Malala Yousafzai: Nobel Peace Prize Winner

Please complete the three assignments in this packet about Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize Winner. These assignments will be due on Monday, August 24.

Background Information

Does anyone know what the Nobel Peace Prize is? The Nobel Peace Prize is one of five NobelPrizes created by an inventor in Sweden named Alfred Nobel. For more than one hundred years (since 1901) the prize has been awarded every year for those who have promoted peace in the world. The prize includes a medal, a personal diploma, and a large sum of prize money. Over the years, winners have included Martin Luther King, Jr., President Barack Obama, Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela and Elie Wiesel. (To learn more about past Nobel Peace Prize recipients go to http://nobelpeaceprize.org/)

Has anyone heard of Malala Yousafzai? Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani seventeen year old girl who won the Nobel Prize for Peace in October 2014. Malala is the youngest person to ever be awarded the prize. In 2012, when Malala was fourteen years old, she was shot in the head while she was on a bus filled with schoolchildren. She was singled out because she had been speaking out about schooling for girls worldwide as well as in her country of Pakistan, where girls do not have as many educational options and opportunities as boys. When she was 11 years old, the Taliban (an extremist group who believes girls should not go to school or have independence) took over her town of Mingora and for several months, her school was closed. She started writing a blog under a pseudonym detailing her life under Taliban occupation, their attempts to take control of the Swat Valley, and her views on promoting education for girls in the valley. Malala wants to be a doctor and wants to make sure all girls (as well as boys) can realize their dreams through education. Pakistan has the second highest number of children out of school (8.3 million in 2012) and the Pakistan Ministry of Education reports that their overall literacy rate is 46% and only 26% of girls are literate.

Malala survived the attack and since then, has published a book about her life, gave a speech at the United Nations, was awarded Pakistan's National Youth Peace Prize and has now won the Nobel Peace Prize. A foundation called the Malala Fund has been established to help empower girls in four specific countries—Pakistan, Nigeria, Jordan and Kenya.
Malala Wins Nobel Peace Prize

The young Pakistani activist is awarded one of the world’s greatest honors

OCT 10, 2014 | By Cameron Keady with TIME and AP Reporting

Malala Yousafzai, 17, is the world’s youngest Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

Pakistani youth activist Malala Yousafzai, 17, was awarded the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday, October 10. She is the youngest Nobel winner in history. Malala shares the prize with Kailash Satyarthi, a 60-year-old man from India who has helped lead a movement to end child slavery around the world. Both winners were recognized “for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education,” the Norwegian Nobel Committee announced on Friday.

A Voice for the Voiceless

Malala Yousafzai has never been ordinary. When she was just 11 years old, she started blogging about the Taliban takeover of her hometown of Mingora, in northwestern Pakistan. Taliban members follow an extreme version of Islam, and
believe young girls like Malala should not go to school. Classrooms throughout the Swat district of Pakistan, where Malala was living, were closed for several months. Malala spoke publicly about her desire to go back to school. “All I want is an education,” she told one television broadcaster.

When the Pakistani government regained control, Malala was able to return to class. She continued to blog and speak out about girls’ right to education. But on October 9, 2012, the Taliban tried to silence her. A gunman boarded her school bus and shot her on the left side of her forehead. Malala survived, and showed great courage and optimism during her long recovery. During this time, she became a symbol of the struggle for girls’ rights all over the world.

**Prize for Peace**

Now, Malala has also become an international symbol for peace. Each year, the Nobel prizes honor excellence in medicine, literature, chemistry, promoting peace, and other fields. It is one of the highest honors in the world. Malala and Satyarthi will split the award of $1.1 million.

The Nobel prize is named after Alfred Nobel, who invented dynamite in the 1800s. Nobel left his fortune to reward people who work for the “good of humanity” in the sciences, literature and world affairs. In 2011, Malala won Pakistan’s National Youth Peace Prize, which has since been renamed the National Malala Peace Prize.

Malala’s mission for peace is unstoppable. Nine months after she was shot, she gave a now-famous speech at the United Nations. “They thought that the bullets would silence us. But they failed,” she said. “And then, out of that silence came thousands of voices. … Weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power, and courage was born.”

The Nobel prizes will be presented to the winners on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death in 1896.

“Malala Wins Nobel Peace Prize”

Assignment #1 Questions

Answer on a separate sheet of paper. Support your answer with the background information provided and the article “Malala Wins the Nobel Peace Prize.”

1. What did you learn about Malala that you did not know?
2. Did you find anything surprising?
3. What did it mean that Malala has “never been ordinary?”
4. Why do you think Malala won the prize?
5. Why do you think the Taliban does not want girls to get an education? What do you think about that?
6. What do you think Malala will do in the future?
Assignment #2 Malala Quotes

Read through the following quotations. Select three that you find interesting.

