

Introduction and Chapter 1: Leah's Place

Section A: Characters

Look at page 5 and 6. Who are these women in the story?









Section B: Warm Up

Answer the following questions.



- What do you know about South Africa?
- Where are the Whites originally from?
- What problems exist/existed in South Africa?
- What is Apartheid?
- What kind of work do the 'Black' Africans do?

Section C: Vocabulary

Match the word on the left with its meaning on the right.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. _____Township | (a) look at someone with anger |
| 2. _____Shadow (Shadows) | (b) showing a sign of intelligence |
| 3. _____Ache (aching) | (c) someone who is friendly and helpful |
| 4. _____Good-natured | (d) pain |
| 5. _____Sharp eyes | (e) shade; silhouette |
| 6. _____Glare (Glared) | (f) community |
| 7. _____Puppy | (g) ruin |
| 8. _____Snarl (Snarled) | (h) to make an angry noise |
| 9. _____Spoil | (i) grin |
| 10. _____Smile | (j) a baby dog; also an expression to say someone is not grown up |

Section D: Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Write your answer in full sentences.

1. Where does this story take place?
2. Where is Xuma from?
3. Who is Leah?
4. Who is Eliza?
5. Who is Maisy?
6. Describe the clothes Xuma was wearing in chapter one.
7. What were the people in the house doing?
8. What does Leah do to make money?
9. What kind of work is Xuma looking for?
10. Who is Leah's man?

Unit 2: The Way of the City

Section A: Warm Up

Answer the following questions.



- Have you ever been in a fight? Why?
(This question may be personal, so you don't have to answer in class).
- How does alcohol *affect* people?
- What do you think about change?
- What do you think about the police?

Section B: Description

Please describe the two women...

| | |
|------|--|
| Lena | |
| Liz | |

Section B: Fill in the blanks

Please fill in the blanks and say what the following is about...

1. Her body was _____ ing and _____ was running out of her mouth, down the face and onto her dress.
2. Her face became _____ , like the night _____ when she talked about her man.
3. Some went to the _____ , some went for a _____ in the park.
4. A _____ came straight at Xuma. Xuma _____ still. The policeman his stick and _____ Xuma on the _____

What is the moral of the story about, 'The Traditional Way' and 'The Way of the City'...?

Section C: Vocabulary and Expressions

Please write down your understanding of the following vocabulary and expressions...

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shouting old battle cries | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking drunkenly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> His heart was heavy | <input type="checkbox"/> A national half holiday |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The woman sobbed | <input type="checkbox"/> Bastard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lena's getting the horrors | <input type="checkbox"/> Collapsed in a heap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal traditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured man and his black wife |

Section D: Points of Understanding

Please answer the questions from page 84 for Chapter 2

Section E: Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Write your answer in full sentences.

1. What was strange when Xuma woke up?
2. What does Lena look like?
3. What does Drunk Liz look like?
4. What were they doing together?
5. What does 'Lena's getting the horrors' mean?
6. What is the Traditional Way?
7. What is the City Way?
8. Describe the township on Saturday.
9. What made Joseph run?
10. What did the policeman do to Xuma and what did Xuma do to the policeman?

Unit 3: Eliza**Section A: Warm Up**

Answer the following questions.



- What is a “bribe”?
- What do you prefer in a boyfriend/girlfriend, personality or looks?
- What are you afraid of?

Section B: Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Write your answer in full sentences.

1. What was the township like on Saturday? What did the people want to do?
2. How come Xuma had a difficult time getting back to Leah’s house?
3. What did Xuma promised Daddy if he took him back to Leah’s place?
4. Why did Leah pay the policeman? How much did she pay him?
5. What does Eliza look like?
6. Where did Eliza take Xuma?
7. What did Xuma know about his relationship with Eliza after he tried to kiss her?
8. Who attacked Xuma?
9. Who is J.P. Williamson?
10. What did Leah say about Eliza’s desires?

Unit 4: Xuma the Mine Boy**Section A: Warm Up**

Answer the following questions.

- Can you remember a time when you started work for the first time? How did you feel?
- At work or school, what kinds of things are you good at/bad at?
- Has anyone helped you when you couldn't do something? Please explain...

Section B: Finish these sentences

Finish these sentences and circle the word that helps connect the two 'clauses'(ideas)...

1. When Johannes was drunk...
2. But, when Johannes was sober...
3. I want to understand...
4. The white men don't like...
5. Just as the sun rose...
6. He was tall and as broad as Johannes...
7. The Induna searched Xuma...
8. Xuma followed Johannes to...
9. Xuma realized that if...
10. There was no laughter in them as...
11. The look in the eyes of the men was like....
12. The sun was low in the sky when....

Section C: Summarize

In one sentence (in your own words, if possible), please summarize the following paragraphs that begin with...

- Johannes walked over to the cage waiting to go underground....

- But worst of all the look in the eyes of the black men and coloured men who worked with him.

- At the end of the day, the pile of sand at the bottom was the same size as it had been in the morning...

