Soweto Uprising

The Soweto Uprising took place on June 16, 1976 when thousands of high school students flooded the streets of the South African town of Soweto. They were protesting the fact that the government was forcing them to be taught in Afrikaans instead of in English. What was initially a peaceful protest became violent, and the police opened fire on the children. Thousands of people were injured, and 176 people died. The first death was 13-year-old Hector Pieterson, who became a symbol of the uprising. June 16th is now a South African public holiday called Youth Day.

1. Do you think the students' protest was justified? Why or why not?

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. If you had been there on June 16th, 1976, would you have joined the protestors? Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____