



Learie Constantine

Symbol Book

Sir Learie Constantine - Symbol

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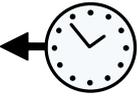
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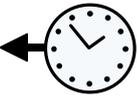
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 Sir Learie Constantine
 
 was born
 

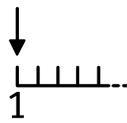
 in Trinidad
 
 in 1901.

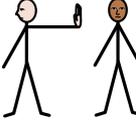
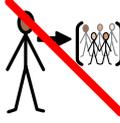

 His
 
 father
 
 was
 the
 
 grandson
 of
 
 slaves.

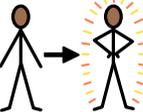

 His
 
 mother
 
 was
 the
 
 daughter
 of
 
 slaves.

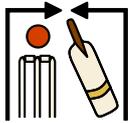

 Learie
 
 enjoyed
 
 playing cricket
 
 growing up.

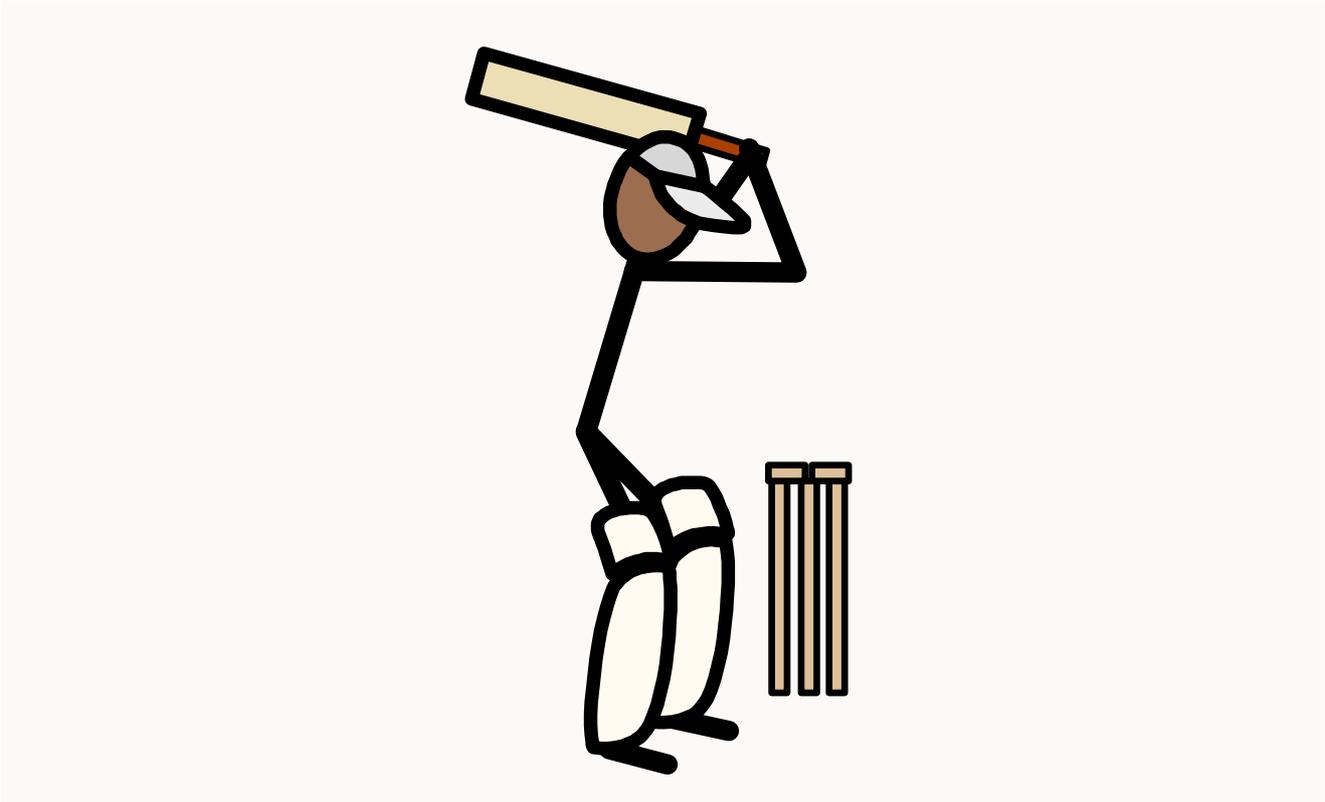


   =   
Learie first worked as a clerk for a law firm.

