

2019 / 2020

class 10B

A reading project during corona-times...



...that allowed the students to work creatively.

**I am very proud and happy to present these Best-Of-Pieces,
enjoy!**

Julia Dold, English teacher

J. Dold

Students' quotes about the book „Born a Crime“, by Trevor Noah:

„I enjoyed reading the book a lot because it was interesting and the story always changed somehow, staying dynamic and never getting boring. I think the author is a very intelligent man who wishes to tell of his childhood and raise awareness of the conditions he grew up in.“
- Frederik D. -

„ I enjoyed reading the book. It's an interesting and humorous journey through his growing-up. I liked the way it is written with many dialogues and his open way of dealing with his feelings and defeats while writing this novel. It gives an honest insight into how living in South Africa was for people at that time.“
- Vivien F. -

„ I enjoyed reading the book because it was exciting, interesting, emotional and also funny. Especially the ending made me very emotional, I imagined how it would have been if I 'd been in the situation he was in and it made me cry.“
- Svea K. -

„In his book, Trevor tells very private stories and emotional situations without being shy. That's why I enjoyed reading it. Through these stories you get to know how life was during apartheid. And you just wonder how Trevor managed it.“
- Sarah L. -

„ Reading the book opens your eyes to racism and makes you realise that it still exists all over the world. The book really touched me and it's hard to believe that his story is a „real-life story“.“
- Mona M. -

Students' quotes about the book „Born a Crime“, by Trevor Noah:

„This book is an absolute „must read“ for everyone. No matter what skin or age. It's important for everyone to know how we treated each other in the past. With all the atrocities. But still, this story is truly inspiring. It's not self-evident that someone with such a rough past can rise up and be one of the biggest comedians of the USA. This man represents the American dream and should be an idol for everyone on this planet.“ - Mona M. -

„This is a wonderful book. It touched me but also made me laugh. This is one of the best books I've ever read. It's so good to have a look into such a life. We live in a country in which we don't have to worry if we have enough to eat. We live in a safe country, one of the richest countries in Europe.“ - Laura S. -

„ I have read the whole book of Trevor Noah and I really think it's worth reading it because it shows the perspective of someone who lived in these times of apartheid but it also explains apartheid in a very easy way so everybody can understand it. The book showed me how privileged we are that we don't have to live in these times and it isn't illegal to do something with people from different countries, cultures or any other differences. - Nick S. -

„ When I first had the book in my hands I really doubted if I'd like it. Since I never read such a long English book before I thought that it would be very hard and tiring work, but to my surprise it wasn't. [...] I really like the book and would totally recommend it.“ - Christian W.-

Students' quotes about the book „Born a Crime“, by Trevor Noah:

„I was fascinated by the book from the first chapter till the end. Trevor Noah's writing is very vivid and exciting and describes his experiences in great detail.“

- Pauline W. -

TREVOR
NOAH

BORN A CRIME

PROJECT 10B|10E

WORKS OF ART



Reading log
&
Multimodal Portfolio

Born a crime
Stories from a South African Childhood
Trevor Noah



Vivien Finley

10b

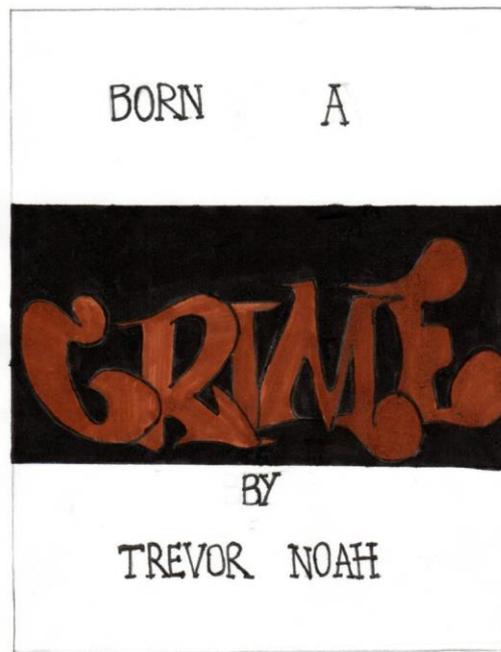
11.05.2020

Drawing



I think that this picture is quite self explanatory. The white half of the face represents Noah having a Swiss father and the black half of the face represents him having a Xhosa mother.

Melanie Hermans (10b)



The white stripes represent Trevor's father Robert, who was white. The black stripe represents Trevor's mother who was black. The word crime is colored brown because Trevor was colored (light brown) and he was „born a crime“. That's the reason why the word crime is colored brown because it represents Trevor and Trevor is the crime.

Images of Trevor Noah and his family



Trevor's mother: Patricia Nombuyiselo



Trevor Noah (2017)



Trevor and his father Robert



Trevor Noah and his 91-year-old grandmother (2018)

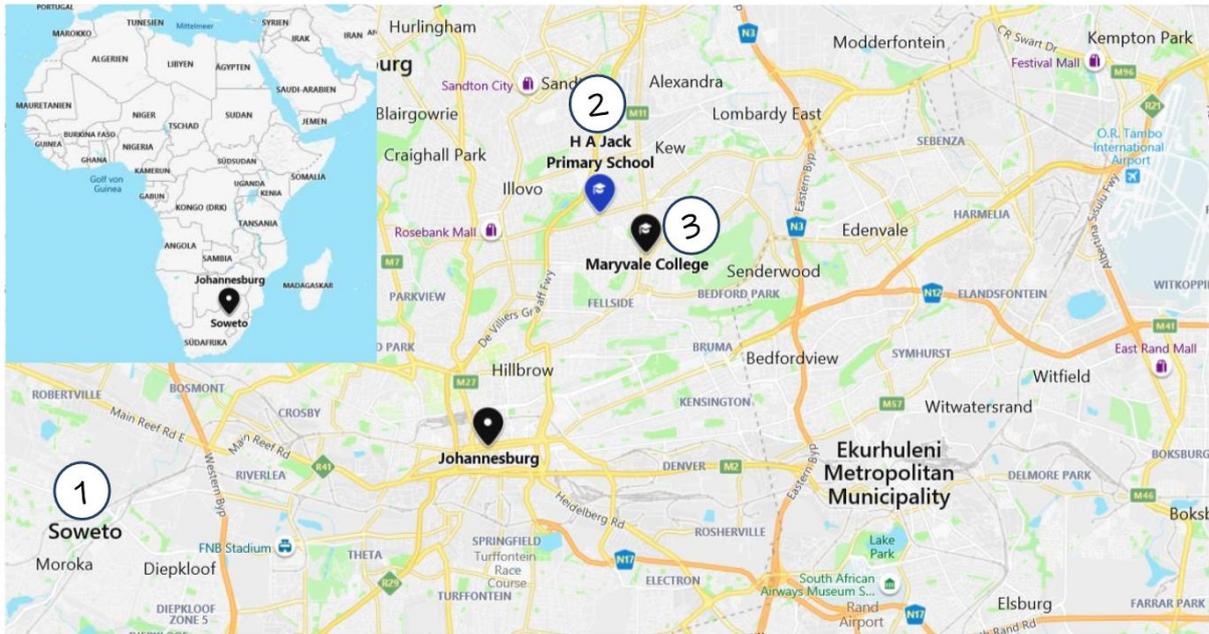


Trevor's youngest half - brother Isaac



Trevor with his younger half - brother Andrew

Map of Soweto and Johannesburg, South Africa



The home in Soweto where Nomaliza Frances Noah still lives and where Trevor was brought up for much of his childhood. He and his cousins shared the couch to sleep on.



H A Jack Primary School, Highlands North, Johannesburg attended by Trevor.

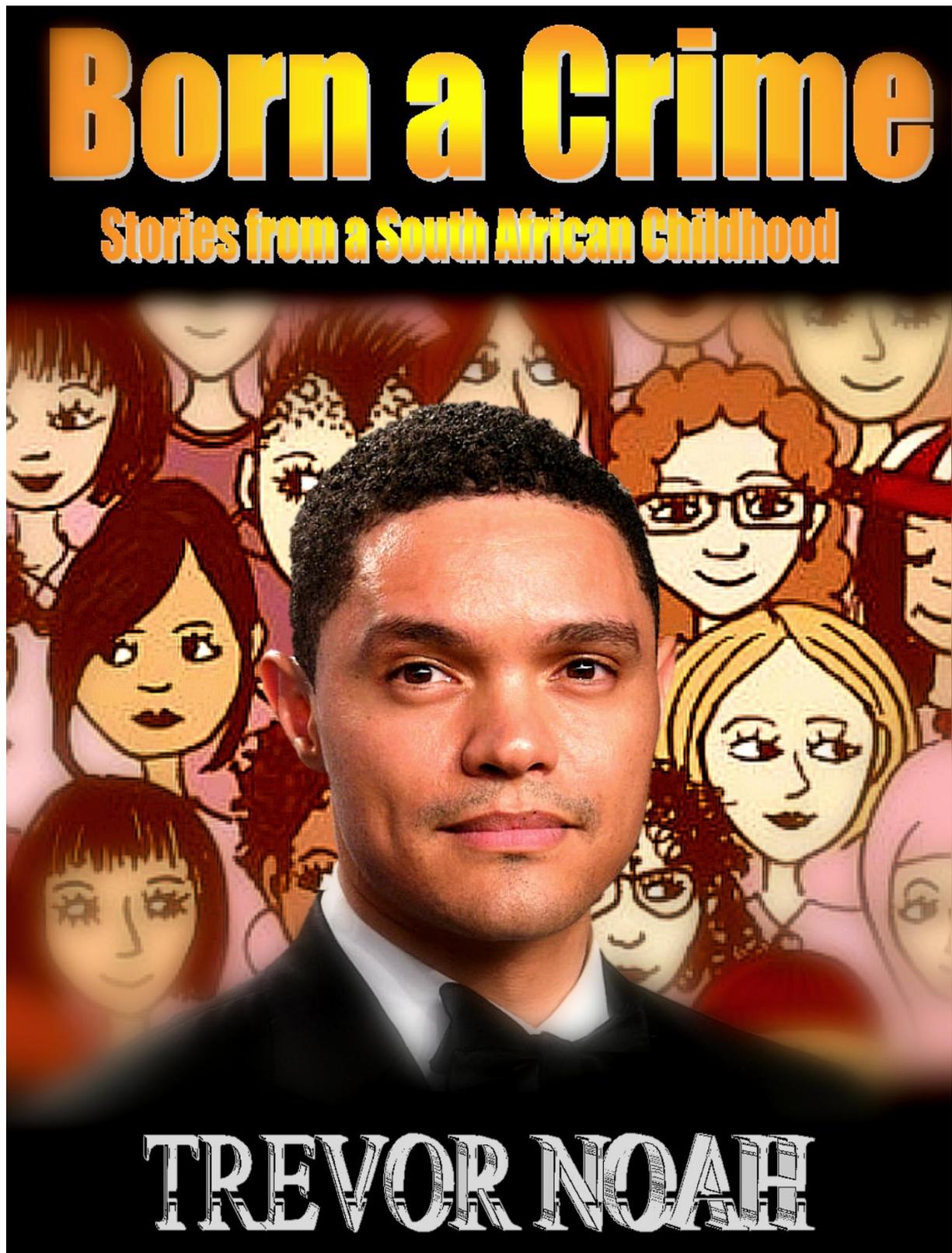


Maryvale College secondary school, in Maryvale Johannesburg attended by Trevor.



