

ROBERT MUGABE

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Robert Mugabe has served as Zimbabwe's leader since 1980. He was Prime Minister from 1980 to 1987 and has been President since 1987. He became a hero across Africa after leading rebel forces to victory against white minority rule in the 1970s. In recent years, many have accused him of ruling with an iron fist and destroying his country's economy and democracy.

Mugabe was born in 1924 in what was then the British colony Rhodesia. He was described as a loner at school who preferred his own company. Mugabe left Rhodesia to continue his education. On his travels, he met many influential African leaders and politicians. He earned a total of five Bachelor's and two Master's degrees from different universities around the world.

Mugabe joined the Zimbabwe African National Union in 1963. A year later he was arrested for making a "subversive speech" in which he called for greater equality for blacks. He spent the next ten years in prison. From 1975, Mugabe led the resistance against white rule. He won the general election in 1980 and changed his country's colonial name.

Mugabe spent his first seven years in power trying to control bitter fighting between rival groups. He crushed opposition forces in 1987. Zimbabwe under Mugabe has slipped from being the breadbasket of Africa to one of the world's poorest countries. Mugabe blames his country's woes on the actions of its former colonizers. Many in Zimbabwe and around the world accuse him of being a dictator.

247 words
Flesch Kinkaid 9.5

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. leader | a. triumph |
| 2. victory | b. territory |
| 3. destroying | c. important |
| 4. colony | d. ruler |
| 5. loner | e. lone wolf |
| 6. influential | f. ruining |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 7. subversive | g. problems |
| 8. equality | h. opposition |
| 9. resistance | i. tyrant |
| 10. bitter | j. rebellious |
| 11. woes | k. hate-filled |
| 12. dictator | l. fairness |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. He became a | a. for blacks |
| 2. leading rebel forces | b. hero across Africa |
| 3. ruling with | c. of Africa |
| 4. in what was then the British | d. speech |
| 5. a loner at school who preferred | e. colony Rhodesia |
| 6. arrested for making a subversive | f. a dictator |
| 7. he called for greater equality | g. to victory |
| 8. bitter fighting | h. his own company |
| 9. the breadbasket | i. between rival groups |
| 10. accuse him of being | j. an iron fist |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Robert Mugabe _____ Zimbabwe's leader since 1980. He was Prime Minister from 1980 to 1987 _____ President since 1987. He became a hero across Africa after leading rebel forces _____ white minority rule in the 1970s. In recent years, many have accused him of ruling with _____ destroying his country's economy and democracy.

Mugabe was born in 1924 in _____ the British colony Rhodesia. He was described as a loner at school who preferred _____. Mugabe left Rhodesia to continue his education. _____, he met many influential African leaders and politicians. He earned _____ Bachelor's and two Master's degrees from different universities around the world.

Mugabe joined the Zimbabwe African National Union in 1963. A year later _____ for making a "subversive speech" in which he called _____ for blacks. He spent the next ten years in prison. From 1975, Mugabe led the resistance _____. He won the general election in 1980 and changed his country's _____.

Mugabe spent his first seven years _____ to control bitter fighting between rival groups. He crushed opposition forces in 1987. Zimbabwe under Mugabe _____ being the breadbasket of Africa to one of the world's poorest countries. Mugabe blames his country's _____ actions of its former colonizers. Many in Zimbabwe and around the world _____ being a dictator.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Robert Mugabe has *serviced / served* as Zimbabwe's leader since 1980. He was Prime Minister from 1980 *to / and* 1987 and has been President since 1987. He became a hero across Africa after leading *rebellion / rebel* forces to victory against white minority rule in the 1970s. In recent years, many have accused him of ruling with an iron *fist / palm* and destroying his country's economy and democracy.

Mugabe was born in 1924 in what was then the British colony Rhodesia. He was described as a *loner / lonely* at school who preferred his own *firm / company*. Mugabe left Rhodesia to continue his education. On his *travels / travelling*, he met many influential African leaders and politicians. He earned a total *with / of* five Bachelor's and two Master's degrees from different universities around the world.

Mugabe joined the Zimbabwe African National Union in 1963. A year later he *was / has* arrested for making a "subversive *speech / speeches*" in which he called for greater equality *for / with* blacks. He spent the next ten years in prison. From 1975, Mugabe led the resistance against white *rule / ruler*. He won the general election in 1980 and changed his country's colonial name.