    
There was much racial discrimination at the time.

    
Very few black people could become solicitors.

1921    
In 1921 Learie was selected to play for Trinidad.



Learie

was



picked

for the



West Indies



cricket



team.



He

came to England



with



them

in

1923

1923.



Learie

was a

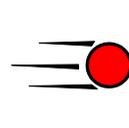


powerful

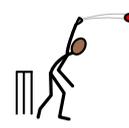
batsman



and a



fast



bowler.



He

was a



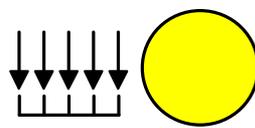
great



fielder

+

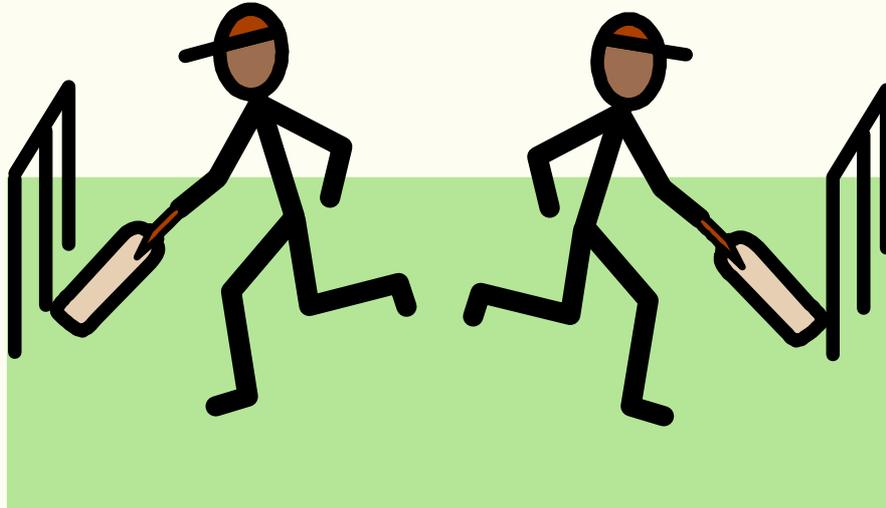
and



all-round



player.



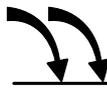
Learie



toured



England



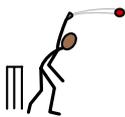
again

1928

in 1928.



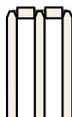
He



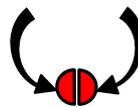
took

100

100



wickets



and made

1000

1000



runs.



He



was offered

a



job

in



English



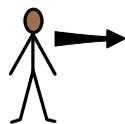
professional



cricket.



