

Gandhi

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While reading

Chapters 1–2

1 Choose one of these dates for each sentence below.

1497 1600 1857 1869 1900

- The start of the East India Company: it made Britain powerful and rich for about 250 years.
- Gandhi was born in the west of India.
- Rich Indian people studied in England and poor Indian people worked hard in other countries in the British Empire. India's rulers were still British.
- India had many different leaders. Europeans came to India for the first time.
- The end of the East India Company—but India's ruler was still British.

2 Finish these sentences in your own words.

- Gandhi was only thirteen when
- Gandhi went to England when he was eighteen because
- In England Gandhi didn't like
- In South Africa they made different laws for
- Gandhi did not move to third class on the train and
- Gandhi worked in South Africa for
- There was a new law in 1907. Indians had to
- By law, Muslims and Hindus could not

3 Use these words to write sentences about Gandhi and India.

- long walks / sport
.....
- Hindus / eat meat / kill animals
.....
- British people / live with Indians / rule them
.....
- Gandhi / Kasturbai / thirteen / Hindus / young
.....
- Gandhi / sad / family / excited / job
.....

Chapters 3–4

4 There are ten wrong words. Draw a line through the wrong words and write the right word instead.

Gandhi and Kasturbai arrived back in South Africa in 1915. Gandhi went to many different places in India and met thousands of rich people. He never sat in third class because he remembered South Africa. After a month, Gandhi listened to Indian leaders. "We want to change India," he said. "Next we have to understand the country and know the people."

At the beginning, there were 230 people living Gandhi's ashram near Ahmedabad. He wanted to show India a simple way of life, with machines. But there were different classes of Hindus. At the top there were "the Untouchables." When Gandhi invited a family of Untouchables to live with them, Kasturbai was very happy.

5 Choose one of these numbers for each sentence.

10 24 100 379 1,516 1918 20,000

- World War I ended in
- On "no-work" day, everything stopped for hours.
- There were about people in the square in Amritsar before Dyer's men came.
- Dyer had about soldiers with him.
- Dyer's soldiers shot people in Amritsar square in minutes.
- Dyer's men killed people.

6 Choose the right word to complete the newspaper story.

Untouchables ashram Tagore Dyer
Muslims

Mahatma Gandhi, as (a) called him, started a new farm next to the Sabarmati River. The new farm is an (b) where all the people work and they are the same. Farmers live with (c) and other classes. Everybody is happy and has a simple life. But in the cities there is trouble: (d) and Hindus don't like each other and the British don't like the protests like the "no-work" day. There is an important British soldier in the Punjab. His name is (e) He is very angry about big meetings of Indians.

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Chapters 5–6

7 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- a There were more Muslims than Hindus in India in the 1920s. ☐
- b There were problems between Muslims and Hindus everywhere in India. ☐
- c Britain wanted to stop the problems between Muslims and Hindus. ☐
- d Gandhi said "We have to work with Muslims." ☐
- e Gandhi fasted until the Hindu and Muslim leaders came to him. ☐

8 Match the first half of the sentences a–h with the second half 1–8.

- a ☐ Gandhi, Nehru and Jinnah were
- b ☐ Gandhi, Nehru and Jinnah met
- c ☐ They talked about independence but
- d ☐ Writers from newspapers around the world went to
- e ☐ Gandhi walked to
- f ☐ Indians around the country went to
- g ☐ After the Salt March, Nehru and other leaders went to
- h ☐ In 1931 the British invited Gandhi to
 - 1) the Sabarmati ashram.
 - 2) the ocean and took salt.
 - 3) prison for six months.
 - 4) India's most important leaders.
 - 5) Dandi with seventy-eight other people.
 - 6) the British leaders were not ready.
 - 7) British leaders in 1928.
 - 8) London for talks.

9 Who said the following? Complete the blanks.

- a "We have to work *with* Muslims. They are our brothers."
- b "We are not fighting."
- c "What is he going to do?"
- d "Now I can get some sleep."

Chapters 7–8

10 Who's who? Complete with the right words.

- Nehru Jinnah Gandhi Churchill Kasturbai
- a started working for the rights of poor people.
 - b didn't want to lose India.
 - c always followed Gandhi and worked hard for his ideas.
 - d wanted two Indias: a Hindu India and a Muslim Pakistan.
 - e got angry when Gandhi fasted for the Untouchables.

