

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**South African Vocabulary**  
**Day One**

**New Words:** crackling irony apartheid omniscient Afrikaner

*A Tale of Turmoil*

In South Africa, during the time of *Afrikaner* rule, there were many crimes against humanity. The great *irony* of the system of *apartheid* that was set in place was that the black South Africans outnumbered the white South Africans two to one. Through the government policy of *apartheid*, however, the white *Afrikaners* were able to control the country. They left the black South Africans eating the *crackling*, while the whites feasted on the finest meats. Although many *Afrikaners* thought they were special and more important, one did not have to be an *omniscient* being to see that this was not true at all. This unfair system had to end.

**Sample sentences:** Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. The system of \_\_\_\_\_ caused many black South Africans to live indigent lives.
2. The teacher appeared \_\_\_\_\_ to the first grade students; it was as if she could read their minds and see everything they did.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the situation was that she was a vegetarian and she worked in a meat packing factory.
4. The boy loved to eat \_\_\_\_\_ on his toast every morning to add some flavor to the dryness.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ lived in a beautiful house in Cape Town where he employed many black South Africans.

**Definitions:** Match the new words with their dictionary meanings.

- |                |       |   |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 6. Afrikaner   | _____ | a. An official policy of racial segregation formerly practiced in the Republic of South Africa, involving political, legal, and economic discrimination against nonwhites |
| 7. apartheid   | _____ | b. An Afrikaans-speaking South African of European ancestry, especially one descended from 17th-century Dutch settlers  |
| 8. crackling   | _____ | c. having total knowledge; knowing everything   |
| 9. irony       | _____ | d. the use of words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal meaning   |
| 10. omniscient | _____ | e. the crisp bits that remain after rendering fat from meat or frying or roasting the skin, especially of a pig or a goose  |

**Today's Idiom** *to keep a stiff upper lip*-to be courageous in the face of trouble  
It was admirable to see how the British managed to *keep a stiff upper lip* in spite of German bombing.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**South African Vocabulary  
Day Two**

**New Words:** blatant      arbitrary      oust      succumb      sporadic

*The Class*

As I walked into the classroom I realized immediately that the day was going to be filled with *sporadic* surprises but I didn't expect the the events that followed. The teacher began by *arbitrarily* choosing students who would be in charge for the day. Why wasn't I picked!! I was forced to *succumb* to their every whim as they *blatantly* made me do such horrid things as sing, clean desks, and write poetry about how great they were. What an abuse of power!! By the end of the lesson I was so frustrated I was ready to *oust* the six students and the teacher. Let's just hope they never put me in charge of the class. Grrrrr!

**Sample sentences:** Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. Besieged by debt, the corporation finally had to \_\_\_\_\_ to bankruptcy.
2. The body guards moved rapidly to \_\_\_\_\_ the student crowd-surfing at the rock show.
3. With \_\_\_\_\_ discourtesy the reporters continued to harass the bereaved family.
4. The lackluster battle was punctuated by \_\_\_\_\_ , staccato gunfire.
5. To my mind the decision to randomly choose the six students to be singled out was unreasonable and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Definitions:** Match the new words with their dictionary meanings.

- |              |       |                                  |
|--------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 6. sporadic  | _____ | a. occasional                    |
| 7. arbitrary | _____ | b. disagreeably loud, very showy |
| 8. oust      | _____ | c. to give way, yield            |
| 9. succumb   | _____ | d. based n a whim, dictatorial   |
| 10. blatant  | _____ | e. to drive out, eject           |

**Today's Idiom**      *a bitter pill to swallow*--a humiliating defeat  
It was a *bitter pill to swallow* for the famous billiard player to be beaten by the 12-year-old girl