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## Obama praises Mandela as an "inspiration"

**1<sup>st</sup> July, 2013**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

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# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has hailed Nelson Mandela as a personal inspiration while on a visit to South Africa. Mr Obama declined to visit Mr Mandela due to the former South African president's poor health. A White House statement explained: "Out of deference to Nelson Mandela's peace and comfort and the family's wishes, [the Obamas] will not be visiting the hospital." Obama made it clear to reporters on Air Force One that he had no intention of putting Mr Mandela's health any further at risk, saying: "I don't need a photo op....The last thing I want to do is to be in any way obtrusive at a time when the family is concerned about Nelson Mandela's condition."

President Obama called Mandela a "personal hero" and that Mandela's sacrifices to achieve equal rights helped inspire his own political career. While flying to South Africa, Obama told reporters: "The main message we'll want to deliver...is simply a profound gratitude for his leadership all these years, and that the thoughts and prayers of the American people are with him and his family and his country." Obama later told university students in Pretoria to learn lessons from Mandela's strength while he was in prison for 27 years. He said: "Think about the hardships and the struggles and being away from family and friends. There were dark moments that tested his faith in humanity, but he refused to give up."

Sources: <http://mg.co.za/article/2013-06-29-obama-our-thoughts-are-with-nelson-mandela>  
<http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/obama-lauds-mandela-makes-africa-pledge-1.1539382#.Uc9kr-u2b80>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-23109574>

Obama praises Mandela as an "inspiration" – 1st July, 2013

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# WARM-UPS

**1. NELSON MANDELA:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Nelson Mandela. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*inspiration / South Africa / poor health / at risk / photo op / obtrusive / condition / sacrifices / equal rights / political career / main message / gratitude / hardships*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. INSPIRATION:** Who inspires you and why? Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

	Who?	Why?
Politician		
Business leader		
Family / Friend		
Entertainer		
Activist		
Writer		

**4. EQUAL RIGHTS:** Students A **strongly** believe there will be no inequality in the world one day; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. HERO:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Nelson Mandela
- Gandhi
- Beyonce
- Lionel Messi
- Hillary Clinton
- Queen Rania of Jordan
- Steve Jobs
- Florence Nightingale

**6. HOSPITAL:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'hospital'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Barack Obama visited Nelson Mandela to tell him he was an inspiration. T / F
- b. The White House wished Mandela peace and comfort. T / F
- c. Obama said he didn't want to do anything that would make Mandela ill. T / F
- d. Obama said it was not the time to be photographed with Mandela. T / F
- e. Mandela's sacrifices for equality helped shape Obama's career. T / F
- f. Obama's main message to Mandela was for winning a Nobel Peace. T / F
- g. Obama spoke to students from a Johannesburg university. T / F
- h. Obama asked students to learn from Mandela's time in prison. T / F

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. hailed    | a. in danger   |
| 2. deference | b. mankind     |
| 3. intention | c. belief      |
| 4. at risk   | d. praised     |
| 5. condition | e. plan        |
| 6. achieve   | f. suffering   |
| 7. profound  | g. state       |
| 8. hardships | h. heartfelt   |
| 9. faith     | i. respect     |
| 10. humanity | j. bring about |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. hailed Nelson Mandela         | a. op                        |
| 2. poor                          | b. and the struggles         |
| 3. putting Mr Mandela's health   | c. I want to do              |
| 4. I don't need a photo          | d. rights                    |
| 5. The last thing                | e. faith in humanity         |
| 6. achieve equal                 | f. any further at risk       |
| 7. helped inspire his            | g. gratitude                 |
| 8. profound                      | h. as a personal inspiration |
| 9. the hardships                 | i. own political career      |
| 10. dark moments that tested his | j. health                    |

# GAP FILL

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Nelson Mandela as a personal inspiration while on a visit to South Africa. Mr Obama declined to visit Mr Mandela (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to the former South African president's poor health. A White House statement explained: "Out of deference to Nelson Mandela's peace and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and the family's wishes, [the Obamas] will not be visiting the hospital." Obama made it (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to reporters on Air Force One that he had no (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of putting Mr Mandela's health any further at risk, saying: "I don't need a photo (6) \_\_\_\_\_ ....The last thing I want to do is to be in any way (7) \_\_\_\_\_ at a time when the family is (8) \_\_\_\_\_ about Nelson Mandela's condition."