Learie



joined



Nelson

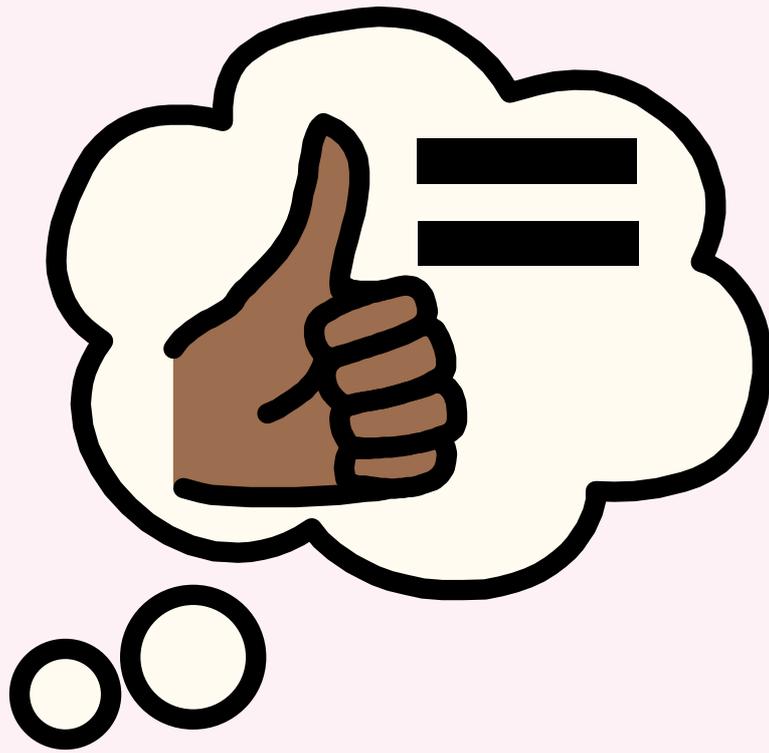
in the



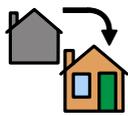
Lancashire



League.



Learie



moved

to



Lancashire

with his

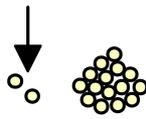


family.



Black people

were



rare

in the



area

at the



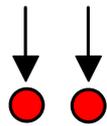
time.



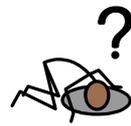
Learie



experienced



both



curiosity

and



hostility.



He



earned

the



respect

of the



local



people.



During



the war



Learie



worked



for the government.



He



looked after



the welfare



of Caribbean



workers.



Learie



negotiated



with



employers

and



trade unions.