Section D: True/False

Please check (✓) either true or false to the following

1. The Indunas were the Mine Policemen..... True False

2. Paddy’s indaba with Xuma was that Xuma would take over from Paddy in the Mine..... True False

3. The word Kaffir is an insulting word used by blacks when speaking about whites..... True False

Section E: Vocabulary and Expressions

Please write down your understanding of the following vocabulary and expressions...

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> They live in the compound | <input type="checkbox"/> He’s going to be the Red One’s boss boy. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> They’re not of the city | <input type="checkbox"/> But tomorrow you will not look as much |
| <input type="checkbox"/> As always | <input type="checkbox"/> and you will be less afraid. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You’re sober! | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I just wanted to see if you’re a man. | |

Section F: Language

Look at the following language. Do you understand the images created? Are there any examples that you have seen in this book?

Metaphor/Simile (A metaphor or a simile is an exaggerated or imaginative use of language)

*“The look in the eyes of the men was like the look in the eyes of sheep,
which did not know where to run when a dog barked at them.”*

“Are we not all sheep that talk?”

Comparison

“As strong as an ox”

Section F: Points of Understanding

Please answer the questions from page 85 for Chapter 4

Chapter 5: Maisy and Eliza**Section A: Warm Up**

Answer the following question.

- Have you ever been torn between two things that you really want to do?

Section B: Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Write your answer in full sentences.

1. Where did Johannes and Xuma get the whisky?
2. Leah explained about life in the city to Xuma. What did she say?
3. Describe Maisy.
4. What does Lena look like when she's sober?
5. Xuma describes people in his life. Write what he thinks about each person.
 - Daddy:
 - Johannes:
 - Ma Plank:
 - Lena:
 - Eliza:
6. What did Maisy say about Eliza to Xuma?
7. What did Eliza say about her feelings towards Xuma?
8. What did Eliza say about her problem? What is her problem?

Unit 6: The Red One's Woman**Section A: Synonyms in Context**

Please try and find a synonym for the following bold face word
(Make sure that it can be used in the same sentence in the same way).

1. But because he was **afraid** of seeing Eliza, he would not go.

synonym =

2. His shoes were thin and soon his feet **ached** with the cold.

synonym =

3. It was **difficult** to move among them.

synonym =

4. Everyone respected him underground.

synonym =

5. Eliza and I are the **same** inside.

synonym =

6. She went on speaking slowly and **carefully**.

synonym =

7. They have decided who is a **good**¹ native and what is **good**² for him.

Synonym¹ =

Synonym² =

Section B: Comprehension Check

Please circle the correct answer below

1. Xuma did not go back to Leah's house because...

- (a) He didn't want Leah to see him.
- (b) He thought that the police would come chasing him there.
- (c) He was scared to see Eliza.
- (d) The nights were bitterly cold.

2. The only place Xuma felt comfortable was underground in the mines. This was because...

- (a) He always had company, and didn't feel lonely.
- (b) He was the master, and everyone respected him.
- (c) There was always some alcohol hidden down there.
- (d) He couldn't make friends with anyone above ground.

3. The white man and the Xuma cannot be friends because...

- (a) They live together.
- (b) Xuma didn't want to be or have anything to do with the white man things.
- (c) The white man isn't allowed to have black friends.
- (d) Other black people would envy Xuma.

4. Xuma felt uncomfortable when the food came in...

- (a) He was frightened about etiquette.
- (b) He didn't want to eat with the white man
- (c) He thought that he may be caught by the police.
- (d) He had never eaten a meal with white people.

5. Di believes this about liberal or progressive people...

- (a) That they think they know about the natives, but don't really.
- (b) That they know what a real native is.
- (c) That they don't have any idea about natives.
- (d) That they all want to be friends with natives.

6. After eating with the white people, Xuma...

- (a) Knew what Eliza wanted
- (b) Felt terrible toward the white man
- (c) Hated going back to the Malay Camp
- (d) Wanted to drink to drown his sorrows
(because he couldn't give Eliza all that she wanted).

Unit 7: At Leah's Place Again**Section A: Comprehension Questions**

Answer the following questions. Write your answer in full sentences.

1. The author describes Malay Camp. What is Malay Camp like?

2. What was Daddy like when he was young?

3. Describe how each person reacts to Xuma when they came back from the movie.
 - Leah:

 - Eliza:

 - Maisy:

4. Why is Leah upset in this chapter?

5. What story did Eliza read to Xuma?

6. How does Eliza and Xuma feel about each other?

Section B: Points of Understanding

Please look to page 85 and 86 and try to answer the questions in the points for understanding section.

Unit 8: The Trip to Hoopvlei**Section A: Observations**

Please write down a few comments about your observations on the following topics...

1. The 'cold understanding' between Xuma and Eliza?
2. The discovery that someone is betraying Leah, and the discussion about what to do about it.
3. The change in relationship between Xuma and Maisy.

Section B: Discussion

Please discuss the following questions in groups.