*clear*  
*concerned*  
*comfort*  
*hailed*  
*op*  
*due*  
*obtrusive*  
*intention*

President Obama called Mandela a "personal hero" and that Mandela's (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to achieve equal rights helped inspire his own political career. While flying to South Africa, Obama told reporters: "The main message we'll want to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ ...is simply a profound (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for his leadership all these years, and that the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and prayers of the American people are with him and his family and his country." Obama later told university students in Pretoria to learn lessons from Mandela's (13) \_\_\_\_\_ while he was in prison for 27 years. He said: "Think about the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ and the struggles and being away from family and friends. There were (15) \_\_\_\_\_ moments that tested his faith in (16) \_\_\_\_\_, but he refused to give up."

*gratitude*  
*strength*  
*humanity*  
*sacrifices*  
*dark*  
*deliver*  
*thoughts*  
*hardships*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

- 1) Barack Obama has hailed Nelson Mandela as a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. personal inspirations
  - b. personal inspirational
  - c. personal inspiration
  - d. personal inspiring
- 2) Obama declined to visit Mr Mandela due to the former South African \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. president's poor healthy
  - b. president's poorly health
  - c. president's poor health
  - d. president's poorly healthy
- 3) Out of deference to Nelson Mandela's peace and comfort \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and the family's wish
  - b. and the family's wishes
  - c. and the family's wished
  - d. and the family's wishing
- 4) he had no intention of putting Mr Mandela's health \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. any further at risk
  - b. any further at risky
  - c. any further at riskiness
  - d. any further at risked
- 5) at a time when the family is concerned about \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Nelson Mandela's condition
  - b. Nelson Mandela's conditions
  - c. Nelson Mandela's conditioning
  - d. Nelson Mandela's conditional
- 6) Mandela's sacrifices to achieve equal rights helped inspire \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. his own politics career
  - b. his own politically career
  - c. his own politic career
  - d. his own political career
- 7) The main message we'll want to deliver...is simply \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a pro-fund gratitude
  - b. a prof-found gratitude
  - c. a profound gratitude
  - d. a pro frowned gratitude
- 8) Obama later told university students in Pretoria to learn lessons \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. from Mandela's strengths
  - b. from Mandela's strength
  - c. from Mandela's strengthen
  - d. from Mandela's strengthens
- 9) He said: "Think about the hardships \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and the struggle
  - b. and the struggles
  - c. and the straggles
  - d. and the straggle
- 10) There were dark moments that tested his \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. faith in human
  - b. faith in humanity
  - c. faith in humans
  - d. faith in humankind

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# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has hailed Nelson Mandela as a personal inspiration (1) \_\_\_\_\_ South Africa. Mr Obama declined to visit Mr Mandela due to the former South African president's poor health. A White House statement explained: "(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Nelson Mandela's peace and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ wishes, [the Obamas] will not be visiting the hospital." Obama made it clear to reporters on Air Force One (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of putting Mr Mandela's health any further at risk, saying: "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ ....The last thing I want (6) \_\_\_\_\_ way obtrusive at a time when the family is concerned about Nelson Mandela's condition."

President Obama called Mandela a "personal hero" and that Mandela's sacrifices (7) \_\_\_\_\_ helped inspire his own political career. While flying to South Africa, Obama told reporters: "The main message (8) \_\_\_\_\_ ...is simply a profound gratitude for his leadership all these years, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and prayers of the American people are with him and his family and his country." Obama later told university students in Pretoria (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Mandela's strength while he was in prison for 27 years. He said: "Think about the hardships (11) \_\_\_\_\_ being away from family and friends. There were dark moments (12) \_\_\_\_\_ humanity, but he refused to give up."