He



fought

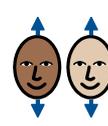


discrimination

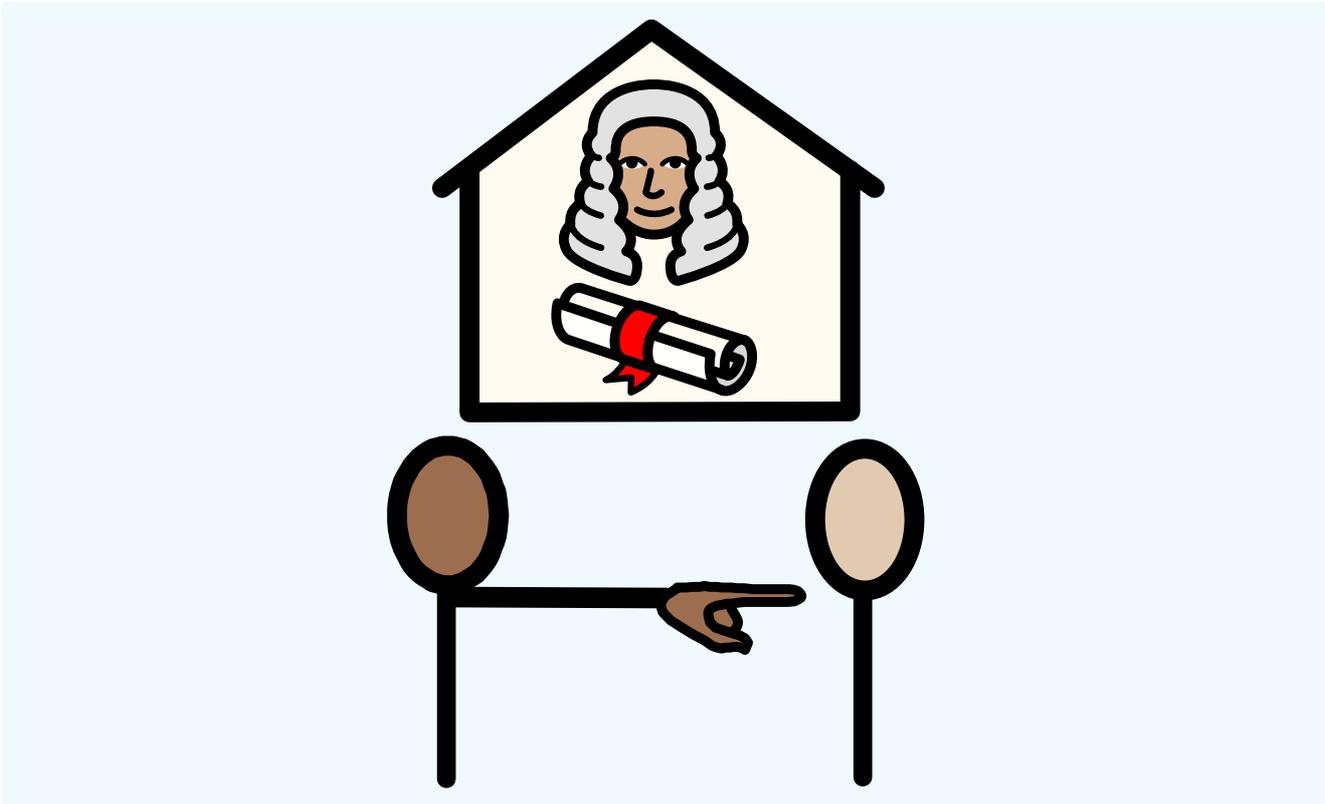
to get



black people



accepted.

