Nelson Mandela became South Africa's first black president in 1994. He was 75 years old.

Apartheid had caused lots of damage. Nelson wanted equality for everyone, but it wasn't going to be easy. He wanted everyone to work together and for no one to suffer from discrimination, but many black people had a bad quality of life because of all the years of apartheid, and lived in poverty. It would take more than changing some laws to make everything equal.

Nelson Mandela was president for only one term - five years. He made sure to include people from different races, religions and political parties in his government. He set up schemes to try to improve things, for example in the area of education. As president, he campaigned for all South African children to have the right to an education.

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1. How old was Nelson Mandela when he became the president of South Africa?

_____

_____

2. Find and copy the word that suggests that Nelson Mandela wanted the same rights and opportunities for everyone.

_____

3. What sticks in your mind the most about Nelson Mandela as the president of South Africa? Explain your answer.

_____

_____

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4. What don't we know about Nelson Mandela's early life from this text?

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3. What sticks in your mind the most about Nelson Mandela as the president of South Africa? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The thing that sticks in my mind most is that he wanted equality for everyone so he included people from different backgrounds in his government and campaigned for all children to have the right to an education.

4. What don't we know about Nelson Mandela's early life from this text?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Nelson Mandela campaigned for all South African children to have the right to an education because he believed that education was important and would improve the future.