1. In some parts of the world, students are going to school every day. It's their normal life. But in other parts of the world, we are starving for education... it's like a precious gift. It's like a diamond.

2. I speak not for myself but for those without voice... those who have fought for their rights... their right to live in peace, their right to be treated with dignity, their right to equality of opportunity, their right to be educated.

3. When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.

4. I think life is always dangerous. Some people get afraid of it. Some people don't go forward. But some people, if they want to achieve their goal, they have to go. They have to move...

5. Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world.

6. I raise up my voice, not so I can shout but so that those without a voice can be heard... we cannot succeed when half of us are held back.

7. I don't want revenge on the Taliban; I want education for sons and daughters of the Taliban.

8. I was a girl in a land where rifles are fired in celebration of a son, while daughters are hidden away behind a curtain, their role in life simply to prepare food and give birth to children.

9. They cannot stop me. I will get my education, if it is in [the] home, school or anywhere.

10. I have the right of education. I have the right to play. I have the right to sing. I have the right to talk. I have the right to go to market. I have the right to speak up.

11. I think that the best way to solve problems and to fight is through dialogue, is through [a] peaceful way, but for me the best way to fight against terrorism and extremism is just simple thing: educate the next generation.

For each quotation selected, please complete the following handouts.
Instructions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Please support your answers. Answers may be handwritten or typed.

1. What does the quote mean (in your own words)?

2. Why do you think Malala said it?

3. Do you agree with the quote? Why or why not?
Instructions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Please support your answers. Answers may be handwritten or typed.

1. What does the quote mean (in your own words)?

2. Why do you think Malala said it?

3. Do you agree with the quote? Why or why not?
Instructions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Please support your answers. Answers may be handwritten or typed.

1. What does the quote mean (in your own words)?

2. Why do you think Malala said it?

3. Do you agree with the quote? Why or why not?
Assignment #3

Malala Speaks to the United Nations

On July 12, 2013, Malala spoke at the United Nations. Below you will find a transcript of Malala’s speech. Follow along as you watch a video of Malala delivering the speech.

1. Watch the video (17 minutes) where Malala speaks about the importance of education at this web address: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3rNhZu3ttIU. Follow along with the provided transcript.

2. Answer the following discussion questions in complete sentences. Support your answers.
   a. What is the main message in Malala’s speech to the United Nations?
   b. Malala says, “They thought the bullet would silence us, but they failed.” What does she mean by this?
   c. Who is Malala speaking for?
   d. What does Malala believe about people’s rights?
   e. Why does she mention Martin Luther King, Jr. and Nelson Mandela?
   f. Why does she believe so strongly in non-violence?
   g. What other parts of the world does Malala speak about and why?
   h. What is she asking the world leaders to do?
   i. How did the United Nations respond to her speech?
   j. What do you think of Malala?
TRANSCRIPT OF MALALA SPEECH AT UNITED NATIONS

“In the name of God, The Most Beneficent, The Most Merciful, Honorable UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Respected President General Assembly Vuk Jeremic, Honorable UN envoy for Global education Mr. Gordon Brown, Respected elders and my dear brothers and sisters. Today, it is an honor for me to be speaking again after a long time. Being here with such honorable people is a great moment in my life. I don't know where to begin my speech. I don't know what people would be expecting me to say. But first of all, thank you to God for whom we all are equal and thank you to every person who has prayed for my fast recovery and a new life. I cannot believe how much love people have shown me. I have received thousands of good wish cards and gifts from all over the world. Thank you to all of them. Thank you to the children whose innocent words encouraged me. Thank you to my elders whose prayers strengthened me. I would like to thank my nurses, doctors and all of the staff of the hospitals in Pakistan and the UK and the UAE governments who have helped me get better and recover my strength.

I fully support Mr. Ban Ki-moon the Secretary-General in his Global Education First Initiative and the work of the UN Special Envoy Mr. Gordon Brown. And I thank them both for the leadership they continue to give. They continue to inspire all of us to action.

Dear brothers and sisters, do remember one thing, Malala Day is not my day. Today is the day of every woman, every boy and every girl who have raised their voice for their rights. There are hundreds of Human rights activists and social workers who are not only speaking for human rights, but who are struggling to achieve their goals of education, peace and equality. Thousands of people have been killed by the terrorists and millions have been injured. I am just one of them. So here I stand... one girl among many.