The class of 1994 at Maryvale College Trevor is the first boy to the right of the teacher

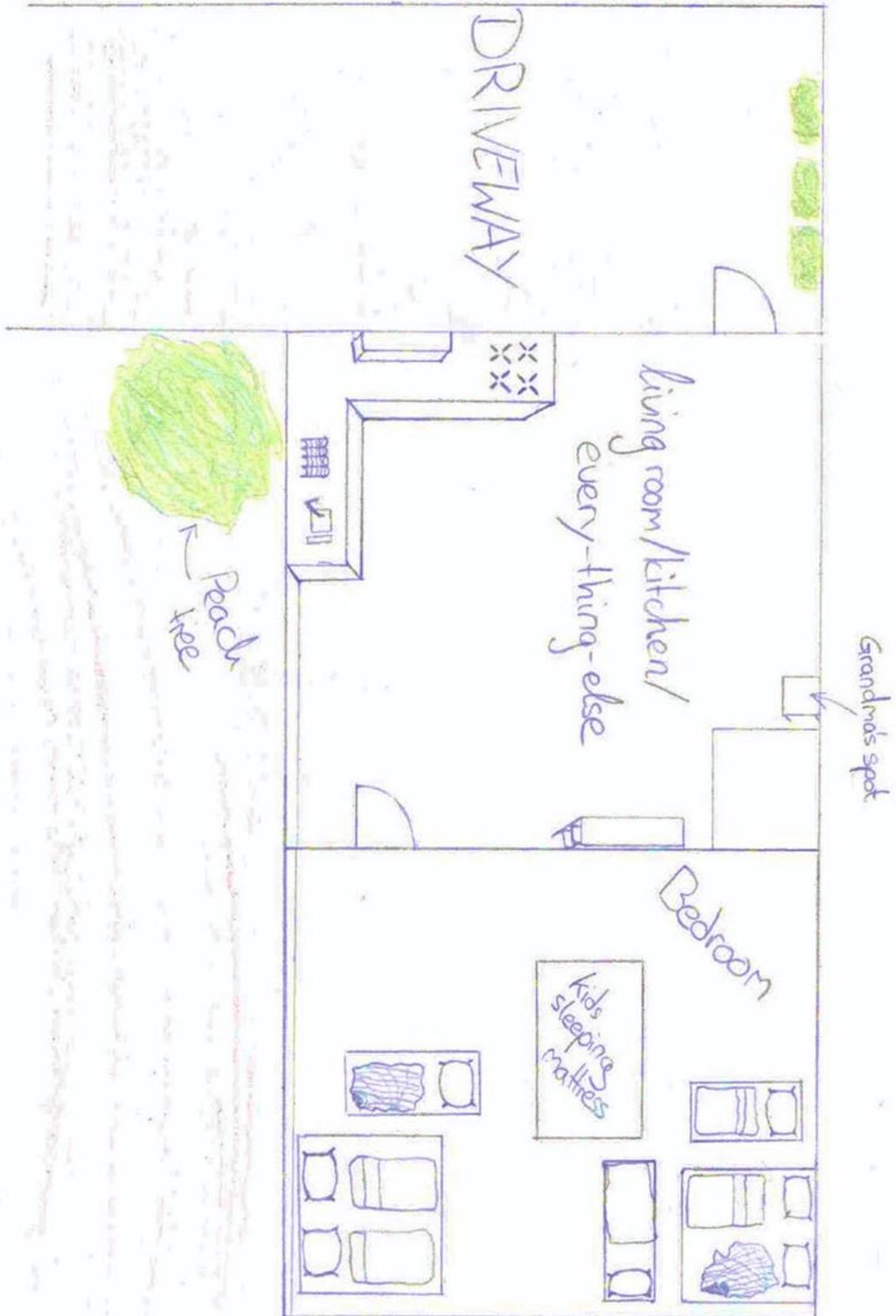
Born a Crime – Movie Poster



Christian Wagner



GRANDMA'S HOUSE IN SOWETO



Favourite quotes

if God is
with me
who can be
against me?

IF YOU  TO CONSIDER
THE RAMIFICA-
TIONS,

YOU'LL NEVER
DO ANYTHING

THE  SAW
ME AS COLORED,

BUT I DIDN'T SPEND MY LIFE
LOOKING AT MYSELF

*I never felt
poor becau
se our lives
were rich wi
th experience*

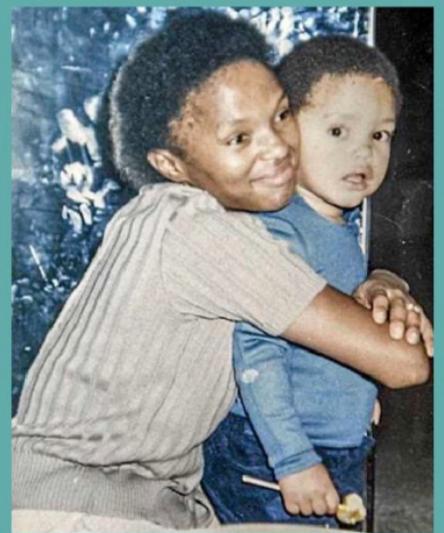
BEING CHOSEN IS THE
GREATEST  YOU

ANOTHER
HUMAN
CAN
GIVE
TO

Collage

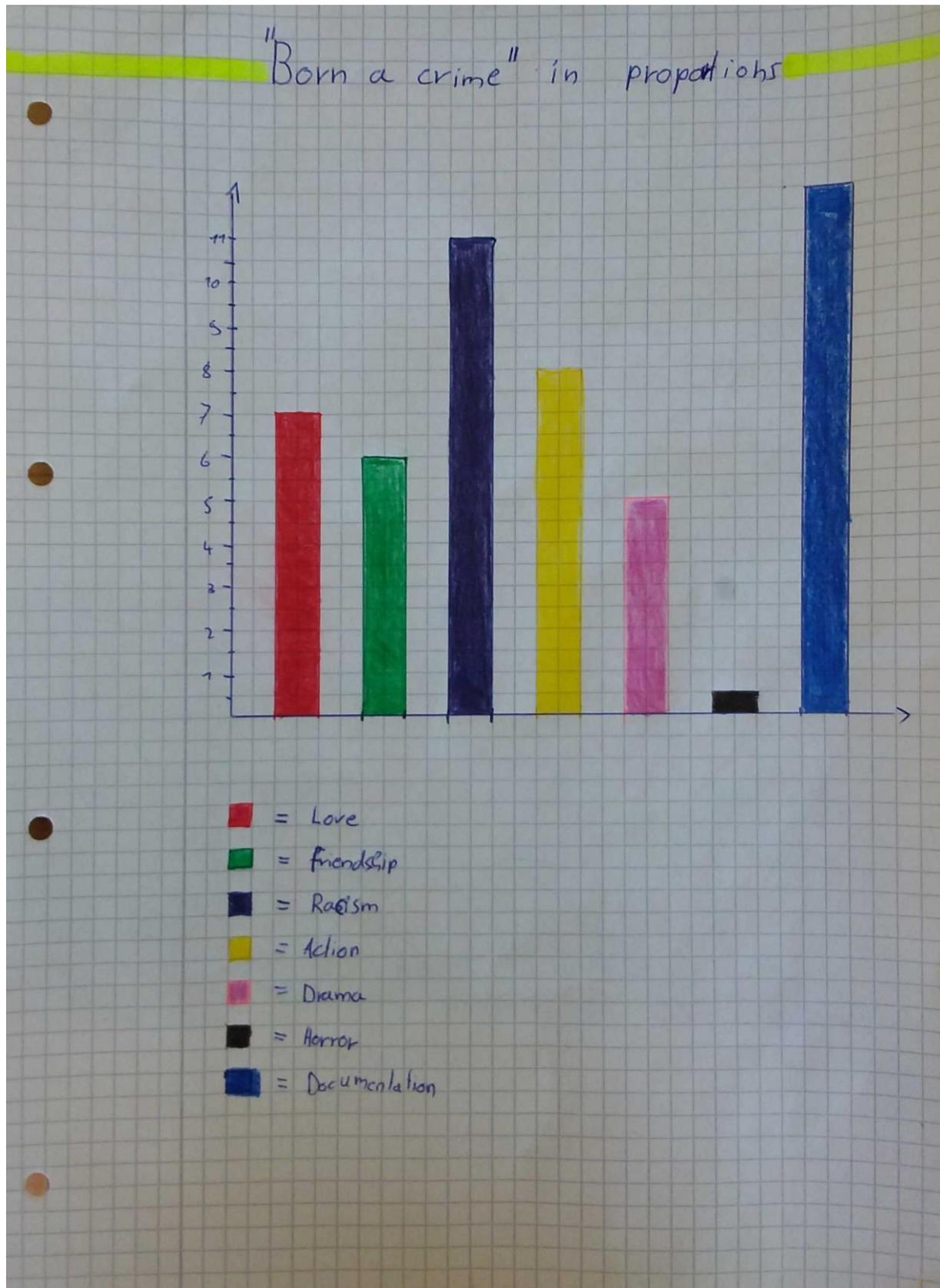
Born a crime

FOR ALL THAT BLACK PEOPLE
HAVE SUFFERED, THEY KNOW WHO
THEY ARE. COLORED PEOPLE DON



Melanie Hermans (10b)

"Born a Crime" in Proportions



The Three churches in Trevors childhood



Mixed church;
„Rhema Bible
Church



White Church:
“Rosebank
Union” in
Sandton



Black church

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DIARY ENTRIES



Diary Entry

One (No!: The worst) Sunday in my life

Dear Diary!