11 Answer these questions.

- a What started in 1939?
- b Who wrote the words "You can have independence after the war"?
- c Did Kasturbai ever see an independent India?
- d Gandhi said, "You will have to cut me in two before you cut my country in two." Who did he say this to, and why?
- e Who was independent India's first leader?
- f Why did some people move to Pakistan and Bangladesh?
- g Why did Gandhi fast again after independence?

12 Put these events in order.

- a ☐ Nehru spoke to India on the radio about Gandhi's death.
- b ☐ 500 people waited for Gandhi, but he was late.
- c ☐ Nathuram Godse shot Gandhi.
- d ☐ Gandhi said, "Oh God!"
- e ☐ Two hundred soldiers took Gandhi to the Jumna River and they put Gandhi on a pyre.
- f ☐ Gandhi's family sat with him all night.

After reading

- 13 Look at the map on page 8. Why are the places on the map important? Now copy the map and add a short note to each place on the map. You can put a date and write about what happened in each place.
- 14 Watch the film *Gandhi*. Do the same things happen? Do we find the same people as in this story? Did you like the film? Why/why not?

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1 Which of these sentences are right (✓) or wrong (X) about Gandhi?

- a Gandhi was born in the west of India. ☐
- b His family were Hindus, like most people in India, so they did not eat meat. ☐
- c He was poor so he did not go to school. ☐
- d He was a very good boy and never made mistakes: he never ate meat or took the things from other people. ☐
- e He married very young. ☐
- f He did not choose his wife. ☐
- g He went to England to study law. ☐
- h He did not like the English so he came back to India the same year. ☐
- i He worked in India for some time and then went to South Africa. ☐
- j Gandhi's wife and son never went to South Africa. ☐

2 Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

- a The British started the East India Company because they wanted
 - 1) to buy things from India and take them to England.
 - 2) to teach English in India.
 - 3) to teach Gandhi a lesson.
- b India, Canada, Australia, South Africa and Jamaica
 - 1) fought the English.
 - 2) were part of the British Empire.
 - 3) were rich countries and helped the British to get more money.
- c A policeman threw Gandhi off the train from Dunbar to Pretoria because
 - 1) a white man got angry and hit him.
 - 2) he was in third class.
 - 3) he did not want to leave his place in first class.
- d Gandhi wanted to change many hard laws for Indian and black Africans so he
 - 1) went to prison and read many books.
 - 2) started a newspaper and called meetings to protest in a non-violent way.
 - 3) started work in a coffee farm.

- e Gandhi, Kasturbai and their four sons left Johannesburg and
 - 1) they went to England but World War II started.
 - 2) he became a soldier with the English army in World War I.
 - 3) they went to India to fight for independence.

3 Circle the right words.

- a There were many more *Hindus / Muslims* in India in the 1920s.
- b People loved Gandhi because he was the Mahatma—the *son / soul* of India.
- c In the morning Gandhi and his friends read holy books *after / before* breakfast.
- d *Nehru / Jinnah* lived a simple life.
- e The Salt March was more difficult for some of the *older / younger* marchers.
- f Indians went to the ocean, took salt, sold it in the cities. They broke *Indian / British* laws.
- g In the eyes of the world, the *British / Indians* looked stupid after the Salt March.
- h Gandhi won the love of the British *people / leaders*.
- i In London, Gandhi stayed in *expensive hotels / ordinary homes*.
- j When Gandhi went back to India, things got *worse / better*.

4 Match the first half of the sentences a–e with the second half 1–5.

- a ☐ When Gandhi fasted
- b ☐ Nehru and Gandhi had to say yes to Jinnah's idea of the two Indias
- c ☐ The Hindus that left their homes were angry
- d ☐ Gandhi's life was never quiet
- e ☐ Gandhi didn't win every fight
 - 1) because war between Muslims and Hindus was worse than that.
 - 2) all India stopped.
 - 3) because he always fought at the center of things.
 - 4) but he always followed the truth.
 - 5) because most of them lost everything.