

Now Is the time by Mzwakhe Mbuli, the South African people's poet  
This poem became the theme song of the first free election in South Africa  
in 1994

Now is the time to climb up the Mountain and reason against heaven  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to reduce the barren swell of nature reamed by the miserable tyrant  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to commence the litany of hope  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to disentangle vilification that affects the planet with apartheid  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to send the remains of fascism back to the grave  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to give mer roses not when I'm in the grave  
to give them to me while my heart beats to give them today  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to break the chains of slavery  
Now is the time to strike them into the grave  
Now is the time to keep struggling to defy actions against preconceived prejudice  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to break up the pillars of narcissism  
Now is the time  
Now is the time to vote  
Now is the time  
Yes, it is the time

Ask students:

What is now the time for in your life: personal, city, state , nation or global?

Write what they say on the board

Read that poem going to Now is the Tme when the rhythm feels right. and ending with: Yes, This is the time!

The giraffe activity

This is the activity of being a giraffe ( someone who sticks her/his neck out)

Know any giraffes? Know of any? What did they do?

Follow with the question: Is there anything we've studied or that you know about that you want o act on? How /What could be effective?

What is now the time for what you'd like to help for your students?