I can't imagine what happened today. I was lying in my bed and happy about not having to go to church because I am an independent adult now ;). Then my phone rang: I took answered, not knowing what had happened. My little brother asked if everything was okay and I said yes! How could he do that? My mom had been shot and he asked, completely normally, if everything was good.

I drove to hospital and saw my mother. Everywhere there was blood and many doctors were standing around her. I'll never forget this sight. I went outside to my brother. He was crying, like me.

The nurse asked for money because mom cancelled her health insurance. Why?...Ok, I'll pay for it...

Time went on...hours later...The doctor came to me and he said: "Everything is okay. No grave internal injuries!" What? My mom was shot in the head and she had no bad injuries? Even though I was VERY happy, I couldn't believe that.

I don't know how life will go on. How expensive is the stay in hospital? Will mom be able to work and pay for herself and my brothers? Do I have to give financial aid to them? Where's Abel? Will he try to kill me, too?

I'm terrified!

Trevor

- Tagebuch:
<https://thumbs.dreamstime.com/z/blank-vintage-book-open-22490007.jpg>

Diary

Dear Diary, Today I saw the most beautiful girl in my life. Her name is Babiki. She's my girlfriend now. I don't really know her but Tom said that she is really nice. We didn't talk that much but she is gorgeous. I'm going to take her to the matric dance. I'm very sad that I can't take Zaheera to the dance but it's OK. I'm fine. Maybe I'll see her one day and then we will have a family with a lot of kids and we'll be rich then and have a nice big house in the city. I'm going to make my mom proud. Also one guy at my school screwed me. He said that he's gonna give me half of his food if I buy it for him. This dumb ass didn't. I'm so mad at him. But life goes on.

I'm going to write you again tomorrow.

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POEMS



11 Word Poem

Trevor

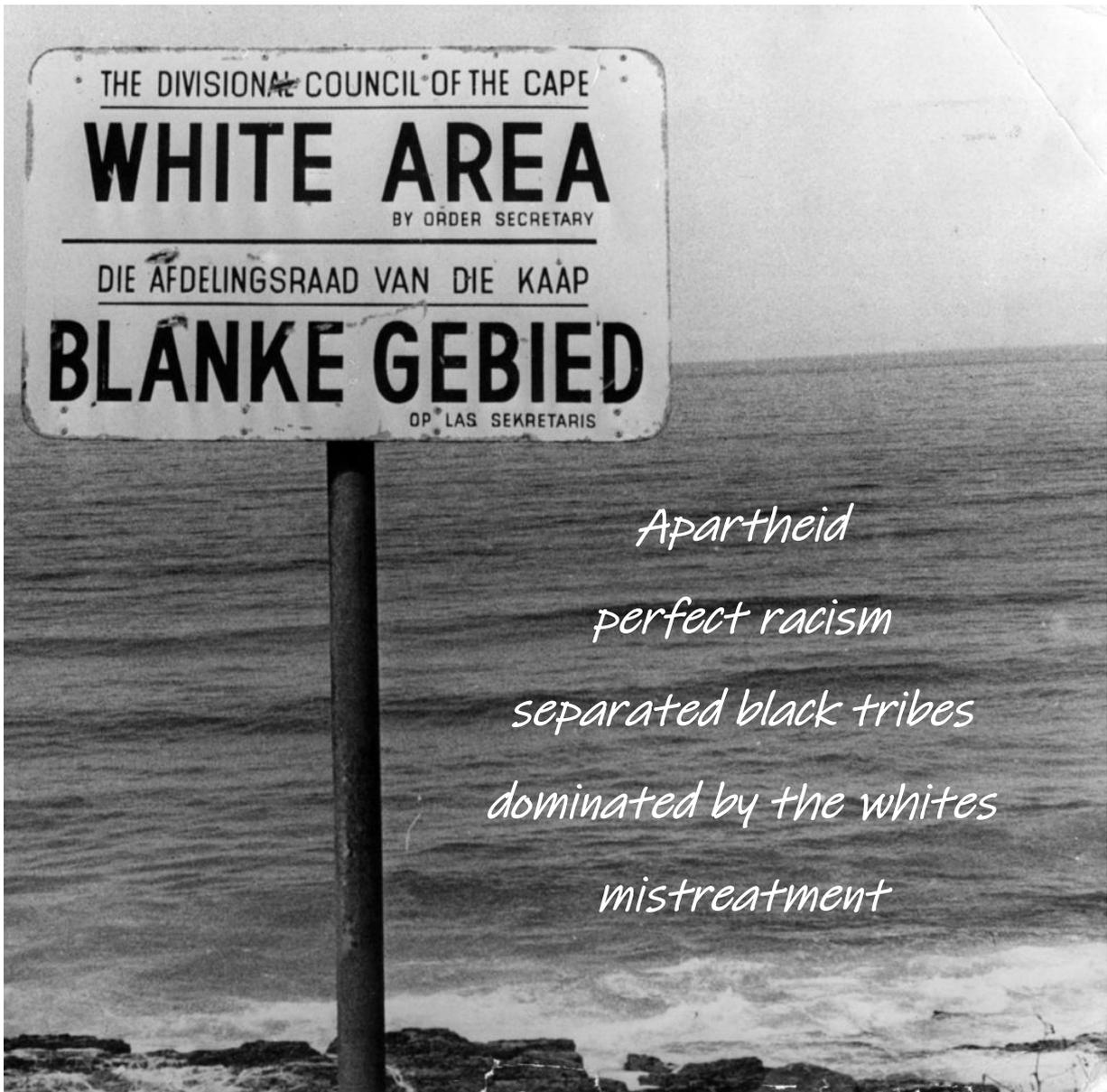
Apartheid, Racism

Born a crime

White father, black mother

poverty

11 word poem



Apartheid

perfect racism

separated black tribes

dominated by the whites

mistreatment

11 Word Poems

Pain

Racial separation

Black, white, colored, ...

A lot of hate

Apartheid

Outsider

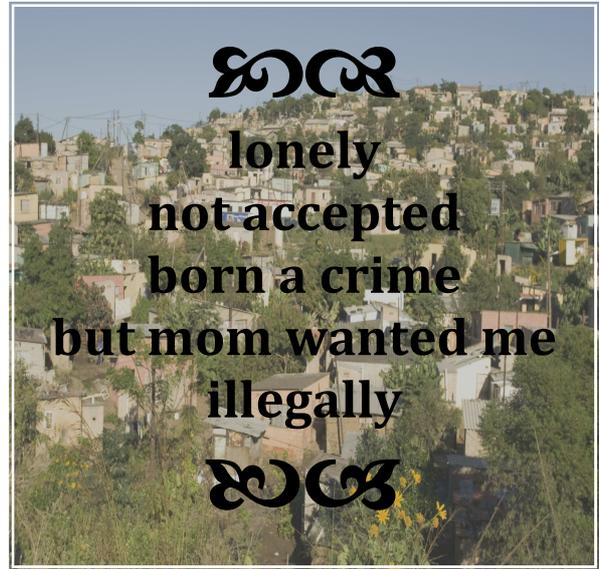
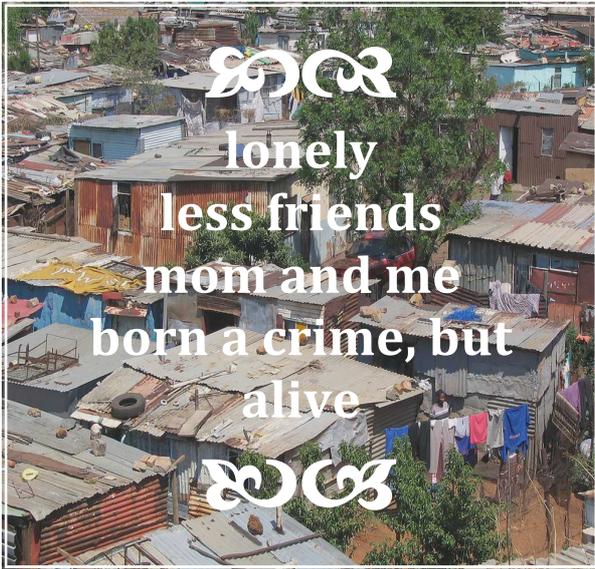
Colored boy

A difficult life

Colored but black heart

Trevor

Elfchen



- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/40/Soweto_township.jpg/1280px-Soweto_township.jpg
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c8/Ntuzuma_township%2C_South_Africa.jpg

Transition

I am black, I am white.
I have to win my right!!!
I'm going to take the test!
And, well, you know the rest.
It's a transition, for the best.
I was black and I'll be white.
Earn respect, yes, I might.
The regime tells me then
The race I am.

It doesn't matter how black I am
In the papers I am pale.
My family won't chase my tale.
For I left them for transition
And I'll have the right position.

This poem explains the fact that during the apartheid regime in South Africa, you could change your race from an inferior one to a superior one or the other way around, by taking a race-test.

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INTERVIEWS



Interview with young Noah

- Interviewer: Thanks for taking your time for a quick Interview.
- Noah: Of course. I always have time to talk about my life.
- Interviewer: So just to clear up. You are now 20 years old and you were going to a private school. You were living with your family in the „black district“.
- Noah: That’s true.
- Interviewer: So how did you get into this school? I think most people know that it’s not quite easy for a black/ mixed child to get into such a good school.
- Noah: So I was very lucky to have my fierce mother. When apartheid came to an end schools would slowly accept the “different“ children. Some would get scholarships if they were smart. But the company where my mother worked offered scholarships for their children. So she managed to get me into a Catholic school. I was taught by nuns. But that wasn’t a problem for me. As you know I was raised very religiously, so the Catholic “lifestyle“ wasn’t a problem for me.
- Interviewer: But weren’t there any complications with race?
- Noah: I mean we were like 5 years old, when we got into primary school. We were just children. In our eyes we were just the same. We played, ate and got taught together. Of course there was teasing and bullying. But not about the colour of our skin.
- Interviewer: And did it stay like that, when you changed school?
- Noah: So when I got into a government school, I was in A-class. So I was a “smart kid“. In these classes there were mostly white people. And I couldn’t believe that all the black people were just dumb. So either the white parents bribed the teachers or the teachers were just racist. But I think it was a mix of both parties. On the playground there were again

groups of white and black people. I was going to the black groups, because they were more familiar to me. So we were kind of mixed in class but after school we behaved the same as most of the adults. In the end I changed classes, because I wanted to be with “my people”. Even though that could affect my future.

