**Mohandas Gandhi (1869 – 1948)**

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| **Aim:**  | **Date:** |
| **Key Words:****1.****2.** |  |

**A. Early Life**

Gandhi was born in India to an upper-middle class family when India was under the colonial rule of the British Empire. Britain controlled the economy, laws, and government of India. Gandhi was interested in religion and law and was sent to London to become a lawyer. Even though middle-class and upper-class Indian boys were educated in English, they faced racial discrimination when they went to England or other parts of the Empire. When Gandhi went to South Africa (another British colony) to work as a lawyer, he had an experience that would change his life (which you are about to see).

*Some problems that Gandhi faced growing up as an Indian were*

*Based on video, some events that happened on the train ride in South Africa were*

**B. Beliefs and Practices of Gandhi**

In 1915, Gandhi returned from South Africa to live in India. He began to gain popularity in India as a leader. Gandhi did not believe in violence, but he thought it was just as important to protest unfair government laws. Although his beliefs were nonviolent, his goal was active social and legal change. Even when colonial policemen attacked him and his followers with deadly weapons, Gandhi always looked for peaceful ways to violate unfair laws.

Some examples were:

* Boycott: Gandhi encouraged Indians to boycott British goods and buy Indian goods instead. This helped to support local economies in India and it hurt the British.
* Hunger Strike: Gandhi fasted 17 times during India's independence movement. His longest fasts lasted 21 days.

*(Copy from PowerPoint) Civil disobedience is*

*Civil disobedience is an effective or ineffective (circle one) way to protest because*

**C. The Massacre at Amritsar**

After helping England win WWI, Indians were hoping to win independence. However, in March 1919, the British passed a law that harshly punished Indians for going against the British government’s unfair laws. The Rowlatt Act took away Indians’ rights to speech and assembly. Following Gandhi’s ideas, on April 6th, 1919, a group of Indians gathered to protest these new laws. The British reacted to this protest in an event that became known as the Amritsar Massacre.

*The Indian protestors gathered in Amritsar because*

*Based on the video, the British soldiers reacted by*

**D. The Salt March**

In March 1930, Gandhi led hundreds of followers on a 240-mile march to the sea to make salt from salt water in order to protest the Salt Law, a law that said Indians were not allowed to make their own salt; they had to buy imported salt from the British who put a heavy tax on the salt. With tens of thousands of his followers, Gandhi walked to the sea and showed them how to make salt on the beach. This famous act is known as the Salt March.

Civil disobedience broke out all across India and British authorities arrested more than 60,000 people and several hundred British-led Indian policemen viciously beat peaceful protesters. The incident, recorded by American journalist Webb Miller, prompted an international outcry against British policy in India.

*The Salt March was*

*Based on the video, the Salt March was or was not successful (circle one) because*