SOUTH AFRICA EMERGING AS A DEMOCRACY

Checklist

Make sure you know how to answer the following focus question:

- What were the various obstacles that South Africa faced on the road to democracy?

Questions

Question 1

(Adapted from Nov 2012, Paper 2, Question 3.1)

Refer to Source 1.

The extract below focuses on FW de Klerk's reform measures after 1990.

On 2 February 1990 De Klerk announced major reforms. He announced the unbanning of the ANC, CPSA and the PAC, the scrapping of the Separate Amenities Act, the lifting of the emergency media regulations and a moratorium (suspension) on the death penalty. Most sensational of all, he announced that Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners would be released soon with no preconditions. Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert asked FW de Klerk what had moved him to make the announcement. FW de Klerk answered that he had experienced a 'spiritual leap away from apartheid' and that he would have been a fool not to take advantage of the gap that the fall of communism in Eastern Europe had provided.

A question that has often been debated since 1990 was whether FW de Klerk had any other option but to take the steps he did. In theory, De Klerk could have stayed on PW Botha's course and continued with piecemeal (little by little) reforms. However, that would almost certainly have destroyed the South African economy and with it white wealth. It would probably also have ensured that the low-intensity civil war would have escalated (gone up) considerably.

[From: Turning Points In History, Book 6 by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation]

1.1 Why, according to the source, is 2 February 1990 regarded as a significant date in South Africa's history? (2 x 1) (2)

1.3 Explain whether you would agree with FW de Klerk's statement 'that he would have been a fool not to take advantage of the gap that the fall of communism in Eastern Europe had provided'. (2 x 2) (4)

Question 2

(Adapted from Nov 2012, Paper 2, Question 3.2)

Study Source 2.

This article appeared in The Argus, 6 February 1990. It contained the following headline, 'Afrikaner Tiger Awakens says Conservative Party' written by Tos Wentzel.

President De Klerk could bask in the approval of almost all the political parties yesterday, the first day of a joint debate on his speech at the opening of parliament. Predictably, resistance came from the Conservative Party.

CP leader Dr AP Treurnicht said Mr De Klerk had 'awakened the tiger in the Afrikaner' with his 'most revolutionary speech on Friday'.
There were roars of laughter when he demanded that Mr De Klerk should resign. There was more laughter when Dr Treurnicht referred to reports of a ‘Viva Comrade De Klerk’ cry in the streets of Cape Town. Dr Treurnicht maintained that Mr De Klerk did not have a mandate for a new South Africa that was open to African National Congress and communist leaders and that he had misled the voters.

The CP is to launch a campaign for ‘a free nation in its own fatherland’ with the aim of rallying at least a million supporters…

2.1 What do you think Treurnicht meant when he declared that De Klerk had ‘awakened the tiger in the Afrikaner’? (1 x 2) (2)

2.2 Explain whether Treurnicht was justified in his comments against De Klerk. (2 x 2) (4)

2.3 Give TWO reasons from the source that suggest that Treurnicht was opposed to De Klerk’s vision for a new South Africa. (2 x 1) (2)

Question 3

(Adapted from Nov 2012, Paper 2, Question 3.3)

Use Source 3.

This cartoon by Fred Mouton appeared in Die Burger on 10 February 1990. It shows Andries Treurnicht's attitude towards multi-party talks.

MORNING, MORNING AND HOW AWAKE IS OUR TIGER THIS MORNING?

MORE, MORE! EN KDE WAKKER IS ONS TIER VANODGEND?

VIOLENCE
3.1 Explain the messages of the cartoon. (2 x 2) (4)

3.2 Comment on whether the cartoonist gives an accurate portrayal of events. Use the visual clues in the cartoon to support your answer. (2 x 2) (4)

Question 4
(Adapted from Nov 2012, Paper 2, Question 3.4)
Compare Sources 2 and 3. Explain to what extent these sources are similar regarding the Conservative Party's reaction to the political changes in South Africa. (2 x 2) (4)

Question 5
(Adapted from Nov 2012, Paper 2, Question 3.5)
Consult Source 5.

This source consists of two extracts on the process of negotiations.

Extract 1: This source focuses on the attempts by the Afrikaner-weerstandsbeweging (AWB) to disrupt negotiations at the World Trade Centre in Johannesburg. Delegates from negotiating parties were meeting when the AWB stormed the building.

On 25 June 1993 the Afrikaner-volksfront (AVF) received permission to hold a protest meeting outside the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park, where multiparty negotiating process deliberations were being held. The careful arrangements set up by the protest organisers and the authorities were comprehensively violated when several hundred AWB supporters, many of them drunk, led by Eugene Terre'Blanche, invaded and vandalised the building, shouting racist abuse and tearing up documents.

It was potentially a dangerous situation: Jan Heunis, a government legal advisor who witnessed the invasion, was convinced that violence, which could have led to civil war, was averted by two young policemen who threatened the mob with automatic weapons and forced them to retreat.

[From: *The Rise and Fall of Apartheid* by D Welsh]

Extract 2: This source highlights the need for negotiations in South Africa after the storming of the World Trade Centre by the AWB and the St. James Church massacre in Cape Town in July 1993.

Although shocking and difficult, these two events served to deepen the commitment of the main political parties to negotiations. With the urgency of the situation becoming increasingly evident, the Multiparty Negotiation Process (MPNP) plenary finally ratified the election date.

Under fortress-like conditions at Kempton Park, the various parties engaged in intense negotiations over various draft interim constitutions, the structure of the Transitional Executive Council that would govern the country in the run-up to the elections, the establishment of a Constitutional Court and the nature of the proposed Bill of Rights. Joe Slovo drafted a paper setting out a scenario for a negotiated settlement ...This contained concessions – later known as the 'sunset clause' – that were arguably pivotal in paving the way for a peaceful transition. At the heart of these was the suggestion that the African National Congress accept a Government of National Unity (GNU) for a period of five years after the first election.

[From: *One Law, One Nation: The Making of the South African Constitution* by L Segal and S Cort]

5.1 According to Extract 1, why did the AWB invade the World Trade Centre? (1 x 1) (1)
5.2 Explain whether you agree with the manner in which the policemen dealt with the AWB agitators. (Extract 1)  

(2 x 2) (4)

5.3 What impact did the storming of the World Trade Centre have on the process of negotiations? (Extract 2)  

(1 x 2) (2)

5.4 Comment on the significance of the ‘sunset clause’ as proposed by Joe Slovo. (Extract 2)  

(2 x 2) (4)