

MZANSI LIFE

Let's work together, play together, win together

START HERE
Collect an Origin Card and 1
Mzansi Point before you begin.

Brenda & Sthe's
Start

Litha & Dawie's
Start

Nathi & Jessica's
Start

EARLY LIFE

EARLY LIFE

Welcome to
SCHOOL!

Take a ? card

SCHOOL LIFE

FINAL EXAMS!

SCHOOL LIFE

SCHOOL LIFE

Pick a MZANSI
FUTURE card!
The first person to finish
collects 3 Mzansi points!

FINISH!

Mzansi Life: Game Rules

- **Number of players:** 3 to 6
- **Equipment needed:** A dice and a token for each player

SETTING UP

1. Lay the cards out

Once you have laid out the gameboard, lay out the different cards provided – face down.

- **Origin Cards:** These cards tell each player about the role they will play in the game.
- **Event Cards:** These cards contain life experiences that your characters will face, good and bad. Sort the Event cards into four piles, according to the symbol on the back: ? ● ◆ ■
- **Mzansi Points:** During the game you will have the chance to win Mzansi Points. Keep track of them!
- **Future Cards:** These describe the future your character achieves.

2. Get your Origin Card:

- Before the game starts, each player takes one Origin card. There are two **blue**, two **red**, and two **gold** Origin cards. The first three players must each select a different colour Origin card. (If there are more than three players, the fourth, fifth and sixth players can select any remaining Origin card.)
- Once everyone has an Origin card, the players should read their Origin cards aloud to the group.

3. Give each player 1 Mzansi point

- Before the game starts, everyone should collect **1 Mzansi Point**.

STARTING THE GAME

This game can be played by 3-6 people at a time.

- Each player must begin from the starting point that matches the name on your Origin card.
- The youngest player starts first, followed by the person on their left.
- To begin play, roll the dice and move forward the number of squares shown by the dice.

PLAYING THE GAME

- Keep taking turns rolling the dice and moving forward the number of squares shown by the dice.
- If you land on a square marked with a symbol, take an Event card with that symbol and read the text aloud. (The symbols are: ? ● ◆ ■)
- Some Event cards will allow you to collect Mzansi points.
- Some Event cards will allow you to skip ahead – and some will make you move backwards.

FINISHING THE GAME

- The first person to reach the end of the board gets 3 extra Mzansi points.
- Each player who finishes takes a Future card but does not look at it yet!
- The game continues until all the players have reached the end of the board and collected their Future card.
- Once everyone has finished, go around in a circle and read out your Future to the group to find out where your character's story might go.
- The player with the most Mzansi points is the official winner.

REFLECTION

After the game, take time for a discussion about the game:

- What did you notice about each player's journey?
- What were some of the highs and lows of everyone's journey through the game?
- Did anyone have a difficult path? Did anyone have an easy path?
- Are there any lessons in this game that we can take into real life?



An official won't give you the documents you need to get into school unless you pay a bribe.

Did you know: all children have a right to basic education in South Africa – including children born in another country!

Sorry, you have to skip a turn.



On your first day in your new community, some other children invite you to come play.

Helping people and including others makes our community stronger.

Collect 1 Msanzi point!



A new family moves into your community from far away. You invite the children to come play.

Being kind to others makes the community better for everyone.

Collect 1 Msanzi point!



On your first day in your new community, some other children invite you to come play.

Amazing! Making others feel welcome in our community builds a stronger, kinder South Africa.

Collect 1 Msanzi point!



Oh no! When you arrive in your new community, someone steals your things.

You might see social media posts blaming crime on certain groups of people, but crime is a challenge affecting everyone in South Africa.

Go back 1 square.



Your friends are making fun of a new family that moved into your community, and you tell them to stop.

Standing up for others, especially people who are different from us, is part of the South African value of Ubuntu.

Collect 1 Msanzi point!



A thief tries to steal your bag at the bus station, but other people step in to protect you.

Crime affects everyone in South Africa. But when we stand up for others, even those we don't know, it makes the community safer for everyone.

That's what Ubuntu is all about!

Skip 2 squares!



School officials want your birth certificate to enrol in school, but it's gone missing. Go to Home Affairs.

Oh no! Everyone has the right to go to school, but getting the right documents can be a challenge, even for those born in SA.

