

The background of the image is the national flag of South Africa, which features a green triangle at the top, a white horizontal band in the middle, and a blue triangle at the bottom. A black triangle on the left side is bisected by a yellow diagonal band that runs from the bottom-left to the top-right.

# South African Alphabet Book

By: Annmarie Decoteau

# Aa

is for  
Archaeological

Mapungubwe in Limpopo is one of the richest archaeological sites in Southern Africa.



# Bb

# is for Battles

Two globally important battles took place on South African soil in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries: the Anglo Boer War and the Anglo Zulu War.





is for Countries

Southern Africa has fifteen countries. Some include Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia.



# Dd is for Dance

Dance has become the prime means of artistic expression in South Africa. South African dances include Indlamu, Zulu, Kpanlogo, Moribayassa and Atilogwu.





is for Earth

The Magaliesberg is said to be the oldest mountain range on Earth. The mountain has evidence of humans dating back at least 2 million years.





is for Festival

South Africa has a celebration for every event, place, art form, food, drink and agricultural commodity. The Prickly Pear Festival offers traditional foods such as potjiekos, home-made jam, braais and bunny chow.



# Gg

is for Goldblatt

David Goldblatt is a famous South African photographer. He has been capturing the countries beauty for over 50 years.







is for Handcrafts

South African people produce a remarkable range of arts and hand crafts.

Handcrafts range from wood carvings, pottery, stained glass, clay sculpting and basket weaving.



# Ii

# is for Ivory

Ivory has been traded for hundreds of years by people in regions of Greenland, Alaska, and South Africa. This has led to endangerment of species, resulting in restrictions and bans.



FANG TRADERS WITH IVORY.

# Jj

is for Jukskei

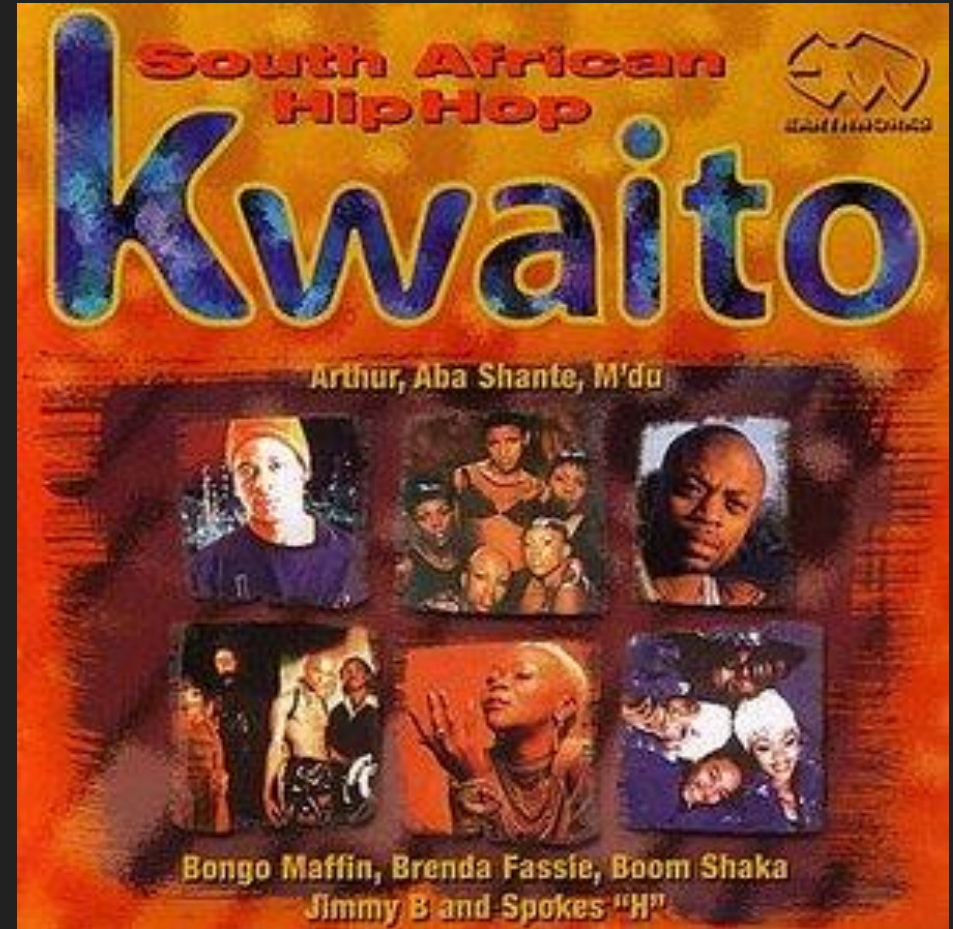
Jukskei is a South Africa game. The player throws a wooden pin at a peg in the ground. The game is said to date back to 1734.