Interviewer: Okay that was a great look into your school life. Thanks for being here today at radio one.

Noah: Thanks for having me. I always like to give a quick view into my past.

Interviewer: You want to hear more from Trevor Noah? Go listen to one of his Stand Ups. At 65888 Washington Street, tonight at 8 p.m.

Mona Mei, 10B

an Interview with Trevor

After Trevor graduated, he started his business. If he had been interviewed by a European reporter for a European magazine then, this is what it could have looked like:

1991

TODAY'S INTERVIEW

TREVOR NOAH

A SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD SOUTH AFRICAN



Nelson Mandela became South African's president seven years ago. That made apartheid end officially. But does that mean there is no segregation anymore? How do today's young people think about that? To answer these and many more questions we talked to Trevor Noah. He's seventeen years old and just graduated from school.

Interviewer: Are you ready to start?

Trevor: Yes, let's go.

I: How did you experience apartheid? What exactly is apartheid?

T: This needs a little pre story. My mother is black, my father white, I'm colored. At the time when I was born it wasn't allowed to have sexual intercourse for different colored people. So, I'm like the result of their crime. However, apartheid was very hard for every non-white. It's the racial separation of society. Whites – only about 9 percent – had many privileges and the others were disadvantaged. Since different skin color meant different race, I couldn't be seen with my family outside. I didn't have a lot of friends either. I always had to hide and play inside. I was never lonely because my parents found the best possible solution in this difficult situation. Nevertheless, I'd have loved to play outside with other children. When I was six years old Nelson Mandela came free and this started to end apartheid. When I was ten it ended officially although it's still in people's minds.

I: How do you mean that?

T: Non-whites are still often classified as criminal, poor and less smart. That's why, for example, it's more difficult for them to get a well-paid job. As well non-whites are disadvantaged often, for example, when a crime happens, it's often them who are punished for it – if it was them or not.

I: How was your life after apartheid finally ended?

T: I went to school at that time. It wasn't that easy for me. I mostly lived with my black mother and her black family. So my skin was colored and my heart was black. I wasn't really accepted for that. I was often bullied. That's what I meant: although apartheid was abolished people still didn't accept me although it shouldn't matter what kind of skin color we have.

I: Would you prefer to be white?

T: My life and especially my childhood would probably have been much easier if I'd been white. However, no, I don't want to be white. I'm very happy with my life and proud of myself, I love my family and I'm very grateful. If I was white all this wouldn't have been that way probably.

I: What are your plans for the future?

T: I would like to study information technology but there I can't afford it since my family and me are very poor. I'm just building up a little business together with a friend. We are reselling stuff, dealing with music and granting loans. This actually brings quite a lot of money. I will see how successful it'll be. Depending on that I will either go to study or I'll see what life brings for me. In my situation I have to take the best I get but the more I do for it, the more I will get!

I: Thank you a lot for this interesting interview and I wish you all the best for your future plans!

T: You're very welcome, I enjoyed it a lot. Thank you!

We hope we could bring you this interesting topic from a distant country herewith closer. Next week's interview will be with Rodrigo from Brazil.

Stay tuned!

TREVOR
NOAH

BORN A CRIME

PROJECT 10B|10E
WRITINGS



3. Trevor's church routine

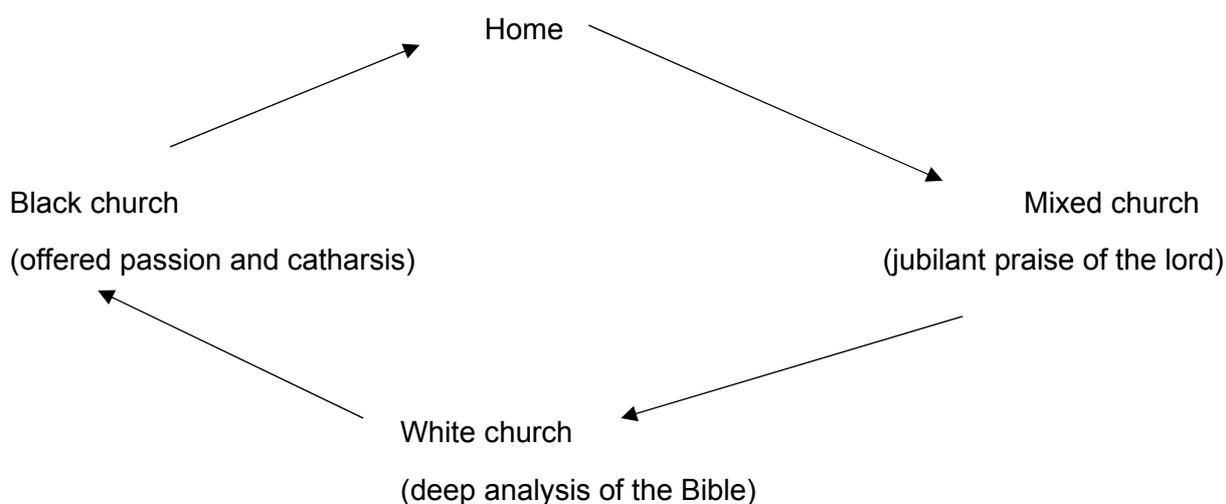
Every Sunday was church day. Trevor, his mum and his little brother went from one church to another. They attended three churches. The black church, the white church and the mixed church.



Bild Rosebank Union Church:

Which church Trevor did like the most and what was the difference?

You'll get your answers right now.



Mixed church, Rhema Bible Church:

This church was a huge, modern one. The pastor was an ex-bodybuilder, who had a big smile all the time. Every Sunday he tried to make Jesus cool. Mass was accompanied by a rock band and everybody sang along. Trevor said that he always had fun in this church.

White church, Rosebank Union:

It was placed in Sandton a very wealthy part of Johannesburg. Trevor loved that church because he went to Sunday school. There he read cool stories with the other kids. He talked about quizzes and games at Sunday school and he won them all the time. His mum didn't allow him to hear other music than the church music and the Bible was his story and movie place.

Black church, tent-revival-style church:

Black church wasn't Trevor's favourite one. They went to his grandmother's church where there were about 500 old grannies, who came to pray and sing together. The length was Trevor's biggest problem. It took about three to four hours. But he had fun watching the pastor driving the demons out of the people.

Trevor Noah – personal details

Name:	Trevor Noah
Date of Birth:	February 20, 1984
Place of Birth:	Johannesburg, South Africa
Nationality:	South African
Mother:	Patricia Nombuyiselo Noah
Father:	Robert
Maternal grandmother:	Normaliza/Nomalizo Frances Noah
Maternal grandfather:	Temperance Noah
Ethnicity:	white Swiss-German (father) Xhosa South African (mother)
Residence:	Manhattan, New York



Education

During his childhood, Trevor Noah attended Roman Catholic Church every Sunday. He spent his youth at the private Maryvale College, a Catholic school in Johannesburg.

Languages

Trevor Noah is a polyglot, he speaks, English, German, Afrikaans and the indigenous African tongues Zulu, Xhosa, Tswana and Tsonga.

Career

Prominent and one of the most recognizable faces of the African world, Trevor Noah is widely known as a comedian, actor and presenter of South African television and radio.

Trevor Noah began his career at the age of eighteen in his native South Africa in 2002, with a role on an episode of the South African soap opera "*Insidingo*".

Noah went on to host an educational TV programme, "*Run the Adventure*" (2004–2006) on South African Broadcasting Corporation 2 (SABC 2).

Trevor Noah has performed all over South Africa in various movies and shows, as example, "*The Blacks Only Comedy Show*", the Jozi Comedy festival "*Crazy Normal*" (2011), "*That's Racist*" (2012) and "*It's My Culture*" (2013).

In 2011, he relocated to the United States. On 6 of January 2012, he became the first South African stand-up comedian. Since September 2015, he has been hosting "*The Daily Show with Trevor Noah*".

In January 2016, Trevor Noah signed a book deal with Spiegel & Grau. His book "*Born a Crime*" was published on 15 November 2016 and was named one of the best books of the year by *The New York Times*, *Newsday* and *Booklist*. It was announced that a film adaptation based on the book is planned.

Currently, Trevor Noah resides in Manhattan, New York.

Definition of true love

According to Google love is “*an intense feeling of deep affection*” or “*a great interest and pleasure in something*”. It’s a good definition, but actually not right. Love is much more than pleasure, interest and affection. Trevor learned it the hard way, when he learned that his dog Fuffi was living a double life. Fuffi, the deaf dog was another kid’s dog during the day, when Trevor and his mom were at school or at work. In the end Trevor got his dog back, but he was heartbroken. But in spite of the pain he learned a valuable lesson. Fuffi wasn’t another kid’s dog or his dog; she was just a dog, living her life at maximum. Fuffi wasn’t anyone’s property; she was a living animal, which luckily loved Trevor back.

You only love truly when you’re willing to let go. And if that person loves you back, she or he is going to return to you. Love is a special feeling that is often confused with other emotions or feelings (attachment, happiness, lust, sense of property and even habit).

The interesting thing about love is that you’re not born with it, it’s something you learn. And even if you think you know what love is, you’re wrong. Humans will never know precisely what love is, but at least they might have a mere impression of what it really is.