Sorry – go back 1 square.



There's a new family next door, speaking a different language. You and your friends make fun of them.

Oh no! The South African value of Ubuntu teaches us to include others and accept each other's differences.

Skip a turn.



Oh no! When you arrive in your new community, someone takes your things.

Some people use social media to blame foreigners for South Africa's crime, but most foreign nationals are just as affected by these problems as everyone else.

Sorry - go back 1 square.



A thief tries to rob you on the way to the shop, but people step in and chase them away.

Looking after each other – even those with different backgrounds – makes the community stronger and better for everyone.

Collect 1 Msanzi point!



Someone took the new bag you got for your school books :(

Crime affects everyone in South Africa. But don't fall for social media posts blaming crime on foreigners: most foreign nationals are just as likely to be victims of crime as anyone else.

Sorry, you have to skip a turn.





You teach other kids one of the songs from your culture and now everyone's singing it all the time!

Take 1 Mzansi point.



Your auntie makes food for all the neighbourhood children. It's so delicious now everyone wants to be your friend!

Move forward one square.



You organise all your friends to help clean up the local park.

Because of teamwork, now everyone can enjoy it!

Collect 1 Msanzi point!



It can be hard making friends at first. But after you show off your moves, you get invited to join a local dance group.

Take 1 Mzansi point for yourself, and give 1 Mzansi point to another player with the best dance moves.



You help your new neighbour paint her stoep. Helping others is the South African way!

Move forward one square.



Bad news: You got sick :(

Good news: One of your neighbours was a nurse before she came to South Africa. She gives you a home remedy that makes you feel much better!

Move forward one square.



The bad news? It's raining today.

The good news? You spend all afternoon running in puddles with your new friends.

The bad news? You got mud all over the kitchen floor and now you're in BIG TROUBLE 🌀

Skip a turn.



You audition for a local choir group. Well done!

There's one problem. Your singing isn't very good. The choir leader says you sound like a donkey!

It doesn't matter. Take 1 Mzansi point for being brave.



You and your friends invent a crazy new dance – and suddenly everyone in the neighbourhood is doing it!

Demonstrate the dance to the other players, and then **take 1 Mzansi point.**



You find a R5 coin on the ground.

It's your lucky day!

Move forward 1 square.



Your friends start making fun of a new boy in the neighbourhood.

Instead of telling them to stop, you just stay quiet. It can be hard to stand up for others!

Sorry, you have to skip a turn.



You start a rumour about one of the other children in the neighbourhood :(

We're stronger when we work together: that's the spirit of Ubuntu.

Sorry, you have to skip a turn.



You won first place in the school science expo!!

Did you know that South Africans have helped change the world with big scientific discoveries and new inventions?

Move forward 1 square.

There's a taxi strike – you have to miss school this week.

Public transport problems can make things difficult for everyone. Don't get tricked by rumours and messages blaming community problems on people from a different culture.

Go back 2 squares.

You join a community group which gives free tutoring sessions.

Helping others, especially people who are different, makes us all stronger.

Collect 1 Mzansi point.

You got robbed on the way to school!

Don't fall for social media posts blaming all crime on foreigners. Crime affects everyone in the country – foreign nationals are just as likely to be victims of crime as anyone else

Sorry, go back 1 square.

You went to a local cultural festival and made new friends!

South Africa is known as the 'Rainbow Nation' because of its diverse cultures. Celebrating our differences is part of the South African value of Ubuntu.

Move forward 1 square.

You get sick and have to spend a whole day at the clinic.

Don't get tricked by those who blame people from other countries for overloading our clinics. The real issues are underfunding and staff shortages.

Go back 2 squares.

A stranger shared their lunch with you!

Acts of kindness can make a big difference in someone's day. Helping each other is a big part of South African culture.

Move forward 1 square!

You got great marks at school!

Well done!

Education is a basic right for every child in South Africa, no matter who they are.

Move forward 1 square!

You got into a disagreement with classmates about your background.

Disagreements and misunderstandings happen, but it's important to communicate and learn from each other's perspectives.

Skip 1 turn.

You got a part-time job after school.

Great work! This will help you support your family.

Collect 1 Mzansi Point.

Your team won a soccer tournament!

