

Decode the Secret Message

An extension of "A promise to treat all races fairly"

A. Complete the Statements

Read the story "**A promise to treat all races fairly**" (page 11, *What's Up* September 2018). Then, complete the statements below by circling the letters next to the correct responses. The first one has been done as an example.

1. The story about Michelle's family took place in
 - (o) North Africa in the early 1990s.
 - (p) South Africa in the early 1960s.
 - (q) South East Asia in the early 1960s.
2. At that time, South Africa had a nation-wide racist system
 - (g) that favoured whites, blacks, and other people of colour equally.
 - (h) that favoured only blacks and other people of colour.
 - (i) that discriminated against blacks and other people of colour.
3. This cruel and unfair racist system in South Africa was called
 - (f) the apartheid.
 - (g) the ICERD.
 - (h) the holocaust.
4. Although racism was nothing new, South Africa's case led to
 - (m) world leaders deciding to fight racial discrimination globally.
 - (n) world leaders saying there was nothing they could do.
 - (o) only African leaders wanting to address the problem.
5. In 1965, they came up with ICERD, the International Convention
 - (m) on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Descriptions.
 - (n) on the Enhancement of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.
 - (o) on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.
6. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is
 - (m) a historic document that came soon after the ICERD.
 - (n) a historic document that is older than the ICERD.
 - (o) a historic document that the ICERD replaced totally.

7. In terms of addressing all forms of racism, ICERD statements are
 - (e) expressed more strongly and clearly than UDHR's statements.
 - (f) expressed more mildly and generally than UDHR's statements.
 - (g) expressed in exactly the same way as UDHR's statements.

8. Thanks to ICERD, many countries are now working hard to
 - (c) make their societies treat all races more fairly.
 - (d) reduce the number of races in their populations.
 - (e) convince citizens that some races are superior to others.

9. In 2017, Singapore joined ICERD, and pledged to
 - (b) help all citizens to become more prosperous than before.
 - (c) work harder than before to reduce littering everywhere.
 - (d) work even harder than before to reduce all forms of racism.

10. If all countries were to honour ICERD, then all people
 - (q) would be forced to smile at everyone, regardless of race.
 - (r) would be able to live in dignity, regardless of race.
 - (s) would have the freedom to be cruel, regardless of race.

B. DECODE THE SECRET MESSAGE

Transfer the circled letters above to the corresponding boxes in the grid below to unravel a slogan.

	0		0	2	6	0	0	1	5	10	7		3	10	7	7		3	10	5	4	
	A		S			g	a	p														

	10	0	8	2	0	0		9	2	0	8	10	2	4	2	6	0	0	2	5	6	0	
		a			a	l				s							a	t				!	

C. REFLECT ON THE MESSAGE

Think about what this slogan means to you personally. If you would like to share your thoughts with other young students in Singapore, write an email to letters@whatsup.sg. Remember to mention your full name, class, and school. You may win a prize if your letter is published in *What's Up*.