Before viewing the film:
Were you educated in public schools? Private schools? Home-schooled?

How has your education shaped who you are today?

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During the film:
Comprehension Questions

1. After being liberated from Italy, what were Haile Selassie’s top priorities for Ethiopia?

2. In the film, former students from Selassie’s schools reflect upon their childhood. How do they describe their experience in the schools?
3. How did Selassie begin rebuilding the military?

4. Fitawrari Amede Lemma (a former parliamentarian) reflects upon Mrs. Senedu, one of two female parliamentarians during Selassie’s rule. What does he say about her?

5. A. What happens when the Emperor is visiting Brazil?

   B. How does he respond?

6. Why did some of the people that had been educated in Selassie’s school become frustrated with the Emperor?

7. When Kwame Nkrumah visited Ethiopia, what about him surprised many Ethiopians?

8. Why did Selassie feel that Ethiopia had isolated itself from Africa?
9. What did Selassie do to try to create better connections with other African nations?

10. What did Selassie want to build to help stimulate Ethiopia’s economy?

11. After a loan for the project had been offered by the World Bank, Selassie needed members of his deputy councils to approve and accept the loan. What happened?

12. The film introduces some additional challenges faced in Ethiopia: land tenure, miniskirts, rural impoverishment. Pick one and briefly describe the problem and how Selassie responded.

13. How does Selassie’s rule end?

Post-viewing Discussion Questions:

1. Why was education of utmost importance to Selassie? Do you agree or disagree with Selassie’s stance? Why or why not?

2. In what ways can education systems impact a nation?

3. How do officials in your own country view the role of education? How does this compare to Selassie’s view?