Sports can help bring us all together! No matter what your nationality and culture is, we can all wear the same jersey!

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

There's a family emergency - you have to miss school for a week.

Family support is important for everyone. Those who live far away from our families may face extra challenges in life.

Sorry, skip a turn.



You volunteered at a soup kitchen and made new friends.

Volunteering helps build a sense of community and teaches us about people from different backgrounds.

Gain 2 Mzansi Points.

You shared your culture at a school event and people loved it!

Sharing our cultures helps build mutual respect and understanding.

Move forward 2 squares.

You helped a classmate study for next week's test.

Helping others connects us to the community and makes the world better for everyone.

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

You go to the clinic but it takes the whole day to see a doctor.

Some people claim that the long lines in our clinics are because people from other countries are overloading the system. But the real causes are underfunding and staff shortages affecting everyone.

Sorry, go back 1 square!

You applied for a job but didn't get it.

There's a myth that foreigners are taking all the jobs. But the truth is, unemployment is a challenge for everyone, no matter where they come from. And research shows that one immigrant creates two jobs for South Africans!

Go back 1 square.

You got tricked by a fake WhatsApp message saying foreigners are spreading a new disease.

Spreading false information hurts everyone by making it harder to know what is true. Don't fall for messages that make scary claims about people who are different from you.

Go back 1 square.

You got offered a job at a local shop!

Finding a job is a challenge for many people in South Africa, especially if you speak a different language or don't have proof of your qualifications.

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

Someone broke into your house 🕵️

Your granny says all the crime is being done by people from a certain country, but you remind her that crime affects everyone, no matter where they came from.

Well done for not scapegoating foreigners!

Collect 1 Mzansi Point.

You get tricked by a fake message saying that a foreign national was caught stealing.

Spreading false information can create distrust and lead to violence that destroys facilities in our communities. Be careful of messages making scary claims about groups of people.

Skip a turn.

You join a new community group to promote public safety

Crime is a challenge for everyone, but working together makes us all safer!

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

You start a rumour about a classmate from a different language group.

Oh no! Targeting someone because of their culture is against the spirit of Ubuntu, and can divide us instead of uniting.

Sorry -- all players except for you can collect 1 Mzansi Point.

You get tricked by a fake message blaming foreigners for SA's crime.

Watch out for messages that make scary claims about people from other cultures or countries.

All players except for you can collect 1 Mzansi Point.



**You stopped a bully
from bothering
another learner!**

Standing up for others, especially people who are different from us, is part of the African value of Ubuntu.

Gain 2 Mzansi Points!

**You stopped your
tjommie from sharing
a fake post on social
media.**

Watch out for messages that make scary claims, or try to create fear or anger about people who are from a different culture or country.

Gain 1 Mzansi point, and give 1 Mzansi Point to another player.

**You shared your chips
with a new classmate
from a different
country**

Standing up for others, especially people who are different from us, is part of the African value of Ubuntu.

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

**Your uncle shares some
fake news over WhatsApp**

Be careful of posts that use emotional language or make scary claims. This is sometimes a trick to make us angry about something or to get lots of people to share false information.

You didn't fall for it. Collect 1 Mzansi Point!

**You get a letter
from a secret
admirer!**

Collect 1 Mzansi Point.

**You get a
valentine's card
from your crush!**

Collect 1 Mzansi Point.

**Your dance group
wins a local talent
competition!**

Music and dance can help unite us across different cultures and backgrounds. Well done!

Gain 1 Mzansi Point, and give 1 Mzansi Point to one other player with the best dance moves.

**Someone started a
fire at your school**

Community leaders try to blame the fire on foreigners in your area. Watch out for people who try to put blame and suspicion on other cultures and nationalities. This is called 'scapegoating' and is often used to try to divide us.

Go back 1 square.

**You get tricked by a fake
message claiming that
spaza shop food is toxic.**

Beware of messages that use scary language to make you fearful or angry. This can be a tactic to spread false information.

All players except for you can collect 1 Mzansi Point.

**You make friends with a
new classmate -- from a
different country!**

Making someone feel welcome – especially if they have a different culture or language – is part of the African value of Ubuntu!

Gain 2 Mzansi Points!