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# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

1. Why didn't Barack Obama visit Nelson Mandela?

---

2. Who issued a statement on Obama's behalf?

---

3. Where did Obama talk to reporters?

---

4. What did Obama say he wasn't interested in?

---

5. What's the last thing Obama wants to be?

---

6. What helped shape Obama's career?

---

7. What did Obama want to thank Mandela for most?

---

8. Whose prayers and thoughts are with Mandela?

---

9. For how long was Mandela imprisoned?

---

10. What tested Nelson Mandela's faith?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

1. Why didn't Barack Obama visit Nelson Mandela?
  - a) visiting hours wouldn't allow it
  - b) he had no time
  - c) he's on official business
  - d) Mandela is ill in hospital
2. Who issued a statement on Obama's behalf?
  - a) the CIA
  - b) the White House
  - c) his wife Michelle
  - d) the US Embassy
3. Where did Obama talk to reporters?
  - a) at an airport in Senegal
  - b) in a hotel in Johannesburg
  - c) outside Mandela's hospital
  - d) on board Air Force One
4. What did Obama say he wasn't interested in?
  - a) the Republican party in the USA
  - b) football
  - c) a photo opportunity
  - d) going on a safari
5. What's the last thing Obama wants to be?
  - a) old
  - b) a Republican
  - c) vice-president
  - d) obtrusive
6. What helped shape Obama's career?
  - a) growing up in Hawaii
  - b) his wife Michelle
  - c) Mandela's sacrifices for racial equality
  - d) his family name
7. What did Obama want to thank Mandela for most?
  - a) his leadership
  - b) a gift he received during his visit
  - c) inviting him to South Africa
  - d) his strength
8. Whose prayers and thoughts are with Mandela?
  - a) the Obama family's
  - b) the nurses in the hospital
  - c) the American people's
  - d) university students'
9. For how long was Mandela imprisoned?
  - a) 26 years
  - b) 27 years
  - c) 28 years
  - d) 29 years
10. What tested Nelson Mandela's faith?
  - a) dark moments
  - b) a difficult examination
  - c) South Africa's church
  - d) being President

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# ROLE PLAY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

## **Role A – Business leader**

You think a business leader is the most inspirational person. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that not inspiring about themselves. Also, tell the others which is the least inspiring of these (and why): a soldier, an IT inventor or a charity worker.

## **Role B – A soldier**

You think a soldier is the most inspirational person. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that not inspiring about themselves. Also, tell the others which is the least inspiring of these (and why): a business leader, an IT inventor or a charity worker.

## **Role C – An IT inventor**

You think an IT inventor is the most inspirational person. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that not inspiring about themselves. Also, tell the others which is the least inspiring of these (and why): a soldier, a business leader or a charity worker.

## **Role D – A charity worker**

You think a charity worker is the most inspirational person. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that not inspiring about themselves. Also, tell the others which is the least inspiring of these (and why): a soldier, an IT inventor or a business leader.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'poor' and 'health'.

<b>poor</b>	<b>health</b>
-------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• hailed</li><li>• due</li><li>• peace</li><li>• clear</li><li>• risk</li><li>• time</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• achieve</li><li>• main</li><li>• prayers</li><li>• learn</li><li>• family</li><li>• dark</li></ul>
--	--

# NELSON MANDELA SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

Write five GOOD questions about Nelson Mandela in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# NELSON MANDELA DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'inspiration'?
- c) What do you know about Nelson Mandela?
- d) Who is the most inspirational person you know?
- e) What might others think is inspirational about you?
- f) What are Nelson Mandela's greatest strengths?
- g) Should the U.N. create an International Nelson Mandela Day?
- h) What are your feelings for Nelson Mandela?
- i) What are the similarities and differences between Obama and Mandela?
- j) How great is Nelson Mandela?

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# NELSON MANDELA DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Who are your personal heroes?
- c) What message would you like to give Nelson Mandela?
- d) What is your earliest memory of Nelson Mandela?
- e) Where would South Africa be today if Mandela hadn't come along?
- f) What other former world leaders are loved as much as Nelson Mandela?
- g) What do you think of Mandela's 27-year imprisonment?
- h) What lessons can we learn from Nelson Mandela?
- i) How would you feel if you met Nelson Mandela?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Nelson Mandela?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

