

People talk of memorials to him in statues of bronze or marble or pillars and thus they mock him and belie his message. What tribute shall we pay to him that he would have appreciated ? He has shown us the way to live and the way to die and if we have not understood that lesson, it would be better that we raised no memorial to him, for the only fit memorial is to follow reverently in the path he showed us and to do our duty in life and in death.

He was a Hindu and an Indian, the greatest in many generations, and he was proud of being a Hindu and an Indian. To him India was dear, because she had represented throughout the ages certain immutable truths. But though he was intensely religious and came to be called the Father of the Nation which he had liberated, yet no narrow religious or national bonds confined his spirit. And so he became the great internationalist, believing in the essential unity of man, the underlying unity of all religions, and the needs of humanity, and more specially devoting himself to the service of the poor, the distressed and the oppressed millions everywhere.

His death brought more tributes than have been paid at the passing of any other human being in history. Perhaps what would have pleased him best was the spontaneous tributes that came from the people of Pakistan. On the morrow of the tragedy, all of us forgot for a while the bitterness that had crept in, the estrangement and conflict of these past months and Gandhiji stood out as the beloved champion and leader of the people of India, of india as it was before partition cut up this living nation.

What was his great power over the mind and heart of man due to ? Even we realize, that his dominating passion was truth. That truth led him to proclaim without ceasing that good ends can never be attained by evil methods, that the end itself is distorted if the method pursued is bad. That truth led him to confess publicly whenever he thought he had made a mistake—**Himalayan errors he called some of his own mistakes**. That truth led him to fight evil and untruth wherever he found them, regardless of the consequences. **That truth made the service of the poor and the dispossessed the passion of his life, for where there is inequality and discrimination and suppression there is injustice and evil and untruth.** And thus he became the beloved of all those who have suffered from social and political evils, and **the great representative of humanity as it should be.** Because of that truth in him wherever he sat became a temple and where he trod was hallowed ground.



**THE VOICE**

—Jawaharlal Nehru

## QUESTIONS

1. About whom is the passage written ?
2. Why does Nehru make the difference about being a "Hindu" and an "Indian"? Is there any difference really ?
3. What great lesson did this great man show us for life ?
4. Mention some of the virtues of "the great internationalist."
5. Nehru seems to suggest that his hero was "the beloved champion and leader of the people of India" only before the partition of Pakistan and India. Do you agree with that ? Explain.
6. What did "truth" mean to this great man ?
7. Give the meaning of the following : memorials, immutable, essential, estrangement, spontaneous, discrimination, dominating, Himalayan.



## Wren & Martin Exercise #2

(01)

The passage is written about the Great Gandhiji.

(02)

Nehru called the Great Gandhiji a "Hindu" and an "Indian," because Gandhiji worked for the cause of both the Hindus and the Indians. He didn't let the other come in the way to fulfill his true potential.

and worked for <sup>both</sup> for his religion and his nation at the same time.

(03)

The great lesson that this great man show us for life is that everyone should pursue his fullest potential despite of the difficulties and challenges of life. Man should work for the good of others no matter what.

(04)

The great internationalist believes in the social equality, unity of all religions, freedom of all humanity and most importantly helping the needy people of the society all over the world. In short, he lives for the good of others.

(05)

I do not agree to the statement that Gandhiji was "the beloved champion and leader of the people."

of India" only before the partition of Pakistan and India because he worked for the cause of Indians as a whole. He was widely respected among the Muslims of India then and ~~still to the point~~ he is also considered a great leader among a large number Pakistanis still to the point.

(06)

To this great man the "truth" meant to be the baseline for any good that a man wants to do in this world. He believed that it is only the truth that makes a man capable to fight against any evil and no good can be achieved without it.

(07)

Memorials: Tribute  
Immutable: Hidden  
Essential: Important  
Estrangement: Enmity  
Spontaneous: Quick

Discriminations

Difference

Dominating:

Major

Himalayans

Himalayan Mountains