**You learn about Pan-
Africanism!**

Pan-Africanism is the idea that we should unite people from across Africa, and take pride in our diverse cultures.

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

**You are selected to join a
special school outing to
the local university.**

Your hard work at school is paying off. Well done!

Move forward 1 square.

A new learner joins your class from another country.

They don't have any textbooks yet but you offer to share yours for now

Collect 1 Mzansi Point!

You get tricked by a fake message saying that "foreigners have overrun the country."

Did you know that less than 5% of South Africa's population comes from another country? Watch out for social media posts that spread false information about foreign nationals in South Africa!

Sorry! All players except for you can collect 1 Mzansi Point.

Your singing group wins a choir competition!

Music can build a bridge across different cultures and backgrounds. Well done!

Gain 1 Mzansi Point.

Some older learners try to bully you, but a classmate steps in to stop them.

It means so much when people stand up to stop bullying. This is the spirit of Ubuntu!

Collect 1 Mzansi Point and give it to another player.

Your friend tries to share fake news over WhatsApp accusing foreigners of taking jobs.

You remind them not to fall for posts that use emotional language or make scary claims. This is a trick to make us angry about something or to get lots of people to share false information

Gain 1 Mzansi point.

You get a love letter!

Collect 1 Mzansi Point.

A local councillor sends out threats to foreign-owned businesses :(

Some of the shops are closed this week because the shopkeepers are afraid they will be targeted.

Sorry, it's not your fault but you have to go back 1 square.

You and your friend learn how to say "Hello" in other African languages.

Sawubona (isiZulu)
Dumela (Sesotho)
Jambo (Swahili)
Mbote (Lingala)
See tahay (Somali)

Great work!

Collect 1 Mzansi Point for yourself, and give 1 Mzansi Point to one other player!

You and your friend stop some learners from bullying one of the younger children.

Well done – that is the spirit of Ubuntu!

Collect 1 Mzansi Point for yourself, and give 1 Mzansi Point to another player!

Oh no!

Someone stole your school bag!

Luckily some classmates share their books with you, so you won't fall too far behind.

But sadly you have to skip a turn. Sorry!

A message goes viral on WhatsApp claiming that spaza shop food has been poisoned.

But you don't get tricked! You know to be careful of messages that use scary language to make you fearful or angry.

Collect 1 Mzansi Point

The school principle gives you an award for community service.

Your hard work at school is paying off. Well done!

Move forward 1 square.

You are Brenda.

Your family came to South Africa from the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) to escape conflict in your home country.

You are Dawie.

Your family recently moved to the city as there are no jobs in your home province.

You are Nathi.

You have lived in this location your whole life.

You are Sthe.

Your mother sent you from Zimbabwe to come stay with your brother in South Africa in search of a better life.

You are Litha.

You were sent to come stay with your Granny in the city to attend a better school.

You are Jessica.

Your family moved here before you were born.

ORIGIN

Take a card at the start of the game to find out
how your story begins.

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Soccer star!

As a professional footballer, you lead the South African team to win the African Cup of Nations, becoming a unifying symbol of African pride.

Cricket player!

Your cricket skills earn you a place on the national team, becoming a celebrated athlete and mentor to other young South Africans.

Business leader!

You launch a successful restaurant chain that offers delicious food from across the continent, bringing people together from all different backgrounds.

Professor!

As a respected scientist, your research helps improve farming across Southern Africa, getting more food on people's plates across South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and beyond.

Successful author!

Your acclaimed novels win international literary prizes and are translated into many African languages.

Community leader!

Your leadership in the community helps bridge cultural divides, creating successful youth programmes that bring together people from all walks of life and helping build a better life for everyone.

Tech entrepreneur!

Your innovative tech startup creates new apps that become instant hits, attracting international investors and creating jobs for local youth across the African continent.

Nurse!

All your studying and hard work pay off, and you become a skilled nurse. Your knowledge, patience, and caring nature helps keep the community healthy, and contributes towards building a better South Africa.

Teacher!

You decide to turn your passion for helping others into a career, and you study to become a teacher. You pass on all the life lessons you've learned to the next generation, inspiring young people to work together despite their differences, and build a better South Africa where everyone feels welcome.

FUTURE

Take a card when you finish the game to find out what your.Mzansi future could be

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