

Meet Abraham Tembo



Abraham Tembo

Profile

Name	Abraham Tembo
Birthday	July 11, 2005
Birth Place	Lusaka, Zambia
Area of Residence	Old Ng'ombe
Grandfather's Name	Steven Tembo
Grandfather's Profession	Retired Gardener
Grandmother's Name	Akelida Tembo
Grandmother's Profession	Retired Church Founder
Primary School	Pakachele Primary School
2019 Grade Level	Grade 8
Secondary School	Chalo Trust School

Abraham's Family

Abraham lives with his grandfather and grandmother, his oldest uncle, his mother, his younger siblings and his younger cousins in Old Ng'ombe. His grandparents were originally born in Petaoke, in the Eastern region of Zambia. They moved to Lusaka in search of better healthcare. Together, they had six children, the fourth of whom is Peggy Tembo, Abraham's mother. Peggy has a mental health disorder that prevents her from working. When Abraham's grandparents were still able to work, his grandfather was a gardener and his grandmother was a housewife who helped found a church in Old Ng'ombe. They are partially supported by their second son, Steve Tembo, who works in Mutendere as a builder.

When the staff of Kucetekela Foundation visited Abraham's home to interview his family, Abraham was not only attentive to each of the questions asked, but he also played an active role in helping to translate for his grandparents. In addition, he provided context that gave more color to the illustration of the Tembo family's life and background.

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Abraham's Educational Background

Abraham attended primary school at Pakachele Primary. He normally passes numbers one to seven in class. He is a prefect at school, and his responsibilities include writing noisemakers and tending to the class when the teacher is absent. Abraham's favorite subject is science, and in his group interview, he gave a detailed description of the parts of a flower, including making an anatomically correct diagram. Abraham also enjoys studying English, because it helps make him a better speaker. He also enjoys social studies, because he knows that the study of that subject will one day make him a better lawyer.

Abraham's Extracurricular Interests

When he's not studying, Abraham enjoys playing football in his community and reciting poetry at school. On Independence Day in 2017, he won an award for performing a poem about Zambia's past presidents and their accomplishments. He also learns art from a man in his community who teaches art lessons. Abraham clearly learns this skill well, demonstrating his artistry in the group interview at Pakachele as he drew a diagram of a flower.

Abraham's Thoughts

During the home interviews, Abraham talked about the way that he loves being the eldest in his family. He enjoys the responsibility of being the eldest and strives to set a positive example for his younger siblings and cousins. One day, he hopes to establish himself such that he can support all those younger than him in his family in completing their educations.

Abraham wants to be a lawyer when he grows up and begins working. He cites an interest in bringing justice to Zambia in order to keep the peace as a motivating factor. If he isn't selected for a scholarship, he is deeply committed to finishing his secondary education, saying that he will take up odd jobs to pay his school fees if he must.