



Promised Land Viewing Guide

Directions: Watch the video clip from the film **Promised Land** and respond to the questions below.

Key terms:

Apartheid (Afrikaans for “separateness”): A South African government policy officially in place from 1948 to 1991 that legalized racial segregation. During this period, about 6 million black people were removed from their land because of their race.

Bantustans or homelands: The 14 percent of South Africa’s total land area “reserved” for the country’s 18 million black people. (Four million white people owned the remaining 86 percent of South Africa’s land.)

What did The Native Land Act of 1913 prohibit?

Why do the black members of the Mekingareng community believe the land is theirs?

Why does the white landowner Johan Pretorius believe the land is his?

Describe the living conditions of the people shown in the video clip.

Black people:

White people:

What do you think accounts for the differences?

Explain what Blessing Mphela, the government official, meant when he said, “It is a result of history that we find ourselves in this situation.” (Focus on the decisions that were made and their consequences.)