

Responses After Rwanda

Trace how institutions, groups, and individuals responded to genocide.

10.10b "Governments, groups, and individuals have responded in various ways to the human atrocities committed in the 20th and 21st centuries."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one international response and one Rwandan government response. Circle one response by survivor groups or individuals.

Responding to Genocide in Rwanda

- ① In 1994, extremist leaders, militias, and others carried out genocide against Rwanda's Tutsi population. They also murdered many Hutu who opposed the violence. Hundreds of thousands were killed in roughly 100 days. International actors were widely criticized for failing to stop the genocide. Afterward, courts, governments, survivor groups, and individuals pursued accountability and recovery. Their responses could not undo the killings, but addressed different needs: evidence, justice, support, and remembrance.
- ② The UN Security Council established the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 1994 to prosecute individuals for genocide and other serious international crimes. Rwanda also used national courts and later gacaca community courts for many genocide-related cases. Gacaca expanded participation and processed cases, but raised concerns about fairness and witness protection. The Genocide Convention requires states parties to prevent and punish genocide; meeting that duty depends on action and cooperation. Trials can establish responsibility and punish offenders, but cannot alone restore survivors' lives or rebuild trust.
- ③ Survivor organizations supported people, collected testimony, defended rights, and educated others. Journalists, researchers, and advocates documented events and challenged denial. Testimony could support trials and public memory; assistance met survivors' immediate needs. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is not a criminal code, but its principles of equal dignity, life, and security help evaluate authorities. Accountability, assistance, and education can complement one another without guaranteeing prevention.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What was the international community criticized for failing to do during the genocide?

2 Describe one action by the United Nations Security Council and one action by Rwanda's government after the genocide.

3 How did survivor organizations and individual journalists, researchers, and advocates respond in different ways?

4 Why can the Universal Declaration of Human Rights be used to evaluate authorities even though it is not a criminal code?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences comparing a court response with a survivor-group response. Explain each purpose and one limit of legal action, using the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one international response and one Rwandan government response. Circle one response by survivor groups or individuals. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What was the international community criticized for failing to do during the genocide?	It was criticized for failing to stop the genocide while it unfolded.
2	Describe one action by the United Nations Security Council and one action by Rwanda's government after the genocide.	The United Nations Security Council created the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Rwanda's government organized gacaca courts to hear many genocide-related cases.
3	How did survivor organizations and individual journalists, researchers, and advocates respond in different ways?	Survivor organizations collected testimony, supported survivors, urged officials to protect rights, and educated visitors. Individual journalists, researchers, and advocates reported evidence, recorded accounts, and challenged denial.
4	Why can the Universal Declaration of Human Rights be used to evaluate authorities even though it is not a criminal code?	Its principles provide a lens for judging whether authorities protected equal dignity, life, and security.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The UN tribunal prosecuted individuals to establish criminal responsibility and punish offenders. Survivor groups supported people and preserved testimony to defend rights and maintain public memory. Trials could contribute to justice but could not alone restore survivors' lives or rebuild trust.

Accept accurate comparisons identifying a court response, a survivor-group response, their purposes, and a passage-supported limit of legal action.