Some other emotions, experiences or feelings, that might teach you what love really is, are:

- *Fear of rejection and rejection itself*
- *Regret* (for example, the secret love that Trevor and Zaheera shared for each other, but none of them had the courage to make the first step. Eventually Zaheera would move to America leaving an empty place in Trevor’s heart. Both of them lived with the regret of losing something they never tasted.)
- *The will to make the person next to you happy*
- *Trust*
- *Acceptance*
- *The will to change yourself for the better*
- *Choosing someone over yourself or being chosen by someone* (for example, that moment when Trevor’s father chose him instead of disappearing, he chose Trevor over himself)
- *Losing someone*

Even if it seems that love has only good sides, there are bad ones as well. The thing that hurts the most is when you really love someone and I mean like real love, truthfully and that other person doesn’t love you the same and uses your love for them for their own purpose. Although love is a “special” emotion and experience, that doesn’t mean it only has upsides. The world would be much better, if people could learn from others what love is, so that more people would try to make a difference on this “grey” planet.

Demons and Shit

Hello me, it's me again. Today is pretty lame, it has been raining all day and I'm in the house, bored, so I thought try talking to myself, anyway I don't have anything better to do. Wait! There is someone at the door. So, like a normal person I go to answer it. It's just our neighbor, I don't really know her name, but what I do know is that she has a colored grandson. Where do I know that from? Well I like sneaking and spying on my neighbors, when I get bored. Too good no one knows that, except me because I'm talking to myself. It's fun pretending to be a narrator!

She asked me, if my grandma is home. I told her, that she is and I called her to come to the door. I retreat. But as I said, I like to overhear things I'm not supposed to hear, so I'll hide in the bedroom, you know, we only have 2 rooms, the bedroom and the kitchen or better sad the "everythingelseroom". So, I'm in the bedroom eavesdropping. This woman talks about a demon and that her house has been cursed and that my grandma has to come to pray at her house with the other grannies around the township, in order to send the demon back to hell or something. Of course I'm not allowed to come. So I'll wait for my grandma to leave. I'll leave the house in ten minutes.

The ten minutes finally pass and now I'm ready to leave the house. The woman's house isn't too far away, I can hear the praying from my driveway. I am very excited to see what these house exorcisms look like.

I finally got to the house in question. I'm ready to make the turn around the house and sneak a look at what's happening. Well now I'm stunned and amazed. How can people be so dumb? There is a society of women literally praying around a burning piece of shit. WHY? I am religious and all, but this is way too much.

Then there is that mixed or colored kid I talked about earlier. I can't tell the difference between mixed and colored. He looks kind of guilty. I think he's the demon who took the shit. Well I'm marked for life. I'd better take off, I can't stand that smell. These women are my heroes for they can stand this odor.

I finally got home. This day wasn't that boring after all. I think I should thank myself for this brilliant narrator. Thank you me. Now I'm going to take a nap. Bye!

Hitler at a Jewish club

Shockers at a diversity program held by a Jewish school in Linksfield. One of the performing groups started yelling, quote: "GO HITLER!!!!!"

A group of talented young African boys performing at a diversity program were kicked out after starting to yell the name of the infamous dictator. Their colored DJ was playing rap when the dancing group started to circle one of their mates. While the black dancer was performing his sick moves the rest of the group started screaming, quote: "GO HITLER!"

The head of the organization crew kicked the young men out telling them that they had been stopped once and that the same thing was going to happen again, referring to the anti-Semitism and the Nazi party during the **Second World War**. The head DJ's answer to that was shocking, quote: "You'll never stop us, because now we have **Nelson Mandela** on our side! And **he** told us we can do this!"

This was clearly a misunderstanding caused by the culture difference. In South Africa the name "Hitler" is a common one, it is a name often associated with toughness by black people. This interpretation was caused by the chip education the system offered the black people, schools teach facts but not how to think. When examining the facts the atrocities of the holocaust aren't that big a deal for a person whose own family went through the atrocities of slavery.

Lessons the book teaches you!

1. **"... with the black kids, I wasn't constantly trying to be. With the black kids I just was."** (Chapter 4)

Stay near the people who accept you the way you are. Nobody likes people who play pretend.

2. **"Learn from your past and be better because of your past [...] but don't cry about your past. Life is full of pain. Let the pain sharpen you, but don't hold on to it. Don't be bitter."** (Chapter 5)

People are tempted to forget their past or past mistakes and pretend it never happened. Learn from your past and not only yours. All knowledge is good knowledge. If people hadn't learned from the past, atrocities like the holocaust and slavery could happen all over again. Racists for one instance never learned that discrimination always brought conflict and damage to your own "race".

3. **"Being chosen is the greatest gift you can give to another human being"** (Chapter 8)

Try to love yourself well enough so you can start loving others. Sometimes the smallest of things can change one's perception of life for the better and help them feel that they matter.

4. **"You're having sex with a woman in her mind before you're having sex with her in her vagina"** (Chapter 10)

"Mind sex" is what keeps a relationship going. Once you stopped having it the relationship is going to fail. "Mental sex" is what tells you and shows you that you have chemistry with that person. So to know if you're good for each other, you should have first sex with your minds, not with your bodies.

5. **"... Comfort can be dangerous. Comfort provides a floor but also a ceiling."** (Chapter 16)

Not leaving your comfort zone will keep you from evolving. Yes, you have a way of leaving but it keeps you from dreaming. A person with no dreams is a sad person.

Mother

Who is Missis Patricia Noah? She's a mother of course, Trevor's mother to be more precise. She played a very important role in Trevor's life; she was and still is in one way or another present. But what made her so important? Her character, of course!

Patricia comes from a poor South African family with Xhosa roots. She is a very intelligent woman who longed for independence and tried to live her life to the full. She was a kind of wild person, a rebel. She left her house at a very young age and went to live at her aunt's and work for her. She had a hard time working at her aunt's; she was always starving, because she had barely anything to eat. Sometimes she would eat pig food or even dirt, just to feel full. So she was a survivor.

While at her aunt's she learned English, the language of money. Years later she returned home, for her aunt fell sick and she couldn't work there anymore. Back home she became a secretary, she earned some money with that job, for a black person. But she didn't feel good at home, because she was living in her family's shadow, she had to give up all the money she earned to her family. She felt like an outcast wherever she went.

As an outcast she found acceptance, where everyone finds acceptance, in God's house. She was very religious and fanatical. At some point she would attend 3 different churches every Sunday, that's a little bit exaggerated, from my point of view. And this especially is, also a matter of stubbornness, if you do everything in your power to achieve "church" every Sunday.

Because of the life she had lived she tried to offer Trevor everything she didn't have but in the form of tough love. She wanted to make him a man and she succeeded, although she was a single mother. And just because of that she's my hero.

In South Africa it was pretty common to be a single mother for men were divorced, in prisoned or working far away from home, in mines for example and were allowed to visit home only during holidays. In one way or another South Africa was a Nation controlled by women. Mothers were and are the true boss of the world.

Trevor Noah Characteristics



Gender:	Male
Religion:	Roman Catholic
Age:	36
Date of Birth:	20.2.1984
Place of Birth:	Johannesburg (South Africa)
Size:	1,81m
Sexuality:	Straight
Ethnicity:	Multicultural
Profession:	Comedian
Parents:	Patricia Nombuyiselo and Robert Noah
Linguistic Proficiency:	Seven Languages
Hair Colour:	Dark brown
Eye Colour:	Dark brown
Awards:	MtV Movie Award, Emmy, Thumber Price for American Humor

Picture: https://img.washingtonpost.com/rf/image_1024w/2010-2019/WashingtonPost/2016/11/03/Style/Images/trevorNoahP031478148613.jpg?uuiid=BobH0qGBEealZG-JLK0IZQ

Survival in South African Society BUCKET LIST

- Learn as many languages as you can
- Try at least to learn besides your mother tongue English (the language of the money), Afrikaans, Zulu and Xhosa
- Do not interfere in the Xhosa-Zulu "war"
- Do not buy cats (people may think you're a wizard or a witch)
- Do not argue with crack heads
- Stay away from the hood as much as you can (the hood will keep you from evolving)
- Do not buy things from strangers (the things they're selling are probably stolen)
- Do not buy second hand cars otherwise you'll get in a lot of trouble
- Do not break the law, policemen are very savage and brutal
- Stay away from colored gangsters
- Try to speak with people in their mother tongue
- Stay away from violent people and do not marry them
- Go to church
- Watch out for people who steal cars, you could get shot
- Do not stay at street parties in the township until the end or you'll get beaten up by party people or policemen

Trevor's Chat with Teddy

Trevor received the message that Teddy was arrested only some days later. If they had had phones and communicated via WhatsApp the situation would probably have been completely different. This is part of a possible WhatsApp chat Trevor and Teddy could have after Teddy was caught by the cops:

Part I – Trevor finds out Teddy was arrested after they were shoplifting that Saturday night

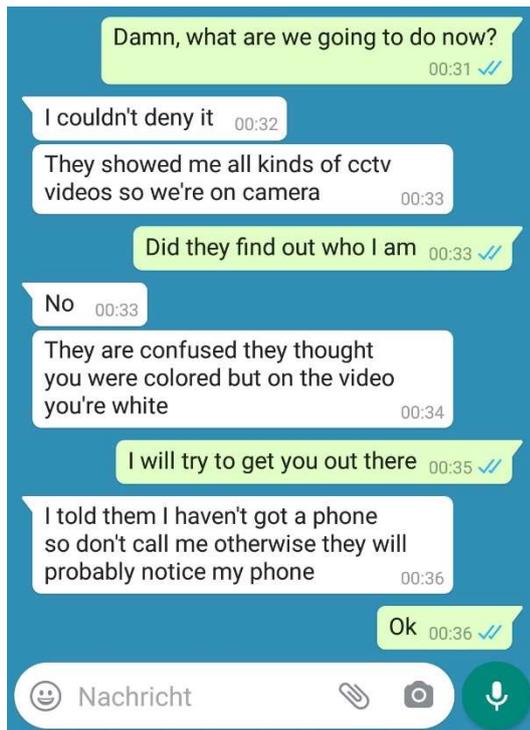


In the novel Trevor first gets the message that Teddy has been arrested when his parents tell Trevor's mother about it. If they had been in contact Trevor would have known it much earlier and he could have acted differently. For example, he wouldn't have had to look for him that evening.

Part II – after Teddy talked to the cops and was arrested



If Trevor had had information that Teddy now was arrested and that the guy on the cctv had a different skin color, the story would probably have been slightly different. For example, when he was called out in school on Tuesday morning, he wouldn't



have to be afraid because he would have known that the guy on the video had another skin color.