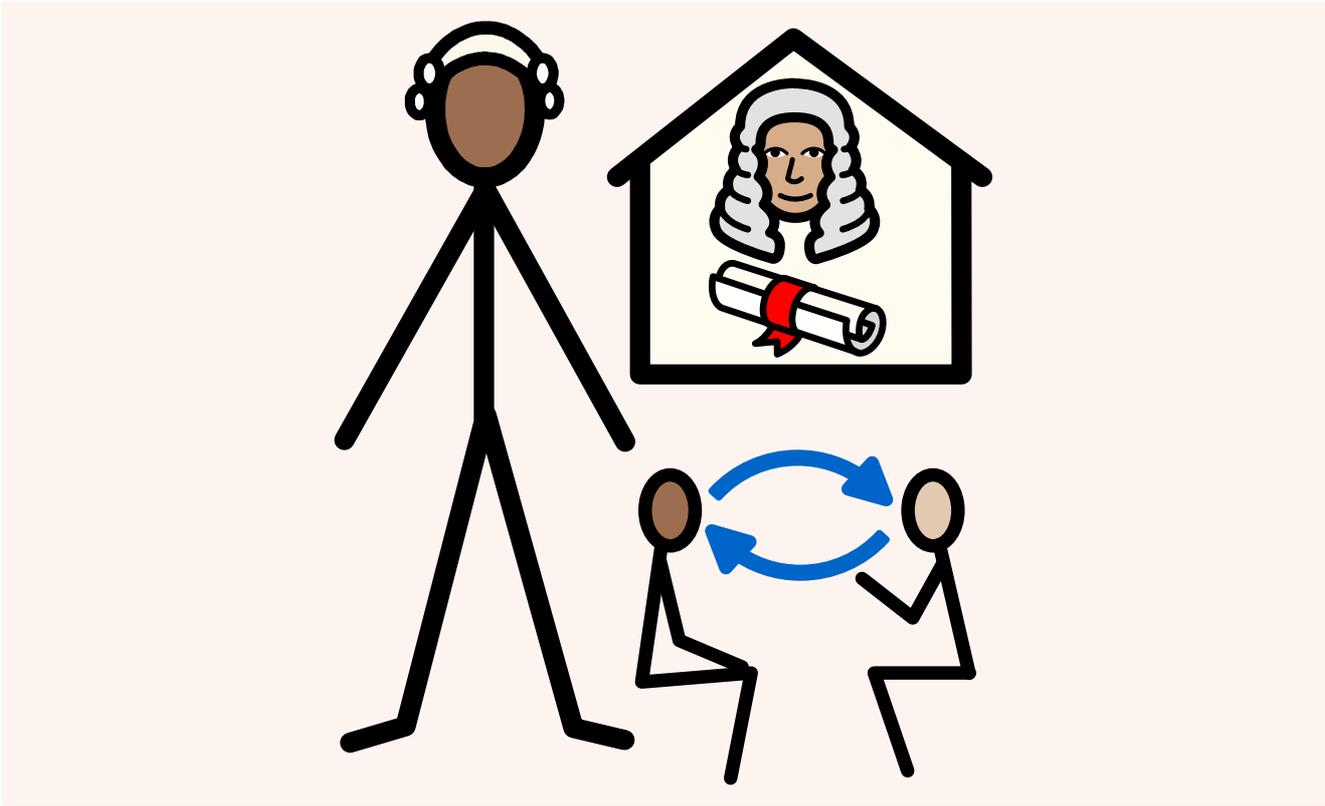


In 1943 Learie booked rooms at a London hotel.

The hotel refused him rooms because of his race.

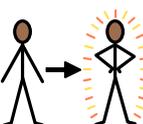
Learie sued the hotel and won.

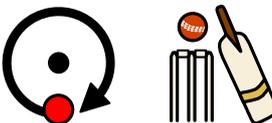
He was supported by the public and the government.

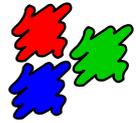
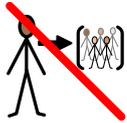


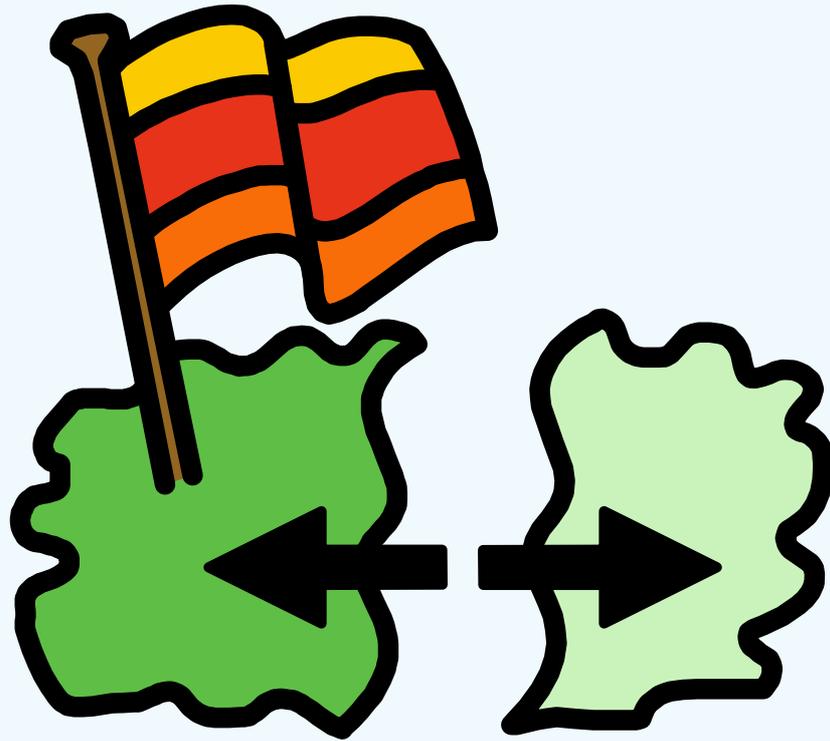


 and
 
 =
 
 a barrister.


 became
 
 a respected
 
 sports
 
 commentator.


 wrote
 
 several
 
 books
 
 about
 
 cricket.

In
 
 "Colour
 
 Bar"
 
 he
 
 wrote
 
 about
 
 discrimination.

