

**Ordinary Women End Extraordinary Violence – Teacher’s Answer Key:**

1. The Liberian women decided to try to end the conflict in their country once and for all. Dressed all in white, hundreds of them sat by the roadside, and decided to protest against violence. The excellent aim they were pursuing was stopping the violence and achieving peace in their country.
2. Achieving peace in Liberia was only possible because a critical group of people worked together in practice of solidarity to achieve an excellent aim, which was peace. One person can only do so much, but if everyone works together, then great things are possible on a larger scale. The Liberian women understood that and joined forces in peaceful protests to end violence in their country. Finally, through persistence and determination they achieved their goal – a peace deal between opposing sides.
3. This example shows that pursuing and achieving excellence on a group level is not just reserved for extraordinary individuals, but that ordinary people can achieve excellent things if they work together. Ordinary Liberian women, and not the country’s leaders and warlords, managed to achieve precisely this. As Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf who became Liberia’s president, noted: “It was ordinary Liberians who reclaimed the country and demanded peace.”