

# Rainbow Readers

## Title: Africa

### Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

tradition	refugees	props	oasis	nomad
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1. My older brother is like a(n) nomad because he never lives in one place for long.
2. Refugees are people who are forced to leave their homes.
3. We need lots of props to perform this play.
4. It is a(n) tradition that we eat ice cream after every soccer game.
5. If you are in the desert, you can find water at a(n) oasis.

## Reading Comprehension

### A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. The largest desert in the world is in Africa. T / F
2. More than 3,000 years ago, Egyptians started taking slaves. T / F
3. Some people in Africa use dance to tell stories. T / F
4. The San people have lived in Southern Africa since 25,000 BCE. T / F
5. Nelson Mandela was chief of the Tembu Tribe. T / F

### B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. Africa has fifty-three different (cities / countries).
2. Ghana used to make people (pay / trade) to pass through the country.
3. Some masks in Africa represent animals or (chiefs / spirits).
4. In the Zulu culture, (beads / masks) are used to help girls meet boys.
5. People were playing (cricket / soccer) in Africa as far back as 1862.

### C. Choose the best answer.

1. Which of the following is NOT true?

- a. The Nile river is 4,000 miles wide.
- b. Africa is the second-largest continent.
- c. Cairo is the largest city on the continent.
- d. Africa is home to the deadly black mamba snake.

2. Which is NOT mentioned as job Egyptian slaves had to do?

- a. Take care of children
- b. Build the pyramids
- c. Work in the fields
- d. Cook food for people

3. Which is NOT true about the Tuareg people?

- a. Most are nomadic.
- b. They care for camels.
- c. Some now live in cities.
- d. They have left Mali and Niger.

4. Where are masks most popular in Africa?

- a. In Southern Africa
- b. In East Africa
- c. In North Africa
- d. In West Africa

5. Which is NOT mentioned as something tourists do while in Africa?

- a. Visit the pyramids
- b. Go hunting
- c. Take photo safaris
- d. See penguins

## Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

cultures	ancestors	apartheid	slavery	generation
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Africa is home to the world's longest river and its biggest desert. It is also the second-largest continent. Many types of animals live there. There are also people from many different countries and cultures. Africa has a very long history. Some of it is sad. Slavery started in Africa over 3,000 years ago in Egypt. Countries in Asia, Europe and the Americas also took Africans. Today, many of the world's poorest countries are in Africa. This is because of problems like wars and lack of water. In Africa, history is passed from one generation to the next by stories. Dance, music, masks, and beads are also important in African cultures. Nelson Mandela is the most famous African leader. He helped end apartheid in South Africa. He was also there when South Africa hosted the World Cup. It was a chance for Africa to show how modern it is. Today in Africa, people live in villages and big cities. They respect their ancestors and welcome the modern world.