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President Obama called Mandela a "personal hero" and that Mandela's sacrifices to (7) \_\_\_\_\_ equal rights helped inspire his own political career. While flying to South Africa, Obama told reporters: "The main message we'll want to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ ...is simply a profound gratitude for his leadership all these years, and that the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and prayers of the American people are with him and his family and his country." Obama later told university students in Pretoria to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ lessons from Mandela's strength while he was in prison for 27 years. He said: "Think about the hardships and the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and being away from family and friends. There were dark (12) \_\_\_\_\_ that tested his faith in humanity, but he refused to give up."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |               |               |                 |               |
|-----|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) hailed    | (b) mailed    | (c) failed      | (d) nailed    |
| 2.  | (a) for       | (b) of        | (c) to          | (d) at        |
| 3.  | (a) poorly    | (b) poorest   | (c) poor        | (d) poverty   |
| 4.  | (a) clearly   | (b) crystal   | (c) clarity     | (d) clear     |
| 5.  | (a) putting   | (b) doing     | (c) making      | (d) getting   |
| 6.  | (a) ob        | (b) op        | (c) pop         | (d) bop       |
| 7.  | (a) matter    | (b) victory   | (c) remain      | (d) achieve   |
| 8.  | (a) mail      | (b) deliver   | (c) post        | (d) comment   |
| 9.  | (a) thinks    | (b) thinking  | (c) thoughts    | (d) thought   |
| 10. | (a) take      | (b) learn     | (c) study       | (d) revise    |
| 11. | (a) straggles | (b) strangles | (c) strengthens | (d) struggles |
| 12. | (a) instances | (b) moments   | (c) happening   | (d) bit       |

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# SPELLING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

## Paragraph 1

1. Obama has lhidea Nelson Mandela
2. Obama eniceldd to visit Mr Mandela
3. Out of ceerdfeen to Nelson Mandela's peace
4. he had no iitonennt of...
5. be in any way trivebsou
6. the family is nncecrode

## Paragraph 2

7. Mandela's ifsearscci to achieve equal rights
8. profound ttedigura
9. thoughts and arpyres
10. Mandela's gsnhtetr
11. the hardships and the sgeutrgsl
12. he defuser to give up



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) health. A White House statement explained: "Out of deference to Nelson Mandela's peace
- ( ) President Obama called Mandela a "personal hero" and that Mandela's sacrifices to achieve
- ( ) and prayers of the American people are with him and his family and his country." Obama later told
- ( ) equal rights helped inspire his own political career. While flying to South Africa, Obama told reporters: "The main
- ( ) message we'll want to deliver...is simply a profound gratitude for his leadership all these years, and that the thoughts
- ( ) at a time when the family is concerned about Nelson Mandela's condition."
- ( ) hardships and the struggles and being away from family and friends. There were dark
- ( ) university students in Pretoria to learn lessons from Mandela's strength while he was in prison for 27 years. He said: "Think about the
- ( ) moments that tested his faith in humanity, but he refused to give up."
- ( ) Air Force One that he had no intention of putting Mr Mandela's health any further
- ( ) and comfort and the family's wishes, [the Obamas] will not be visiting the hospital." Obama made it clear to reporters on
- ( ) at risk, saying: "I don't need a photo op...The last thing I want to do is to be in any way obtrusive
- ( ) a visit to South Africa. Mr Obama declined to visit Mr Mandela due to the former South African president's poor
- ( **1** ) U.S. President Barack Obama has hailed Nelson Mandela as a personal inspiration while on

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# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

1. visit declined Mr Mr to Obama Mandela.

---

2. deference of Out peace Mandela's Nelson to.

---

3. hospital not be The visiting Obamas the will.

---

4. at Mandela's risk health any Putting further Mr.

---

5. time a At Nelson about concerned is family the when.

---

6. sacrifices Mandela's helped rights equal achieve to.

---

7. profound for leadership A gratitude his.

---

8. the thoughts American and people prayers of The.

---

9. struggles the and hardships the about Think.

---

10. tested were his dark faith moments that There.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has hailed Nelson Mandela *as / was* a personal inspiration while on a visit to South Africa. Mr Obama declined to visit Mr Mandela due *for / to* the former South African president's *poorly / poor* health. A White House *statement / stated* explained: "Out of deference to Nelson Mandela's peace and comfort and the family's *wishing / wishes*, [the Obamas] will not be *visited / visiting* the hospital." Obama made it clear to reporters on Air Force One that he had *no / not* intention of putting Mr Mandela's health *any / many* further at risk, saying: "I don't need a photo op....The last thing I want to do is to *be / do* in any way obtrusive at a time when the family is concerned *around / about* Nelson Mandela's condition."