Part III - Trevor tells Teddy that he's safe and they figure out a plan how to get Teddy out after Trevor came home from school



If they had been able to communicate at that moment, their lives would probably have been quite different. They would be able to stay in contact in comparison to the novel in which it seemed like they lost contact after Teddy was arrested. I even assume they would try to figure out some kind of plan to free Teddy. That's also what this chat shows.



At that point Teddy gave Trevor a call

TREVOR
NOAH

BORN A CRIME

PROJECT 10B|10E

LETTERS



Dear Mom,

Thank you for being my best mate, my partner in crime, my life teacher.

You have shown me so much, I'm so thankful that you have expanded my imagination, that you taught me how to think, that you made me the person I am today.

Ps. Don't be sad that you're only the second best looking person in the family, I still love you 🥰

Your 5 best life lessons 100

1. LEARN FROM YOUR PAST AND BE BETTER BECAUSE OF YOUR PAST.
2. THERE ARE NO LIMITATIONS ON WHERE YOU COULD GO OR WHAT YOU COULD DO.
3. DON'T FIGHT THE SYSTEM. MOCK THE SYSTEM.
4. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOURSELF. YOU MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES.
5. YOU MUST ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.

*Happy Mother's Day,
Love, your son Trevor*

Tina Combecher

Postcard from Trevor to Nelson Mandela

Dear Mr. Mandela!

August 1994

I'm Trevor Noah. I'm ten years old. I'm colored. My mother is black and my father is white. That made growing up for me very difficult. I never could be seen with my family until apartheid ended.

Going out would have been too risky. Anyone could notice my parents and I have different skin colors. That would have meant different colored people – my parents – had carnal intercourse which was illegal by that time. I felt like the result of a crime my parents had committed. I was born a Crime.

I never could go outside because. I had no one to join me since my family couldn't and I didn't have any friends. For going out alone I was too young. I didn't have any friends because I couldn't go out. I felt like in a vicious circle. I would have loved to play outside. It felt like I never would be able escape it. However, I never felt lonely because I didn't know another life and family made the best out of this difficult situation.

Since apartheid has started being abolished life is getting much easier and much more enjoyable for me. I am able to go out without being afraid. I can feel free. I don't have to be afraid of being caught. I can play with others. I'm out of this terrible vicious circle! I never thought I could ever say that!

I would like to thank you for that! Thanks for standing up for the non-white's rights! Thanks for causing a change in people's mindset.

Sincerely yours,

Trevor Noah



To:

The President of the Republic of
South Africa

Nelson Mandela

Seat of the government in
Pretoria

Nelson Mandela's answer to Trevor's Postcard

Hello dear Trevor!

I have received your postcard. Thank you very much!

The story you told me about your life was very touching for me. I am very happy I was able to help to improve it – however you by yourself improved it the most. Your mission of making the best out of the situation was great. Keep on thinking that way!

Now apartheid finally ended officially but racial segregation isn't out of people minds yet. Let's all help together and stand up for being accepted and tolerated and treated the same like anyone else. We are not more and not less worth than people with a different skin color or origin! We have won already, but we still have to complete our winning.

"A winner is a dreamer who never gives up!"

Never give up and always make the best out of what's going on and stand up for your rights.

Sincerely yours,

Nelson Mandela

Letter to Robert

Dear Robert, I really want to see you again because im miss you so much. I want to spend more time with you and get to know you better. Sadly i don't know very much about you and I have a lot of questions that I want to ask you. Even though we don't see each other very often it doesn't mean that I don't want to see you or that I don't love you. Because I do love you and you will always be my dad and nobody will ever replace you. And of course I don't think that you don't want to spend time with me, I know that it is hard seeing you during apartheid. Hopefully apartheid will come to an end soon so we can finally be father and son also in public. I don't want to hide anymore and I don't want to miss you any longer. I love you dad and I hope you love me too.

Best wishes, Trevor Noah

a letter from Trevor to his father

When Trevor was looking for his father the Swiss embassy first refused to help him. Later they revised their opinion and took a letter Trevor wanted to send to his father and said they would maybe pass it on to him. In the novel Trevor didn't talk about the letter's content. The following letter could be what Trevor wrote his father:

Dear Robert,

2008

I am your son, Trevor Noah. I miss you. I'm glad you're able to read this letter right now.

How are you doing?

I am fine.

I'm 24 years old now. I live in Johannesburg. I haven't heard anything from you for more than 10 years. Do you still live in Cape Town? How is your life? Do you sometimes think of me, too?

Since you moved my life has changed quite a lot. My mother and Abel made me the big brother of Andrew and Isaac. I graduated from school and I live by myself. I'm starting a career as an entertainer and comedian.

I remember meeting you – even weekly when I was young. We enjoyed our time. We didn't talk a lot but we had fun together. We watched motor races on TV or talked about your restaurant. You didn't tell me a lot about yourself. You seemed like a closed book in which I could read one word each time we met. So, I don't know a lot about you but I know you're a loving person.

I remember your voice, how you laugh and how you behaved.

We celebrated all my birthdays as a family and we were always together for Christmas. I loved European Christmas with trees and snow and lots of wrapped presents from Santa Claus.

I enjoyed every minute we spent together. Thank you!

I am glad this letter was passed on to you by the Swiss embassy. I would be very happy to hear from you. I hope you won't mind answering me.

Sincerely yours,

Trevor Noah

TREVOR
NOAH

BORN A CRIME

PROJECT 10B|10E

TIMELINES

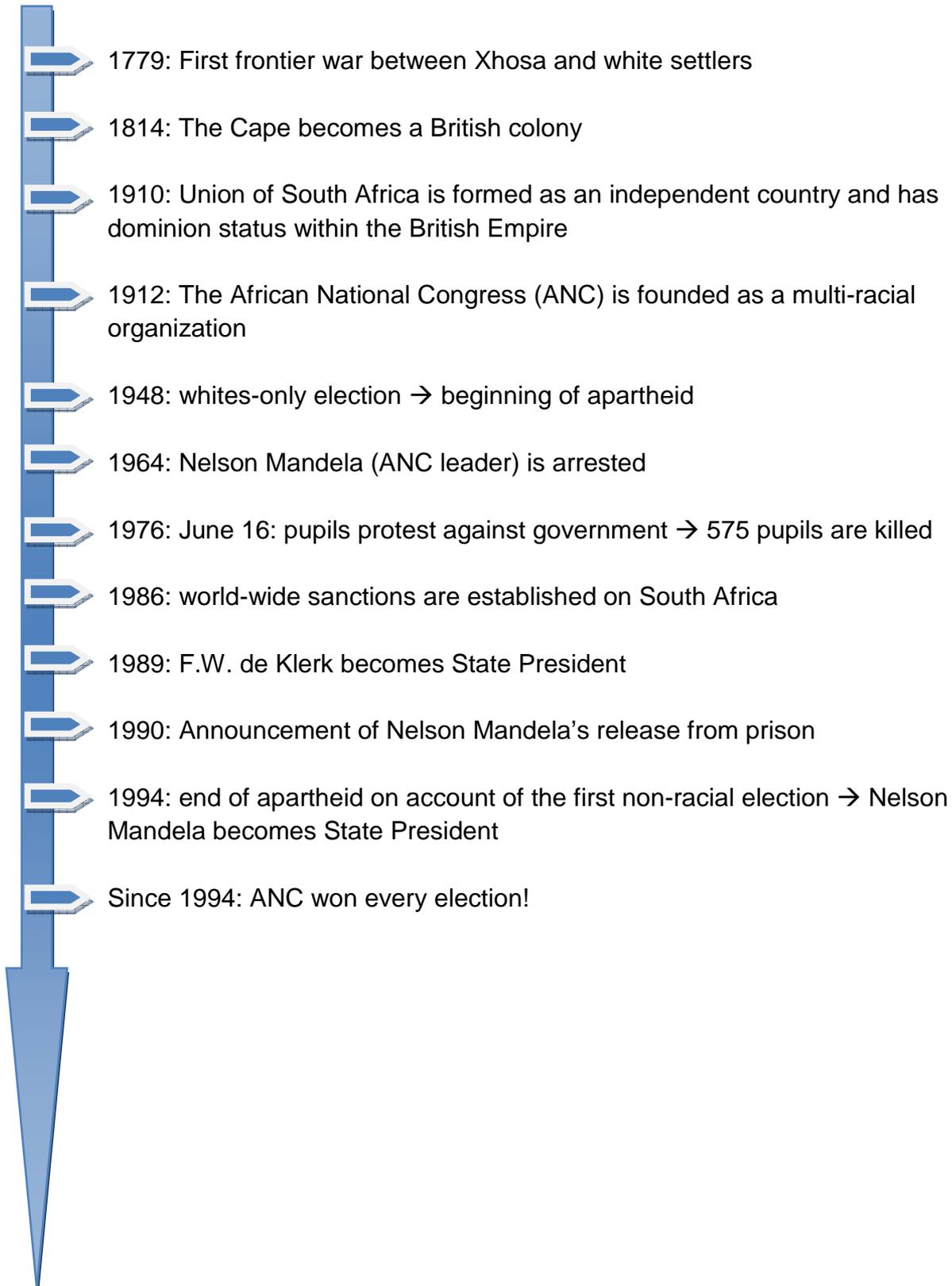


South Africa – Apartheid timeline

Apartheid was a time in South Africa between 1948 and 1994 when the government made laws to discriminate against black people. Everything, including medical care, education and even the country's beaches was segregated by race. Apartheid did not end until Nelson Mandela was elected president.

