



Human and Social Sciences: HSSC4

LESSON No: 5

Unit Standard: 115471

INTRODUCTION

You are warmly welcomed to this study again. Our focus is on US 115471 SO2. We still feel it is important that we start from the previous term which was based on SO1. This prior knowledge content (SO1) will be a full lesson on its own because it is not related with SO2.

Theme: The relationship between events, time, space and place.

Topic: Concepts

In this lesson, we will focus on the relationship between events, time, space and place. This is based on history (What happened in the past). It is therefore, relevant to ask a historical question of **what happened**. The answer we give is the **event**. An event is a phenomenon or any observable (something that you can see) such as a wedding, training session or war etc. It is also important to look at the impact (results) of the event on the lives of the people. (e.g., Sharpeville massacre is an event where many people died). Events do not just happen. They are caused by something. So events always have causes (reasons). In the same way, an event will leave people with consequences (results). It is therefore important that we **understand causes and consequences** of historical events.

The other important historical question is **when did it happen?** **Time** tells us when an event took place and for how long did it occurred. Some events took place much shorter or longer than others. We will have to learn the dates on which events took place. (E.g., The Sharpeville massacre occurred on 21 March 1960). From earliest societies, people have been interested in recording events according to chronological times. This is the arrangement of events in the sequence (following in order) in which they happened. A **timeline** is a line drawn to show the chronological order of events. A **timeline** is a useful way of showing events in a chronological order. E.g.,

Year	Event
1964	ANC leader Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment.
1966	Prime Minister Hendrick Verwoerd was assassinated (killed)
1970	More than 3 million were forcibly resettled in 'black homelands'
1976	Soweto Uprising.
1989	FW de Klerk replaces PW Botha as presidents. He met Mandela.
1990	ANC was unbanned. Mandela was released from prison after 27 years.
1991	The beginning of multi- party talks. FW de Klerk removed the remaining apartheid laws. Sanctions were (lifted) removed
1994	ANC wins the first non – racial elections.

NB: A Time line can take any shape but events **MUST** be chronological.



The question still to be asked is **where did the event happen?** This is about the **place and space** where an event occurred. It is a geographical question. Place is an area with a boundary. Space is an area in relation to position or direction Example, Place may be your home but space can be your room (The Sharpeville massacre occurred in Sharpeville).

By now you can see that an event cannot be explained without **time and space and place**. On the other an event affects **people**. We should therefore, understand that people are part of a historical event and so they will experience change when an event happens. Some changes are large (big) while others are very little. When changes are very little, the event does not make people to change their way of life. In such a situation, we say there is **continuity** (Life continues the way it was after an event).

For now we can clearly make a **comparison** between two events. We may look at the event, time, place, people, causes and consequences. You will realise that we may differ in the way interpret (place our opinion) a historical event. We often view events according to our own values, backgrounds, the group/ people we live with, religion, culture etc. In this way, we tend to be **bias**. To be bias is to interpret /view something in your favour. In other words, you will be explaining an event to your side or favour. We need to work hard to avoid the bias interpretation of events. Just quickly work on this activity to test yourself. .

Activity 1

Study the following paragraph on the historical events of South Africa to **create a Timeline**.

In 1950, the Group Areas Act was formed to separate South Africans into different residential areas. Most black people were forcibly removed from their areas. On 11th February 1966, the apartheid government declared Cape Town's District Six a White only area. Nelson Mandela and other ANC and PAC leaders were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964. These revolutionary movements were unbanned in 1990.

The event below has changed the history of South Africa. Kindly read through it.

Sharpeville Massacre.

A massacre is a brutal (bad /evil) killing of **many** people.

Early in 1960, both the ANC and PAC prepared their supporters for a protest march against the Pass Laws. They called on their supporters to leave their passes at home and gather at the police station so that they get arrested. The idea was that if thousands are arrested, jails would be filled up and the economy would come to a standstill (stop). The Robert Sobukwe (who founded the PAC) and organised the march, said the protest was planned to be peaceful.



