

WANGARI MAATHAI

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Dr. Wangari Muta Maathai was born in 1940 in a village in Kenya. In 2004, she became the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. The judges valued "her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace". She was also a member of Kenya's Parliament. She served as Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources between 2003 and 2005.

Maathai left Kenya after high school to study biology in the USA. She got both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees and returned to Kenya. She became the first Kenyan woman to earn a Ph.D. In 1971, she became a professor at the University of Nairobi. In 2002, Maathai accepted a position at Yale University's Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry.

Her environmental roots were planted in 1977. She founded the Green Belt Movement, a non-governmental organization whose mission was to plant trees across Kenya to prevent soil erosion. It has planted over 40 million trees to date and earned her the nickname of "The Tree Mother of Africa." This experience sparked her keen interest in protecting the environment and saving the planet.

Dr. Maathai became more involved in environmental and women's issues. Her politician husband divorced her because of this. He said she was too strong-minded for a woman. Amazingly, the divorce judge agreed and jailed her! Dr. Maathai was a member of the Nobel Women's Initiative and campaigned globally for peace with justice and equality. She died of cancer aged 71 on September 26, 2011.

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. receive | a. went back |
| 2. development | b. job |
| 3. served | c. took |
| 4. returned | d. get |
| 5. accepted | e. progress |
| 6. position | f. worked |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 7. mission | g. started |
| 8. to date | h. imprisoned |
| 9. sparked | i. aim |
| 10. involved in | j. fought |
| 11. jailed | k. until now |
| 12. campaigned | l. connected with |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. the first African woman to receive | a. to sustainable development |
| 2. The judges valued her contribution | b. her keen interest |
| 3. Maathai left Kenya after high school | c. earn a Ph.D. |
| 4. She got both her Bachelor's | d. to study biology |
| 5. the first Kenyan woman to | e. to prevent soil erosion |
| 6. Her environmental roots | f. the Nobel Peace Prize |
| 7. plant trees across Kenya | g. cancer aged 71 |
| 8. This experience sparked | h. and Master's degrees |
| 9. He said she was too | i. were planted in 1977 |
| 10. She died of | j. strong-minded for a woman |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Dr. Wangari Muta Maathai _____ in a village in Kenya. In 2004, _____ African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. The judges valued "her contribution _____ development, democracy and peace". She was also a member of Kenya's Parliament. _____ Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources between 2003 and 2005.

Maathai left Kenya after high school _____ the USA. She got both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees and returned to Kenya. She became the first Kenyan woman _____. In 1971, she became a professor at the University of Nairobi. In 2002, Maathai _____ at Yale University's Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry.

Her environmental _____ 1977. She founded the Green Belt Movement, a non-governmental organization _____ to plant trees across Kenya to _____. It has planted over 40 million trees to date and earned her the nickname of "The Tree Mother of Africa." This experience _____ interest in protecting the environment and saving the planet.

Dr. Maathai became _____ environmental and women's issues. Her politician husband divorced her _____. He said she was too strong-minded for a woman. Amazingly, the divorce judge _____ her! Dr. Maathai was a member of the Nobel Women's Initiative and campaigned globally for _____ equality. She died of cancer aged 71 on September 26, 2011.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of italics.

Dr. Wangari Muta Maathai was born in 1940 in a village in Kenya. In 2004, she became the *fast / first* African woman to *receiving / receive* the Nobel Peace Prize. The judges valued "her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and *piece / peace*". She was also a member of Kenya's Parliament. She *served / saved* as Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources between 2003 and 2005.

Maathai left Kenya after high school to study *biologist / biology* in the USA. She got both *them / her* Bachelor's and Master's degrees and returned to Kenya. She became the first Kenyan woman to *earn / learn* a Ph.D. In 1971, she became a professor at the University of Nairobi. In 2002, Maathai accepted a position *of / at* Yale University's Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry.

Her environmental *leaves / roots* were planted in 1977. She founded the Green Belt Movement, a non-governmental organization *who / whose* mission was to plant trees across Kenya to prevent *sail / soil* erosion. It has planted over 40 million trees to date and earned her the nickname of "The Tree Mother of Africa." This experience sparked her *been / keen* interest in protecting the environment and saving the planet.

