

Prescribed subject 4: Rights and protest

This prescribed subject focuses on struggles for rights and freedoms in the mid-20th century. Two case studies are prescribed, from two different regions of the world, and **both** of these case studies must be studied. The first case study explores the civil rights movement in the US between 1954 and the passing of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. The second case study explores protests against apartheid in South Africa. It focuses specifically on the years 1948–1964, beginning with the election of the National Party in 1948 and ending with the imprisonment of Nelson Mandela and his co-defendants following the Rivonia trial in 1964.

Case studies	Material for detailed study
Case study 1: Civil rights movement in the United States (1954–1965)	<p>Nature and characteristics of discrimination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racism and violence against African Americans; the Ku Klux Klan; disenfranchisement Segregation and education; Brown versus Board of Education decision (1954); Little Rock (1957) Economic and social discrimination; legacy of the Jim Crow laws; impact on individuals <p>Protests and action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-violent protests; Montgomery bus boycott (1955–1956); Freedom Rides (1961); Freedom Summer (1964) Legislative changes: Civil Rights Act (1964); Voting Rights Act (1965) <p>The role and significance of key actors/groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key actors: Martin Luther King Jr; Malcolm X; Lyndon B Johnson Key groups: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC); the Nation of Islam (Black Muslims)
Case study 2: Apartheid South Africa (1948–1964)	<p>Nature and characteristics of discrimination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Petty Apartheid” and “Grand Apartheid” legislation Division and “classification”; segregation of populations and amenities; creation of townships/forced removals; segregation of education; Bantustan system; impact on individuals <p>Protests and action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-violent protests: bus boycotts; defiance campaign, Freedom Charter Increasing violence: the Sharpeville massacre (1960) and the decision to adopt the armed struggle Official response: the Rivonia trial (1963–1964) and the imprisonment of the ANC leadership <p>The role and significance of key actors/groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key individuals: Nelson Mandela; Albert Luthuli Key groups: the African National Congress (ANC); the South African Communist Party (SACP) and the MK (Umkhonto we Sizwe—“Spear of the Nation”)