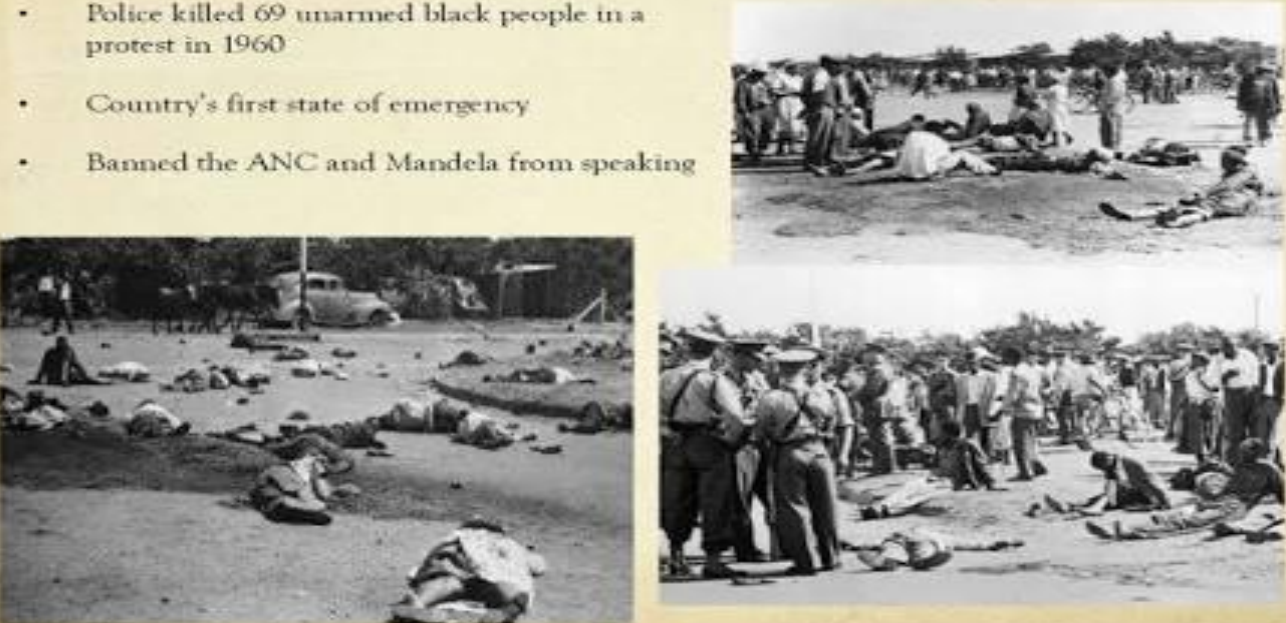
On 21st March 1960, many PAC members marched towards the Sharpeville police station. On their arrival, about 300 policemen were already armed (carrying weapons) and waiting for a crowd of about 5000. The police opened fire (shot) and 69 people were killed. Most people who were killed had been shot at the back as they tried to flee.

Activity 2

Study the picture and answer the questions below.

Sharpeville Massacre

- Police killed 69 unarmed black people in a protest in 1960
- Country's first state of emergency
- Banned the ANC and Mandela from speaking



As part of the planned campaign against pass laws, Robert Sobukwe called for African males in every city and village to leave their passes at home, join demonstrations and if arrested, [to] offer no bail, no defence and no fine. On 21 March 1960, a peaceful group of protestors gathered at the police station in order to call on the government to scrap the hated pass laws. The young policemen, faced with these protestors, lost their nerve and fired at the crowd. Robert Sobukwe was jailed for three years for his role in in planning the march. PAC and ANC resorted to violent resistance through sabotage activities.

- 2.1.1 When did the Sharpeville massacre occur? (1)
- 2.1.2 Who arranged the march leading to the Sharpeville Massacre (1)
- 2.1.3 What was the reason for the march? (1)



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| 2.1.4 | Why were protestors ordered to refuse bail, defence and fine if arrested? | (2) |
| 2.1.5 | What was the effect (results) of the massacre to both ANC and PAC's resistance to the apartheid government. | (2) |
| 2.1.6 | What was the effect of the massacre on the international community? | (2) |
| 2.1.7 | Explain the concept 'state of emergency' | (2) |
| 2.1.8 | Explain the concept 'banned' reflected on the picture. | (2) |
| 2.1.9 | When is the Sharpeville massacre commemorated? | (1) |
| 2.1.10 | What is the Sharpeville day commemoration known today? | (1) |

I hope you have so far, developed sufficient content knowledge on this US. You first need to work out all these questions by yourself. You may later, consult with your friends to complete those questions that are challenging to you.

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Acknowledgement:

1. Human and Social Sciences, Media Works
2. Human and Social Sciences, Juba Lifelong Learning ABET Level 4.
3. Google, pictures.