Mugabe spent his first seven years *in / on* power trying to control *bitter / bitterness* fighting between rival groups. He crushed opposition forces in 1987. Zimbabwe under Mugabe has *slipping / slipped* from being the breadbasket of Africa to one of the world's poorest countries. Mugabe blames his country's *woes / foes* on the actions of its former colonizers. Many in Zimbabwe and around the world accuse him of being a dictator.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. edrevs as Zimbabwe's leader
2. leading rebel forces to coivytr
3. uinlrg with an iron fist
4. his country's ymconoe

Paragraph 2

5. British olcnoy
6. described as a reoln at school
7. refrederp his own company
8. Master's gdreees

Paragraph 3

9. he was saetderr
10. he called for greater iutaqyle
11. He spent the next ten years in snirpo
12. the resistance itasgna white rule

Paragraph 4

13. rtetib fighting
14. one of the world's trespoo countries
15. his country's owse
16. eacscu him of being a dictator

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () President since 1987. He became a hero across Africa after leading rebel forces to victory against white minority
- () the resistance against white rule. He won the general election in 1980 and changed his country's colonial name.
- () influential African leaders and politicians. He earned a total of five Bachelor's and
- () Mugabe spent his first seven years in power trying to control bitter fighting between rival
- () groups. He crushed opposition forces in 1987. Zimbabwe under Mugabe has slipped from being the breadbasket
- () Mugabe joined the Zimbabwe African National Union in 1963. A year later he was arrested for making a "subversive
- () speech" in which he called for greater equality for blacks. He spent the next ten years in prison. From 1975, Mugabe led
- () preferred his own company. Mugabe left Rhodesia to continue his education. On his travels, he met many
- () of Africa to one of the world's poorest countries. Mugabe blames his country's woes on the actions of its former
- () Mugabe was born in 1924 in what was then the British colony Rhodesia. He was described as a loner at school who
- () two Master's degrees from different universities around the world.
- () rule in the 1970s. In recent years, many have accused him of ruling with an iron
- () colonizers. Many in Zimbabwe and around the world accuse him of being a dictator.
- (**1**) Robert Mugabe has served as Zimbabwe's leader since 1980. He was Prime Minister from 1980 to 1987 and has been
- () fist and destroying his country's economy and democracy.

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. became He Africa across hero a

2. him with fist accused ruling iron have of an many

3. a as described was He school at loner

4. he leaders African influential many met

5. around universities different from degrees Master's world the

6. he for equality blacks called greater for

7. prison in years ten next the spent He

8. changed colonial his name country's

9. bitter control groups rival between fighting

10. of one countries poorest world's the

ROBERT MUGABE DISCUSSION:

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

1. What do you know about Robert Mugabe?
2. Would you like to meet Robert Mugabe?
3. What would you like to know about Robert Mugabe and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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ROBERT MUGABE DISCUSSION:

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

1. What did you learn from this text about Robert Mugabe?
2. What questions would you like to ask Robert Mugabe?
3. What would his answers be to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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ROBERT MUGABE SURVEY:

Write five questions about Robert Mugabe in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

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

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

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 more information about Robert Mugabe. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ROBERT MUGABE POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Robert Mugabe. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Robert Mugabe. Include an imaginary interview with him. Write about what he does every day and what he thinks about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Robert Mugabe. Ask him three questions about his life. Give him three suggestions on what he should do in his future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Robert Mugabe expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. leader | a. ruler |
| 2. victory | b. triumph |
| 3. destroying | c. ruining |
| 4. colony | d. territory |
| 5. loner | e. lone wolf |
| 6. influential | f. important |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 7. subversive | g. rebellious |
| 8. equality | h. fairness |
| 9. resistance | i. opposition |
| 10. bitter | j. hate-filled |
| 11. woes | k. problems |
| 12. dictator | l. tyrant |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. He became a | a. hero across Africa |
| 2. leading rebel forces | b. to victory |
| 3. ruling with | c. an iron fist |
| 4. in what was then the British | d. colony Rhodesia |
| 5. a loner at school who preferred | e. his own company |
| 6. arrested for making a subversive | f. speech |
| 7. he called for greater equality | g. for blacks |
| 8. bitter fighting | h. between rival groups |
| 9. the breadbasket | i. of Africa |
| 10. accuse him of being | j. a dictator |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.