Dr. Maathai became *more / many* involved in environmental and women's issues. Her politician husband divorced her because of this. He said she was too strong-minded *with / for* a woman. Amazingly, the divorce judge agreed and *jailed / freed* her! Dr. Maathai was a member of the Nobel Women's Initiative and campaigned *Earth / globally* for peace with justice and equality. She died of cancer aged 71 on September 26, 2011.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. a gilelav in Kenya
2. her contribution to sustainable deenvotlmep
3. She was also a reembm of Kenya's Parliament
4. Natural soRrescue

Paragraph 2

5. study logybio in the USA
6. Bachelor's and Master's segdree
7. she became a efrospsro at the University of Nairobi
8. Maathai ctacdepe a position at Yale University

Paragraph 3

9. Her environmental roots were ntdaple in 1977
10. a non-governmental organization whose mioinss was to plant trees
11. prevent soil orneio
12. This experience ksparde her keen interest

Paragraph 4

13. environmental and women's ssusie
14. He said she was too strong-nddime for a woman
15. campaigned blalgoly for peace
16. gmaansicp globally for peace

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () peace". She was also a member of Kenya's Parliament. She served as Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources between 2003 and 2005.
- () degrees and returned to Kenya. She became the first Kenyan woman to earn a Ph.D. In 1971, she became a professor
- (**1**) Dr. Wangari Muta Maathai was born in 1940 in a village in Kenya. In 2004, she became the first African woman to
- () equality. She died of cancer aged 71 on September 26, 2011.
- () campaigned globally for peace with justice and
- () soil erosion. It has planted over 40 million trees to date and earned her the nickname of
- () Dr. Maathai became more involved in environmental and women's issues. Her politician husband
- () "The Tree Mother of Africa." This experience sparked her keen interest in protecting the environment and saving the planet.
- () receive the Nobel Peace Prize. The judges valued "her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and
- () at the University of Nairobi. In 2002, Maathai accepted a position at Yale University's Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry.
- () Maathai left Kenya after high school to study biology in the USA. She got both her Bachelor's and Master's
- () agreed and jailed her! Dr. Maathai was a member of the Nobel Women's Initiative and
- () non-governmental organization whose mission was to plant trees across Kenya to prevent
- () Her environmental roots were planted in 1977. She founded the Green Belt Movement, a
- () divorced her because of this. He said she was too strong-minded for a woman. Amazingly, the divorce judge

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. Peace first to Nobel the woman the Prize African receive

2. contribution her valued judges The development sustainable to

3. her both got She degrees Master's and Bachelor's

4. earn Kenyan became a woman the Ph.D. to first She

5. became a professor at the University of Nairobi In 1971 she

6. planted 1977 environmental were in Her roots

7. plant erosion soil prevent to Kenya across trees

8. planted to over date 40 It million has trees

9. woman He said she was too strong-minded for a

10. of September cancer 2011. died She aged 71 on 26,

DISCUSSION (Write your questions):

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about Wangari Maathai?
2. Would you like to meet Wangari Maathai?
3. What would you like to know about Wangari Maathai and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

DISCUSSION (Write your questions):

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about Wangari Maathai?
2. What questions would you like to ask Wangari Maathai?
3. What would her answers be to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

THE WANGARI MAATHAI SURVEY:

Write five questions about Wangari Maathai in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Wangari Maathai. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. WANGARI MAATHAI POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Wangari Maathai. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Wangari Maathai, her life and achievements. Write about what she did every day and what she thought about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a Wangari Maathai expert. Ask her/him three questions about her life. Give her/him three of your thoughts on her. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Wangari Maathai expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. receive | a. get |
| 2. development | b. progress |
| 3. served | c. worked |
| 4. returned | d. went back |
| 5. accepted | e. took |
| 6. position | f. job |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

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| 8. to date | h. until now |
| 9. sparked | i. started |
| 10. involved in | j. connected with |
| 11. jailed | k. imprisoned |
| 12. campaigned | l. fought |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. the first African woman to receive | a. the Nobel Peace Prize |
| 2. The judges valued her contribution | b. to sustainable development |
| 3. Maathai left Kenya after high school | c. to study biology |
| 4. She got both her Bachelor's | d. and Master's degrees |
| 5. the first Kenyan woman to | e. earn a Ph.D. |
| 6. Her environmental roots | f. were planted in 1977 |
| 7. plant trees across Kenya | g. to prevent soil erosion |
| 8. This experience sparked | h. her keen interest |
| 9. He said she was too | i. strong-minded for a woman |
| 10. She died of | j. cancer aged 71 |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.