Date	Event
May 1948	Apartheid begins after the 1948 general election Hoping to get votes from the white Africans, the National Party promises to make laws severely restricting black rights if they win the general election. The National Party defeats the United Party and apartheid begins.
June 1952	The African National Congress starts the Defiance Campaign Volunteers begin a peaceful resistance to apartheid by breaking the laws they think are wrong.
1953	The Bantu Education Act is passed A law is passed that creates a separate education system for blacks and whites. Blacks are trained to prepare them for a life as part of the working class.
December 1956	Nelson Mandela is arrested for treason Nelson Mandela, an anti-apartheid activist, is arrested for fighting against apartheid. He is charged with treason, but after a four-year trial he is found not guilty.
1959	Separate homelands are created for the major black groups The government passes new laws to create separate homelands, called Bantustans, for black groups, trying to stop blacks from being citizens of South Africa.
March 21, 1960	Sixty-nine people are killed in the Sharpeville Massacre Apartheid requires blacks to carry passbooks, which contain personal information such as name, date of birth and photos.
August 5, 1962	Nelson Mandela is arrested for treason Mandela was the leader of "Umkhonto we Sizwe", part of the African National Congress. He is arrested for his role in bombing government targets and sentenced to life in prison.
November 11, 1965	Rhodesia illegally gains independence from Great Britain Prime Minister Ian Smith announces that Rhodesia has broken away from Great Britain and that whites will control the government. Great Britain had been prepared to only grant independence if blacks were given some of the power in government.
November 1974	South Africa is expelled from the United Nations Due to apartheid, South Africa is removed from the United Nations. South Africa is not allowed back into the United Nations until apartheid ends in 1994.
June 16, 1976	More than 600 high school students, protesting for an improved education system for blacks, are killed in the Soweto Massacre
September 12, 1977	Anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko, one of the organizers of the Soweto protest, is killed
1985	Musicians form Artists United Against Apartheid
August 12, 1986	Paul Simon releases the album "Graceland" with local South African musicians
February 2, 1990	President Frederik Willem de Klerk ends the ban on the African National Congress Even though he supported segregation at one time, President Frederick Willem de Klerk lifts the ban on the African National Congress in 1990. In 1993, de Klerk wins the Nobel Peace Prize with Nelson Mandela for helping to end apartheid.
February 11, 1990	Nelson Mandela is released from prison After 27 years in prison, Nelson Mandela is freed from prison, but says that there is more work to be done to end apartheid.
May 10, 1994	Nelson Mandela becomes president of South Africa In the country's first election that allowed both whites and blacks to vote, Nelson Mandela is elected president of South Africa. He is the first black president in the history of South Africa.

Timeline - the History of South Africa and Apartheid



TREVOR
NOAH

BORN A CRIME

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REVIEWS



Book review

Today's topic is the book "Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah. Since Trevor Noah was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother, he was born a crime – as any relationship between black and white people was prohibited by law. Trevor, whose skin colour was neither black nor white but coloured, was the living proof that his parents had committed a crime in conceiving their son.

Since there was apartheid in South Africa, Trevor spent his childhood inside the house, as going outside and playing with the other children would have been a risk for Trevor's parents to be arrested and for Trevor to be taken away and put into an orphanage. When Trevor was six years old, apartheid ended – however racism and preferential treatment of the white people still existed.

In Part II of his book, Trevor speaks about school and it's very interesting that black children accepted and treated him better than the white people did. Since a friend of Trevor's gave him a CD writer, Trevor was now able to illegally copy CDs and sell them at low prices at school, which he earned much money with. Later on the author tells us that he also started DJ'ing.

Especially at the end of the book he talks about his stepfather Abel and his mother. Abel, who was often in a rage, injured Trevor and his mother several times, which was the reason for Trevor's mother to get divorced. But since Abel had a gun, it was just a question of time when he would shoot at her as he did one Sunday after his ex-wife had visited church.

I really liked reading the book. At first, it's very interesting to know how life under apartheid for black people was. Trevor also showed us how harshly the police punished a relationship between black and white people, which was the reason why he had to stay at home during his childhood. In the second half of his book the author writes about his life as a child, growing up and becoming an adult. It's very interesting to read about the author's path from being a poor child in South Africa to become a famous comedian.

Overall, the book was very interesting to read, and since Trevor is a Comedian I also really had fun reading the book. Before beginning to read the book, I didn't know how living in South Africa would be – especially under apartheid. Since I read the book I learned how living in a world full of racism and mistreatment feels. In my opinion, this is a great book and I would totally recommend reading it!

My book review

To be honest I wasn't so excited, when I first heard, that I would be reading a book in English class. I once tried to read a book by Steven King in English. I want to emphasise: I tried. After a few chapters I needed to stop, because it was just too hard for me. So when I heard that I need to read a book in English I was quite afraid of it.

But it turns out that "Born a Crime" is very easy to read. There are explanations for difficult words and the language is easier than Steven King's. While reading the book I wasn't feeling, that I was reading a book that wasn't my mother tongue. I had almost no difficulties with words or phrases. Maybe my reading skills improved in the last few years, but it's obvious that the book was meant for pupils, who don't speak English as their first language.

As you go on with the story, the book reveals more and more shocking facts about segregation, apartheid and racism. Some things you read sound like they are coming straight out of a movie. It's unbelievable, that only a few years ago black people would be treated so differently and cruelly.

But the author doesn't just list these cruelties. He incorporates them into the story (his life). So that they are connected with each other. He combines his story with important facts about this time.

Finally I would say, that this book is an absolute "Must read" for everyone. No matter what skin or age. It's important for everyone to know, how we treated each other in the past. With all the atrocities. But still this story is truly inspiring. It's not self-evident, that someone with such a rough past can rise up and be one of the biggest comedians of the USA. This man represents the American dream and should be an idol for everyone on this planet.

Review

Trevor Noah had me captivated from the beginning with his stories about his childhood in South Africa. He was born when the rules of apartheid still applied in that country. His mother is black and his father is white. Because of this, his birth in 1984 was a crime, worse than treason.

Born a crime is full of anecdotes about the challenges of his life. Each chapter begins with a historical or moral perspective. The effects of apartheid did not disappear after the end of the regime. Growing up in the new South Africa, Trevor discovers that he always has to choose where he wants to belong. Trevor clearly shows how his mother's choice gives him opportunities, but also how the language of another person turns him into a chameleon that seems to be able to survive anywhere. As a result, he is able to understand different points of view and this is what he shows in this book. He gives a special and comprehensive picture of the situation in South Africa at the end of the last century.

The story was full of humour and he moved me with his life experiences and his unconditional love for his stubborn and faithful mother.

Born a crime makes you think about love, equal opportunities and justice. Definitely a must-read for people who want to know more about the South Africa of today or are just curious about the man behind the successful presenter of The Daily show.

Melanie Hermans (10b)

TREVOR
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BORN A CRIME

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RECIPES



2. How to cook very good porridge- a recipe for your good start to the morning

Trevor's breakfast was the same every morning. His mum cooked some porridge for him. A super good start to the morning.

Ingredients (for tow person):

500 ml water

200g oatmeal

a pinch of salt

Your favourite topping, like fruit or nuts

Method:

1. Put the oatmeal in a pan and roast it for 2-5 minutes.
2. Put the roasted oatmeal and the water in a pot and cook it until it has got the perfect consistency.
3. A little pinch of salt will make your porridge really tasty.
4. Put the porridge into your breakfast bowl and decorate it with your favourite topping. (my favourites are: bananas, strawberries, walnuts, raisins and chocolate chips)
5. Enjoy!

Other Possibilities:

1. You can use any kind of milk as well.
2. Try different spices, like sugar or vanilla
3. You have to decide for yourself, which consistency you like the most
4. In winter you can eat it warm and in summer if you like to eat it cold, put it in the bowl and wait for a few minutes.



Shopping List for Hummus bi Tahina:

ZULU	ENGLISH
1-can of peas	a tin of peas
Nameka unamathisele	sesame paste
lemons ezintathu	three lemons
amacende amane kagalikhi	four cloves of garlic
UParsley	Parsley
Amafutha	Oil
1-Cumin	Cumin
upelepele	a chili pepper
1-Curry powder	curry powder
Usawoti kanye nopelepele	salt and pepper
1-Paprika powder	Paprika powder
Isinkwa esithambile	Flatbread

Dear Trevor,

„Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.“

- Colossians 3:20

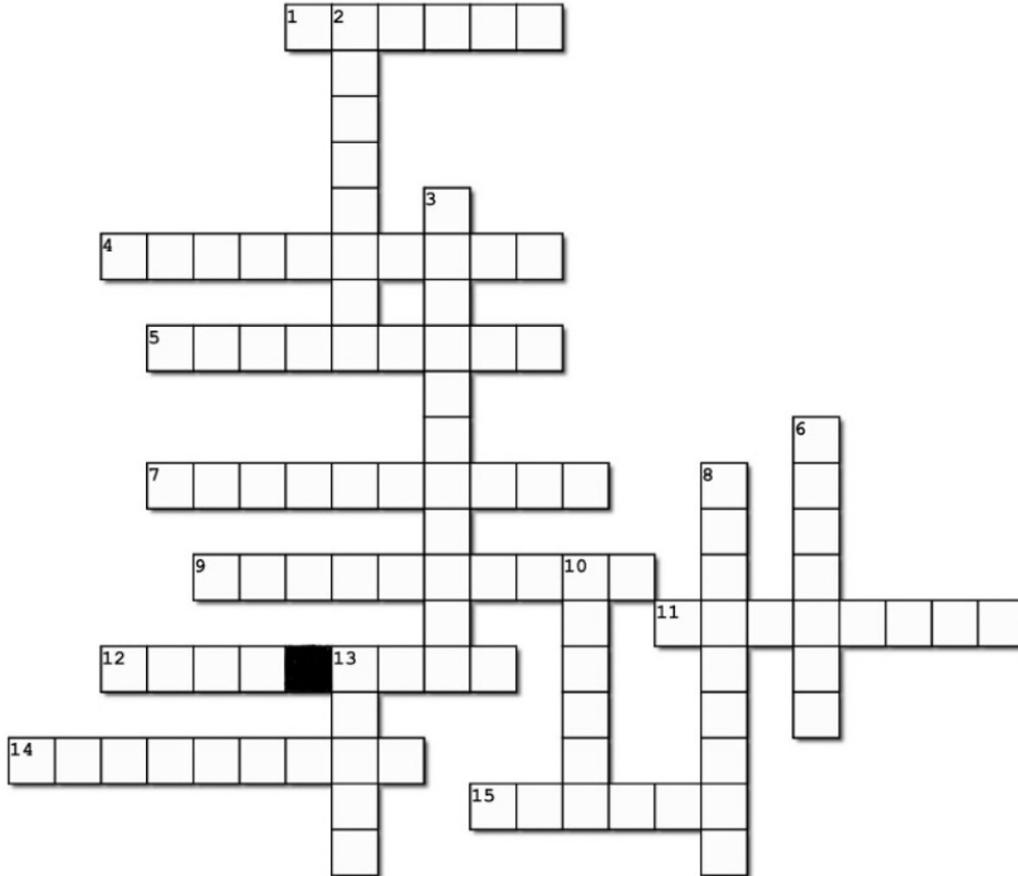
Today, I'm gonna cook hummus bi tahina for you. Please be sure that we have everything we need. If something is missing I ask you to buy these groceries at the tuck shop. Respect my will and do what I say otherwise there will be nothing to eat today.