I speak - not for myself, but for all girls and boys. I raise up my voice - not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard. Those who have fought for their rights: Their right to live in peace. Their right to be treated with dignity. Their right to equality of opportunity. Their right to be educated. Dear Friends, on the 9th of October 2012, the Taliban shot me on the left side of my forehead. They shot my friends too. They thought that the bullets would silence us. But they failed. And then, out of that silence came, thousands of voices. The terrorists thought that they would change our aims and stop our ambitions but nothing changed in my life except this: Weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage was born. I am the same Malala. My ambitions are the same. My hopes are the same. My dreams are the same.
Dear sisters and brothers, I am not against anyone. Neither am I here to speak in terms of personal revenge against the Taliban or any other terrorist group. I am here to speak up for the right of education of every child. I want education for the sons and the daughters of all the extremists especially the Taliban.

I do not even hate the Talib who shot me. Even if there is a gun in my hand and he stands in front of me, I would not shoot him. This is the compassion that I have learnt from Muhammad-the prophet of mercy, Jesus Christ and Lord Buddha. This is the legacy of change that I have inherited from Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and Muhammad Ali Jinnah. This is the philosophy of non-violence that I have learned from Gandhi Jee, Bacha Khan and Mother Teresa. And this is the forgiveness that I have learnt from my mother and father. This is what my soul is telling me, be peaceful and love everyone.

Dear sisters and brothers, we realize the importance of light when we see darkness. We realize the importance of our voice when we are silenced. In the same way, when we were in Swat, the north of Pakistan, we realized the importance of pens and books when we saw the guns. The wise saying, “The pen is mightier than sword” was true. The extremists are afraid of books and pens. The power of education frightens them. They are afraid of women. The power of the voice of women frightens them. And that is why they killed 14 innocent medical students in the recent attack in Quetta. And that is why they killed many female teachers and polio workers in Khyber Pukhtoonkhwa and FATA. That is why they are blasting schools every day. Because they were and they are afraid of change, afraid of the equality that we will bring into our society.

I remember that there was a boy in our school who was asked by a journalist, “Why are the Taliban against education?” He answered very simply. By pointing to his book he said, “A Talib doesn’t know what is written inside this book.” They think that God is a tiny, little conservative being who would send girls to the hell just because of going to school.

The terrorists are misusing the name of Islam and Pashtun society for their own personal benefits. Pakistan is peace-loving democratic country. Pashtuns want education for their daughters and sons. And Islam is a religion of peace, humanity and brotherhood. Islam says that it is not only each child’s right to get education, rather it is their duty and responsibility.

Honorable Secretary General, peace is necessary for education. In many parts of the world especially Pakistan and Afghanistan; terrorism, wars and conflicts stop children to go to their schools. We are really tired of these wars. Women and children are suffering in many parts of the world in many ways. In India, innocent and poor children...
are victims of child labor. Many schools have been destroyed in Nigeria. People in Afghanistan have been affected by the hurdles of extremism for decades. Young girls have to do domestic child labor and are forced to get married at early age. Poverty, ignorance, injustice, racism and the deprivation of basic rights are the main problems faced by both men and women.

Dear fellows, today I am focusing on women’s rights and girls’ education because they are suffering the most. There was a time when women social activists asked men to stand up for their rights. But, this time, we will do it by ourselves. I am not telling men to step away from speaking for women’s rights rather I am focusing on women to be independent to fight for themselves. Dear sisters and brothers, now it’s time to speak up.

So today, we call upon the world leaders to change their strategic policies in favor of peace and prosperity. We call upon the world leaders that all the peace deals must protect women and children’s rights. A deal that goes against the dignity of women and their rights is unacceptable. We call upon all governments to ensure free compulsory education for every child all over the world. We call upon all governments to fight against terrorism and violence, to protect children from brutality and harm. We call upon the developed nations to support the expansion of educational opportunities for girls in the developing world. We call upon all communities to be tolerant - to reject prejudice based on cast, creed, sect, religion or gender. To ensure freedom and equality for women so that they can flourish. We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back. We call upon our sisters around the world to be brave - to embrace the strength within themselves and realize their full potential.

Dear brothers and sisters, we want schools and education for every child’s bright future. We will continue our journey to our destination of peace and education for everyone. No one can stop us. We will speak for our rights and we will bring change through our voice. We must believe in the power and the strength of our words. Our words can change the world because we are all together, united for the cause of education. And if we want to achieve our goal, then let us empower ourselves with the weapon of knowledge and let us shield ourselves with unity and togetherness.

Dear brothers and sisters, we must not forget that millions of people are suffering from poverty, injustice and ignorance. We must not forget that millions of children are out of schools. We must not forget that our sisters and brothers are waiting for a bright peaceful future. So let us wage a global struggle against illiteracy, poverty and terrorism and let us pick up our books and pens. They are our most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world. Education is the only solution. Education First.”