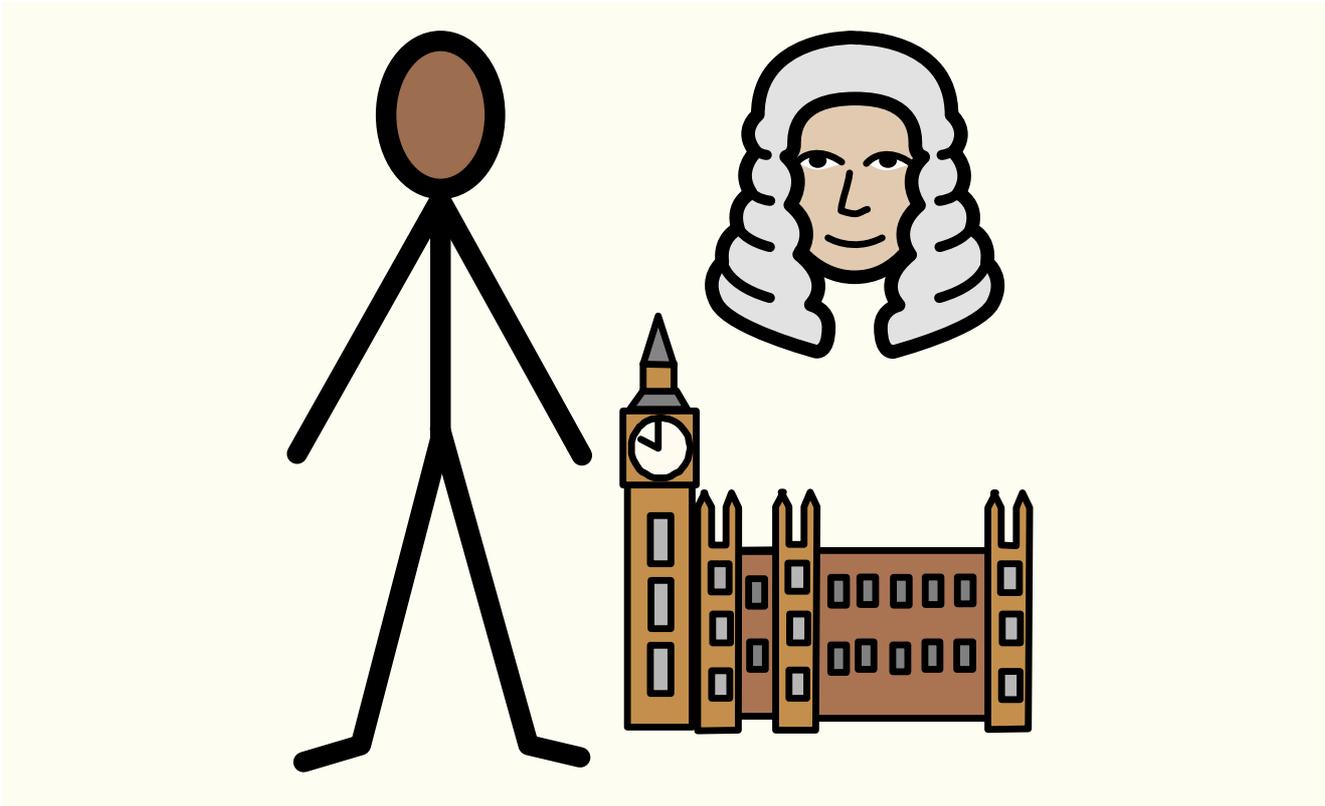


1954
In 1954 Learie returned home to Trinidad.

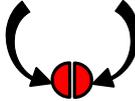
He became a minister in the Trinidad government.

He became High Commissioner to London in 1961.

He helped secure Trinidad's independence in 1962.





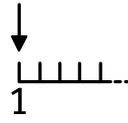
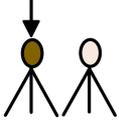






In 1969 Learie was made a life peer in the Lords.





He was the first black person in the House of Lords.








Sir Learie Constantine died in London in 1971.