Yours sincerely,

Mom

Born a Crime

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

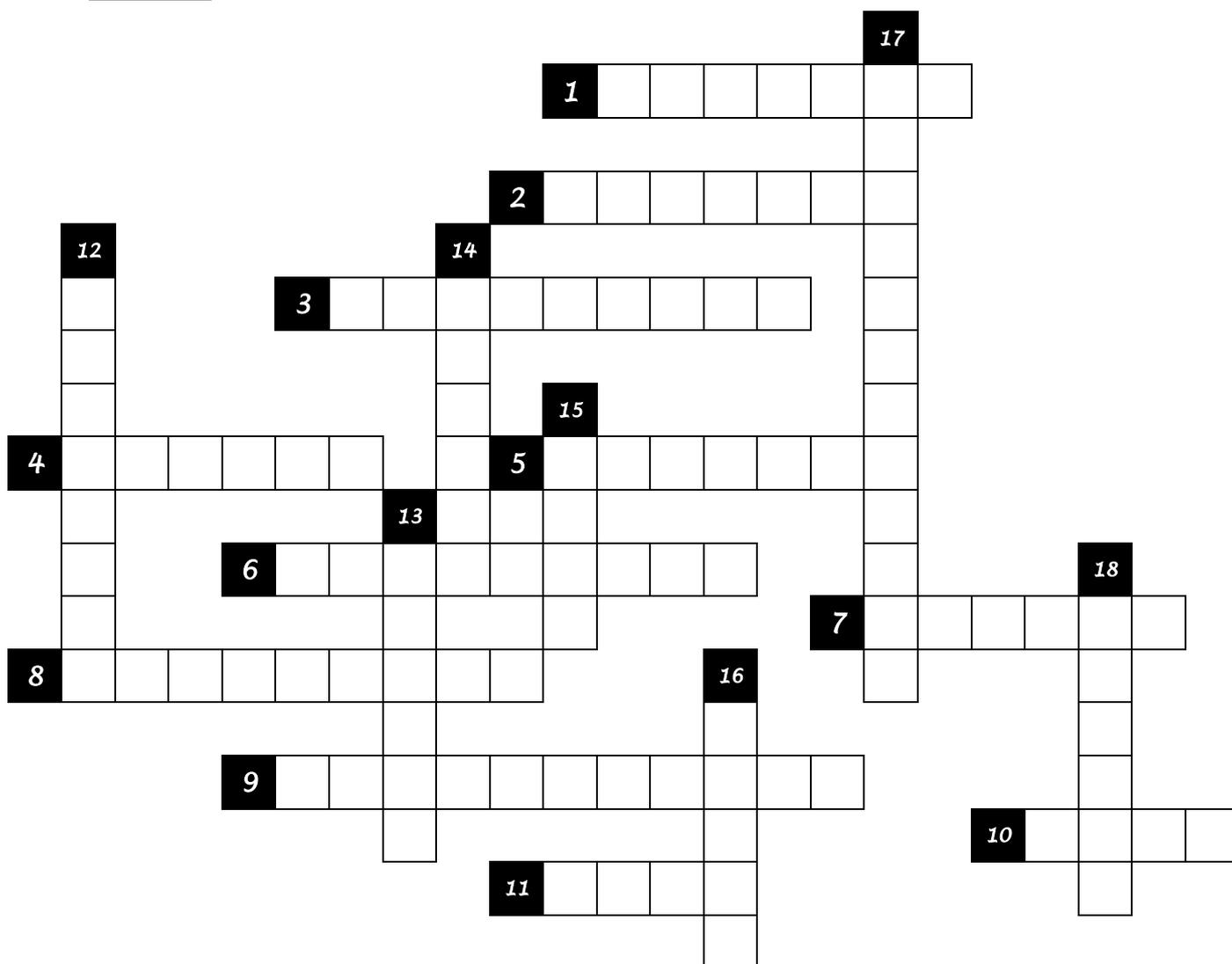
Cross

1. a group of animals born to the same mother at the same time
4. noisy and lacking in restraint or discipline
5. a social policy of racial segregation
7. freed from any question of guilt
9. the trait of avoiding excesses
11. disease that involves the clouding of the lens of the eye
12. the legislative capital of South Africa
14. strong hostility
15. a quarter of a city in which members of a minority group live especially because of social, legal, or economic pressure

Down

2. lacking power or ability
3. a soft fatty substance in the cavities of bones, in which blood cells are produced
6. resistant to guidance or discipline
8. a book of blank pages for sticking cuttings, drawings, or pictures in
10. a narrow exclusive circle or group of persons
13. emblem consisting of an object such as an animal or plant

Crossword

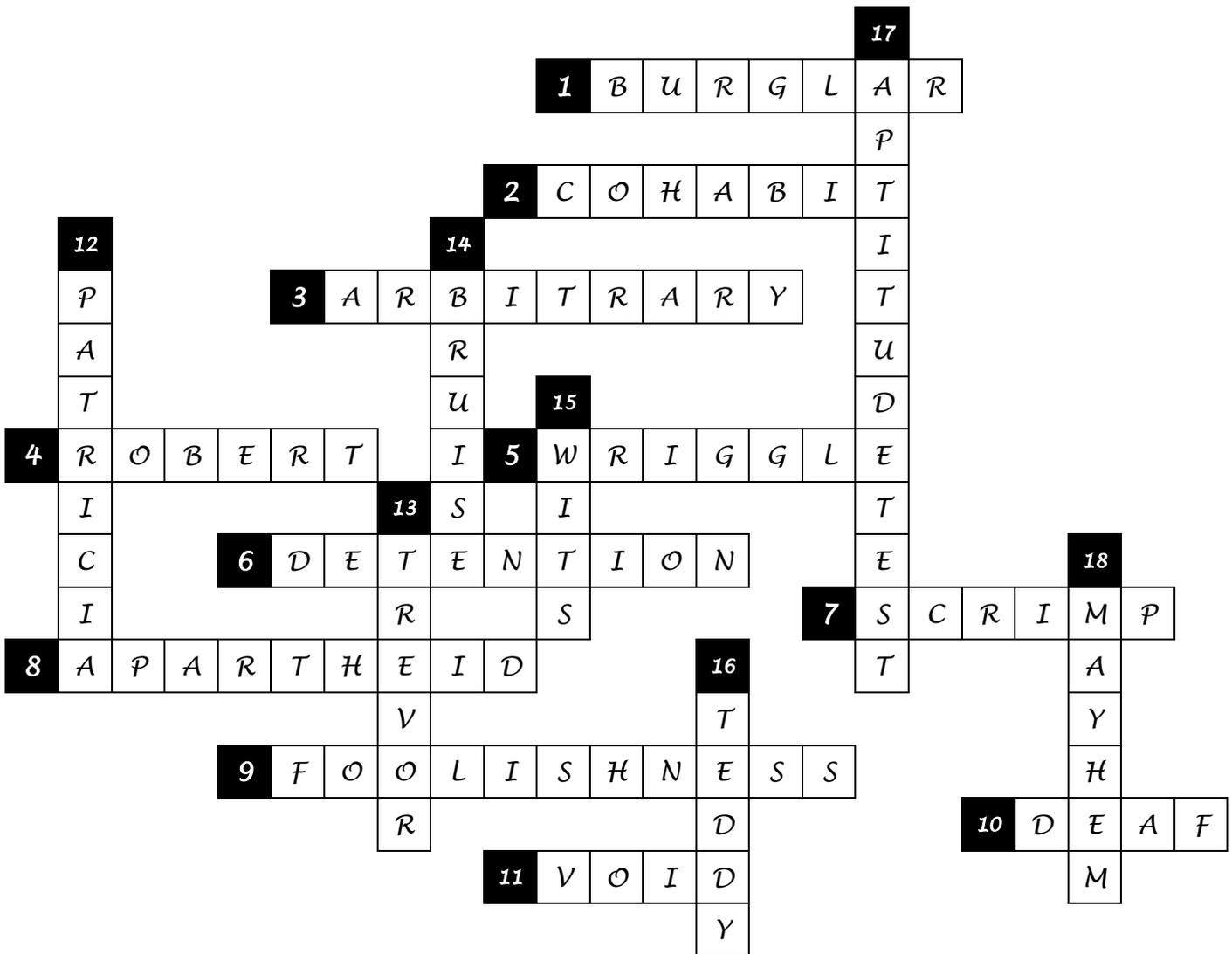


horizontal

- (1) person who steals, thief
- (2) live together with sb.
- (3) without a plan, often unfair
- (4) Name of main character's father
- (5) shake back and forth with quick movements
- (6) punishment for which students stay at school for a time after other students have gone home
- (7) save money by spending very little
- (8) former form of racism in South Africa
- (9) nonsense
- (10) unable to hear
- (11) emptiness

vertical

- (12) Name of main character's mother
- (13) Name of main character
- (14) "Prellung, blauer Fleck"
- (15) intelligence
- (16) Name of main character's friend who went shoplifting with him
- (17) "Eignungstest"
- (18) chaos



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Students' quotes on creating a multimodal portfolio:

„This was the first time that I was allowed to use my imagination for something. For once I could think of something and then just do it. I think this was a great opportunity for me to exercise my understanding of the English language with the help of a great book.“

-Thomas B.-

„ The project was a great experience for me. I've learned a lot about apartheid and how it feels growing up with it and how a childhood can be influenced in a country like South Africa by not having a lot of money. I also improved my language skills a lot while reading the book and especially while working on the multimodal portfolio.“

-Vivien F. -

“What I learned from this multimodal portfolio is how to manage my time and just to sit down and start working and keep working continuously. If I could give some advice to other pupils who will have to work on a multimodal portfolio, too, I would say to them: Manage your time, make a timetable before you start to work and take notes while reading.”

- Svea K. -

“For me it was a nice experience working with a book in such a way. Normally, it is necessary to do a lot of tasks which aren't as creative as these ones. I liked having the opportunity to decide which kind of pages I wanted to create.

- Sarah L. -