is for Kwaito

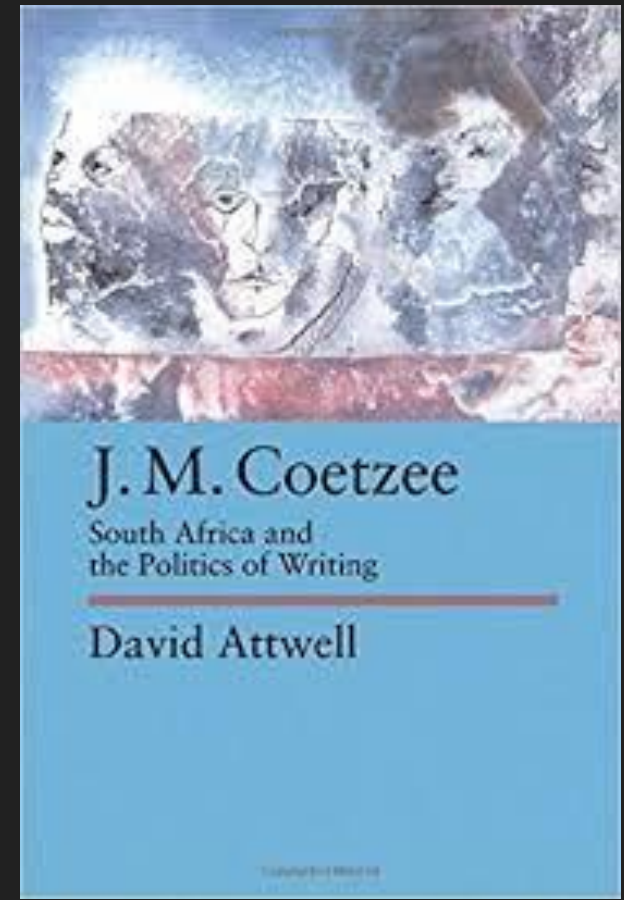
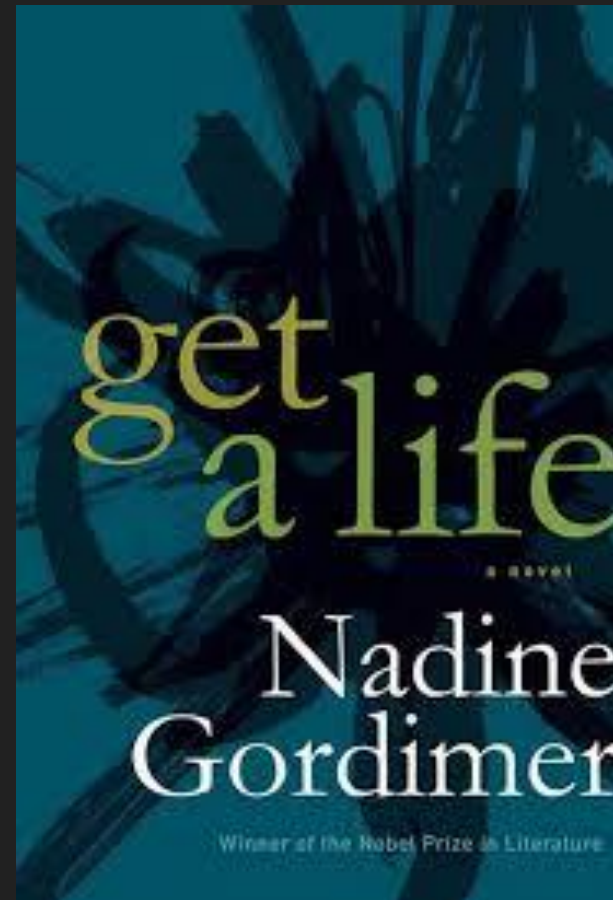
Kwaito is a genre of music that started emerging in the 1990s. It is a mixture of a number of different rhythms from African styled music.





is for Literature

South African has a rich history of literature output. It has also produced two Nobel literature laureates: JM Coetzee and Nadine Gordimer.



# Mm is for Mbube

In 1939, a Zulu migrant worker stepped up to a microphone and produced a three-chord song. This song was called Mbube, Zulu for “lion”. This song can be heard in Disney’s *The Lion King*.

SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR

## Mbube Lyrics

In the jungle, the mighty jungle  
The lion sleeps tonight

In the jungle the mighty jungle, the lion sleeps tonight

Find More lyrics at [www.sweetlyrics.com](http://www.sweetlyrics.com)

Hush my darling don't cry my darling

The lion sleeps tonight

Hush my darling don't cry my darling

# Nn

is for Nguni Cattle

South Africa's indigenous Nguni cattle are possibly the most beautiful cattle in the world, with their variously patterned and multicolored hides everywhere in demand.





is for Owl House

The Owl House was created by Helen Martins. It is located in the remote village of Karoo of South Africa.