In your opinion

1. What significance does sleeping with Xuma have on Eliza?
2. What can you tell about Maisy's character from the way she dealt with things in this chapter?
3. What realizations (understandings) does Xuma have in this chapter?
4. How does Leah deal with the knowledge that someone is betraying her? Do you think it is a wise course of action (the right thing to do)?

Unit 10: Eliza and Xuma**Section A: Vocabulary and Expressions**

Please write down your understanding of the following vocabulary and expressions...

- Eliza he loved and *longed for*
- The crowd *roared* with *delight*
- There was a *roar of applause...*
- So they have come together at last - *the dog and the bitch*.
- It is the *madness of the city* that is in me.

Section B: Comprehension Questions

Please answer the following questions using your knowledge of the chapter.

1. What did Xuma know for certain?
2. Please describe the differences between Eliza and Maisy as seen by Xuma..
3. Why did Maisy get angry while she was talking with Xuma?
4. What do you understand from the conversation between Eliza and Xuma?
5. What did Maisy understand immediately?
6. What did Leah tell Xuma about? (Hint: Eliza)
7. What do we learn about Eliza from their conversation (Eliza and Xuma)?

Section C: Points of Understanding

Please answer the questions from page 87 for Chapter 10

Section D: Questions to ponder

Think about the following questions. Discuss.

- Why is it that when you love a person there is nothing that you can do about it?
- Is it good that you come to me only when she chases you away?
- If a man loves a woman and she does not love him, why is that bad?

Unit 11: Dladla is Dead**Section A: Comprehension Questions**

Please answer the following questions using your knowledge of the chapter.



1. What did Xuma hear in his sleep?
2. Who was in his room when he woke up?
3. What did this person make for Xuma to eat?
4. Why did Xuma not ask this person to come and live with him?
5. What kind of things does Xuma have in his room?
6. How was Dladla killed?
7. Who else did Dladla betray?
8. Who came to take Leah away?
9. When did Leah come back home?
10. Who killed Dladla?

Unit 12: The Death of a Good Man**Section A: Warm up**

Please think about the following questions.



- What do you think about Daddy?
- Please describe what life was like for Xuma and Eliza over the next couple of days...
- What significance do you think Xuma's refusal to stay has in the future?

Section B: Comprehension and Vocabulary Check

Please circle the correct answer below

1. The injuries that Daddy received were...

- (a) minor
- (b) considerable
- (c) fatal
- (d) Insignificant

2. The night that Daddy passed away, Leah became...

- (a) sober
- (b) intoxicated
- (c) inebriated
- (d) both (b) & (c)

3. That night Eliza asked Xuma to stay with her the night. Xuma...

- (a) hung around all night
- (b) Remained with her
- (c) departed for the night shift
- (d) stayed away from work for Eliza

Section C: True/False

Please check (√) either true or false to the following

1. Maisy probably still wanted Xuma..... True False
2. It was Eliza that told Xuma about Daddy's accident..... True False
3. Leah's advice to Xuma was to go on living..... True False

Section A: Comprehension Questions

Please answer the following questions using your knowledge of the chapter.

1. What did Xuma do all day after finding out Eliza has gone?
2. Maisy wanted to invite Xuma to where?
3. What did Leah want Xuma to do to help him forget Eliza?
4. How does Leah feel about Eliza?
5. How long did Xuma walk?
6. Where did Xuma go to forget Eliza?
7. Where did Xuma and Leah walk to and why?
8. When will the police come to search for beer?
9. What did Maisy say about her feelings towards Xuma and Eliza?
10. What happened to Leah at the end of this chapter?

Section B: Points of Understanding

Please answer the questions from page 87 for Chapter 12

Unit 15: Paddy Tries to Understand**Section A: Things to think about**

Think about the following questions and be prepared to discuss in class.

1. 'The world goes on' What does Xuma mean by this?
2. What contradiction did the young boy outside the courthouse point out in Xuma's mind?
3. Xuma is angry at Paddy. From Xuma's questions, what do you think he is telling Paddy?
4. What is the difference between being a black/white man and being a man?
5. How could Xuma tell that Paddy was a good man?
6. According to Xuma, if Paddy's words were true, what would happen in reality?

Unit 16: 'We are men'

1. What effect did Paddy's words have on Xuma?
2. Why were the engineer's words so cold?
3. What was the reason for the strike?
4. Why does Xuma have to go back?
5. How did Xuma know that Maisy really loved him?

Question to ponder

Think about the following question

- Is the ending of this story positive or negative? What do you think?

Chapter 15 and 16**Section A: Comprehension Questions**

Please answer the following questions using your knowledge of the chapter.

1. How long will Leah be in jail?
2. List the things a black man can't do or have to do in South Africa?
3. What did Paddy say about himself?
4. What did Xuma imagine his world would be like if he wasn't black or white?
5. What kind of dream did Xuma have after talking to Paddy?
6. What kind of accident happened at the mine?
7. Who died?
8. Who stood with the mine boys?
9. Why will Xuma go to the police?

Section B: Points of Understanding

Please answer the questions from page 88 for Chapter 15 & 16