President Obama called Mandela a "personal hero" and that Mandela's *sacrifices / sacrificial* to achieve equal rights helped *inspire / inspiration* his own political career. While *flying / flew* to South Africa, Obama told reporters: "The main message we'll *wanting / want* to deliver...is simply a profound *gratitude / greatness* for his leadership all these years, and that the thoughts and *praying / prayers* of the American people are with him and his family and his country." Obama *later / latter* told university students in Pretoria to learn lessons from Mandela's *strengthened / strength* while he was in prison for 27 years. He said: "Think about the hardships and the *struggles / stragglers* and being away from family and friends. There were dark moments that tested his faith in *human / humanity*, but he refused to give up."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

Obama praises Mandela as an "inspiration" – 1st July, 2013

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# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

us president barack obama has hailed nelson mandela as a personal inspiration while on a visit to south africa mr obama declined to visit mr mandela due to the former south african president's poor health a white house statement explained "out of deference to nelson mandela's peace and comfort and the family's wishes [the obamas] will not be visiting the hospital" obama made it clear to reporters on air force one that he had no intention of putting mr mandela's health any further at risk saying "i don't need a photo op...the last thing i want to do is to be in any way obtrusive at a time when the family is concerned about nelson mandela's condition"

president obama called mandela a "personal hero" and that mandela's sacrifices to achieve equal rights helped inspire his own political career while flying to south africa obama told reporters "the main message we'll want to deliver...is simply a profound gratitude for his leadership all these years and that the thoughts and prayers of the american people are with him and his family and his country" obama later told university students in pretoria to learn lessons from mandela's strength while he was in prison for 27 years he said "think about the hardships and the struggles and being away from family and friends there were dark moments that tested his faith in humanity but he refused to give up"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson\\_mandela.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130701-nelson_mandela.html)

U.S.PresidentBarackObamahashailedNelsonMandelaasapersonalinspiration whileonavisittoSouthAfrica.MrObamadeclinedtovisitMrMandeladuetothe formerSouthAfricanpresident'spoorhealth.AWhiteHousestatementexplained: "OutofdeferencetoNelsonMandela'speaceandcomfortandthefamily'swishes, [theObamas]willnotbevisitingthehospital."Obamamadeitcleartoreporterson AirForceOnethathehadnointentionofputtingMrMandela'shealthanyfurtherat risk,saying:"Idon'tneedaphotoop....ThelastthingIwanttodoistobeinanyway obtrusiveatatimewhenthefamilyisconcernedaboutNelsonMandela'scondition." PresidentObamacalledMandelaa"personalhero"andthatMandela'ssacrificeto achieveequalrightshelpedinspirehisownpoliticalcareer.WhileflyingtoSouth Africa,Obamatoldreporters:"Themainmessagewe'llwanttodeliver...issimply aprofoundgratitodeforphisleadershipalltheseyears,andthatthethoughtsand prayersoftheAmericanpeoplearewithhimandhisfamilyandhiscountry."Obama latertolduniversitystudentsinPretoriatolearnlessonsfromMandela'sstrength whilehewasinprisonfor27years.Hesaid:"Thinkaboutthehardshipsandthe strugglesandbeingawayfromfamilyandfriends.Thereweredarkmomentsthat testedhisfaithinhumanity,butherefusedtogiveup."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about Nelson Mandela. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. NELSON MANDELA:** Make a poster about Nelson Mandela. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. MANDELA /OBAMA:** Write a magazine article about the two men. Include imaginary interviews with people who know them both.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to a Nelson Mandela expert. Ask him/her three questions about Mandela. Give him/her three of your opinions on the great man. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b F    c T    d T    e T    f F    g F    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1.    hailed    | a.    praised     |
| 2.    deference | b.    respect     |
| 3.    intention | c.    plan        |
| 4.    at risk   | d.    in danger   |
| 5.    condition | e.    state       |
| 6.    achieve   | f.    bring about |
| 7.    profound  | g.    heartfelt   |
| 8.    hardships | h.    suffering   |
| 9.    faith     | i.    belief      |
| 10.    humanity | j.    mankind     |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1.    Mandela is too ill in hospital
2.    The White House
3.    On Air Force One (the presidential plane)
4.    A photo op with Nelson Mandela
5.    Obtrusive in any way
6.    Mandela's sacrifices for racial equality
7.    For his leadership
8.    The American people's
9.    27 years
10.    Dark moments

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1.    d    2.    b    3.    d    4.    c    5.    d    6.    c    7.    a    8.    c    9.    b    10.    a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)