# Pp is for Paleontology

Paleontology is the branch of science concerned with animal and plant fossils. South Africa has one of the world's richest concentrations of hominid fossils and evidence of human evolution over the last 3.5 million years.



# Qq

is for Quagga

The quagga lived in the Karoo and southern Free State, unlike regular zebras, was striped on the front half of its body only, colored a creamy light brown on its upper parts and whitish on its belly and leg.



# Rr

is for River

There are two major rivers in South Africa: the Limpopo and the Orange river.



# SS

# is for Shuttleworth

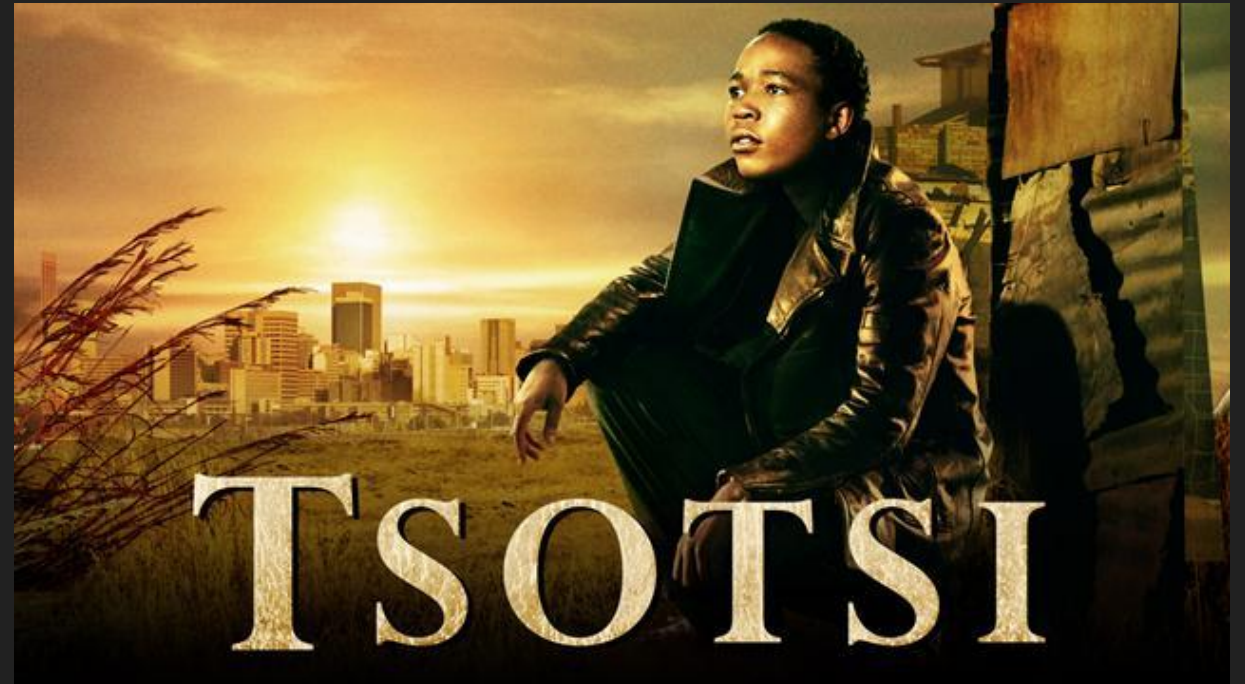
South African internet entrepreneur Mark Shuttleworth used the millions he earned selling his company in his late twenties to become the first African in space.





is for Tsotsi

*Tsotsi* is the first South African film to win an Oscar, and has put the country's movie industry in the spotlight.





# is for Unesco World Heritage

South Africa is home to seven Unesco World Heritage sites, places of “outstanding value to humanity”. Natural heritage sites are the St Lucia wetlands, the Cape Floral Region and the Vredefort Dome meteor impact site.





is for Villages

South African cultural villages allow tourists to experience first-hand the traditional ways of life of South Africa's people. Visitors get to eat traditional food, be entertained by traditional dance and music, and sleep in authentic dwellings.



# WW is for Whale Watching

Every year, between July and December, pods of Humpback and Southern Right whales visit the shores of South Africa.







is for Xariep Dam

The Xariep Dam also known as the Gariep Dam is used for irrigation, domestic and industrial use as well as for power generation in South Africa.



# Yy

is for Yum

Yum is a restaurant in Johannesburg, it developed a new and funky South African cuisine. It was rewarded with an Eat Out Johnnie Walker Restaurant of the Year award in 2005.





is for Zulu

The Zulu people are South Africa's largest population group. They also have the country's largest monarchy, headed by King Goodwill Zwelathini, and a rich and enduring culture going back centuries.



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