4 F – He did not fight in the First World War under the British army.
- 5 F – He was not present at the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.
- 6 T
- 7 F – He marched 385 kilometres to the Gujarat coast.
- 8 F – He attended the second Round Table conference in London.

3 Comprehension and writing

- 1 Lord Irwin was the leader of the British in India.
- 2 The Davies family were the owners of several British cloth mills.
- 3 The *Harijans*, or *Dalits*, were members of India's lowest and most disadvantaged caste.

4 Comprehension and writing

- 1 *Ahimsa* is Gandhi's term for the peaceful development of his country.
- 2 *Satyagraha* means a non-violent protest.
- 3 *Swadeshi* is the refusal to buy certain foreign goods.

5 Comprehension and writing

Answers will vary. Suggested answers:

- 1 Gandhi's Jainist beliefs in tolerance, responsibility and self-control guided him throughout his life.
- 2 Gandhi was interested in the principles behind the law. He believed the law did not protect everyone's rights. He thought the law should help people behave in a socially acceptable way.
- 3 Gandhi was against violence. All his protests were peaceful. He hoped that India could gain independence through non-violent means.
- 4 Gandhi wanted India to be independent from British rule. He hoped that the country would be united, with all religions living together.

6 Language

- 1 tolerant
- 2 hardship
- 3 frustration
- 4 monopoly
- 5 pacifist
- 6 assassinated

7 Follow-up activity

Answers will vary.

8 Research

Answers will vary. Suggested answers:

Natal Indian Congress: It was the first Indian Congress in South Africa. It merged with the Cape Indian Congress and Transvaal Indian Congress in 1919. Members had to pay a £3 annual subscription.

Sabarmati Ashram: It was close to a jail, a river and a crematorium. It had a school that taught labour, literacy and agriculture. It now contains a museum.

The Jallianwala Bagh massacre: It occurred during a protest about the arrest of two Indian leaders. The British fired on the crowd for 10 minutes. They focused their fire on the escape routes.