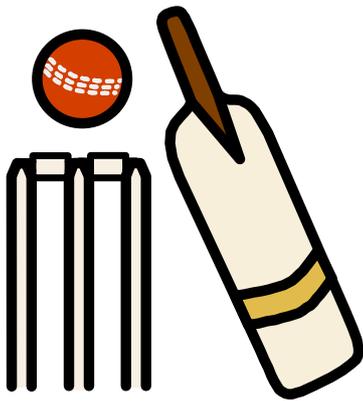
He was given a state funeral in Trinidad.



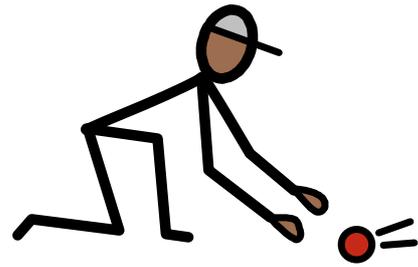
Learie
Constantine



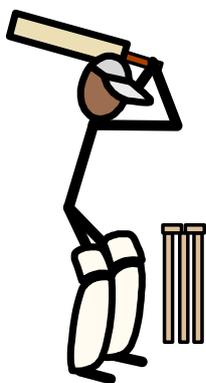
Trinidad



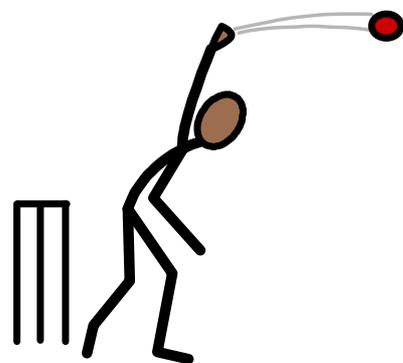
cricket



fielder



batsman



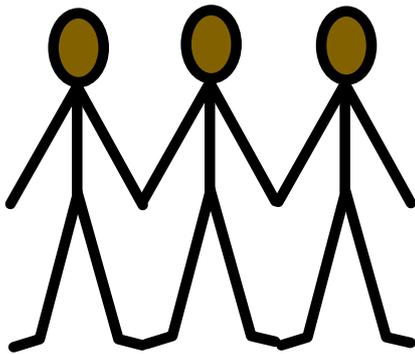
bowler



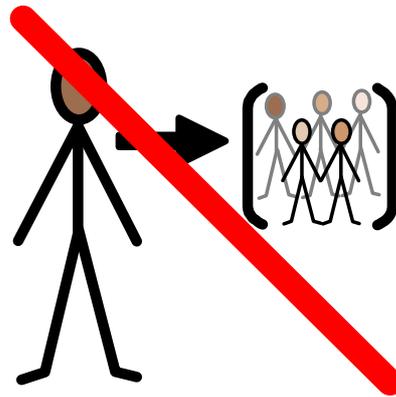
West Indies



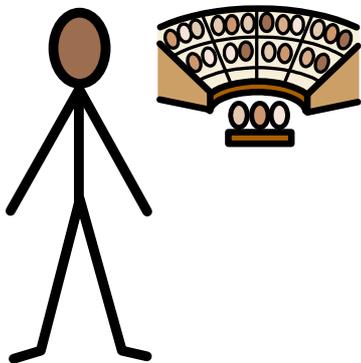
Lancashire



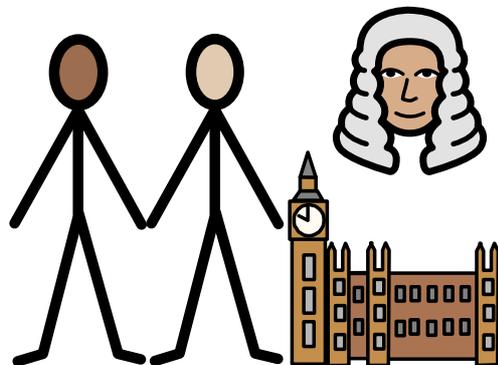
black people



discrimination



High
Commissioner



House of Lords