

MEMORANDUM

Note to the teacher: The following are only suggested answers. The learners may come up with many other ideas. It is most important that they are able to give reasons for their answers.

Answering short questions

Chapter 1

- 1 a Miss Mousie ✓ and Mr Mouth. ✓ (2)
b Yes. Thulisa is very quiet, like a mouse. ✓ Menzi is loud and argues a lot, which means he uses his mouth a lot. ✓ (2)
- 2 It is a miracle because Thulisa's parents never agree on anything. So when they do agree on something it is like a miracle has happened. ✓ (1) [5]

Chapter 2

- 1 Thulisa wants Anita to wake up so she can play with her. ✓ (1)
- 2 She has thick braids like glossy songololos. ✓ She wears chipped nail polish. ✓ Her crafty eyes. ✓ Her mean lips. ✓ She is looking at the house as if she wants to remember it. ✓ (Any two) (2)
- 3 It is tied to thick branches with strong ropes ✓ and the seat is made from an old, hollow car tyre. ✓ (2)
- 4 Thulisa has been taught to be polite to older people, even strangers. ✓ Fetching the glass of water wouldn't take long. ✓ (2)
- 5 Stokman attacks Thulisa. ✓ Menzi comes to her rescue. ✓ (2)
- 6 She has been kidnapped or stolen. ✓ (1) [10]

Chapter 3

- 1 A five rand coin (commemorating Nelson Mandela's inauguration as president in 1994), ✓ a cricket ball (which he won at a match and had been signed by Makhaya Ntini) ✓ and a faded photo of his father. ✓ (3)
- 2 No. ✓ "if he were still alive". ✓ (2)
- 3 His box of secrets disappears, or his mother finds it and doesn't give it back to him, or his mother finds it and tears the photo of his father in half. ✓ (1)
- 4 Thulisa is concerned with the theft of Baby Anita, which is very serious, ✓ while Menzi is concerned with losing his secret treasure box, which is not as serious as the loss of a baby. ✓ (2) [8]

Chapter 4

- 1 No. She pretends to be sympathetic. ✓ She just makes Thulisa feel worse. ✓ (2)
- 2 Buhle loses weight. ✓ She can't sleep (dark circles under her eyes). ✓ She keeps to herself (didn't speak to Thulisa or her parents). ✓ She no longer sings. ✓ She moves around as if in a daze. ✓ She does not take care of her appearance as much as she used to (hair, shoes and nails). ✓ (Any four) (4)
- 3 Thulisa has her priorities right. ✓ She cares more about the baby than a phone. ✓ Finding the baby means much more to her than the coolness a phone will bring. ✓ (Any two) (2) [8]

Chapter 5

- 1 Menzi has a bad relationship with his mother. ✓ He fights with her a lot. ✓ He doesn't seem to respect her. ✓ (Any one) (1)
- 2 No. Thulisa did not mean for Menzi to lose his secret box. ✓ It is Menzi's own fault. ✓ (2)
- 3 No he is not. Menzi is only helping her because he is bored and is hoping she will buy him something with her money. ✓ He does feel like he must go with Thulisa to take care of her but he doesn't understand why yet. ✓ (2) [5]

Chapter 6

- 1 Thulisa whistles by sticking her thumb and forefinger in her mouth and blowing. ✓ It is interesting because for a quiet girl she whistles loudly and like a boy. ✓ (2)
- 2 Thulisa and Menzi are testing out their whistles in the taxi rank ✓ and get reprimanded by a fat woman for irritating her. ✓ She later sits next to them in the taxi and refers to them as the Whistlers. ✓ (3) [5]

Chapter 7

- 1 She is huge. ✓ She speaks loudly. ✓ She is carrying a lot of parcels and bags. ✓ She asks lots of questions (she is inquisitive). ✓ (Any two) (2)
- 2 A suburb. ✓ Upper-class or wealthy or rich people live there. ✓ (Any one) "neatly mown grass", "long driveway", "electric security wires". ✓ (Any one quote) (2)
- 3 Songololo Woman and Stokman will recognise Menzi from the taxi ✓ and become suspicious and possibly hurt him. ✓ (2) [6]

Chapter 8

- 1 Those places are far away ✓, mysterious ✓, exciting ✓ and exotic ✓ (any one), not boring ✓, familiar and dull like her neighbourhood. ✓ (Any one) (2)
- 2 Dodo tells her mother she cannot go to the modelling audition because she had friends coming over, which was a lie, ✓ but then she pretends that Menzi and Thulisa are the friends she has been lying about and her mother believes her. ✓ (2)
- 3 Thulisa is disguised as a boy. ✓ (learners can describe what she is wearing too) (1)
- 4 Dodo's mother is unsure of her daughter having black friends ✓ and how they know each other. ✓ (2)
- 5 Dodo tells her mother that she knows them from a school outreach programme. ✓ This offends them because it makes them sound as if they are poor ✓ and need help from people such as Dodo, which they don't. ✓ (3) [10]

Chapter 9

- 1 A "black diamond" is a very rich black person who is fashionable and shops a lot. ✓ Yes it is appropriate because diamonds are expensive and the Zamanis are black. ✓ Learners may argue it isn't appropriate with good reasoning. (2)

- 2 Yes, it is his first time. ✓ “Dodo told him how...” or “he nearly fell out of the tree with surprise”. ✓ (2) [4]

Chapter 10

- 1 Money that you pay to a gang not to harm you, your business, family or possessions. ✓✓ If you pay them they will leave you alone, so you are protecting yourself that way. If you don’t pay them they will do damage to you in some way. (2)
- 2 Zuzi Zamani is paying Songololo Woman and Stokman protection money not to steal her baby to use for muti. ✓ They are blackmailing Zuzi and she has to pay them to keep them quiet. ✓ Zuzi is paying them to follow her husband because she thinks he’s having an affair. ✓ (Any two) (2)
- 3 Yes, it is surprising. ✓ Even the girls do not expect him to think of it. ✓ He doesn’t come across as that clever and so far Thulisa has been doing all the thinking with Dodo. ✓ In Chapter 4 we are told that Menzi failed some tests and didn’t hand in two assignments. So we think he is either not clever or lazy. ✓ But he does do well in English and won Best Speaker – so maybe he’s not that dumb after all! ✓ (Any one of the explanations) (2)
- 4 The security wall that is impossible to climb over ✓ and the dog that is protecting the Zamanis’ property. ✓ (2) [8]

Chapter 11

- 1 They are similar in that they are teenagers, South Africans, clever and doing good by rescuing Baby Anita. ✓✓ They are different in that Dodo is wealthier than them and lives in a suburb, while they live in a township. ✓✓ In detail: Dodo has luxurious possessions as seen when Menzi looks into her bedroom. Menzi and Thulisa don’t even have phones. Dodo also has opportunities to be a model while Thulisa and Menzi have very limited opportunities to be things like that. Dodo lives in a safe and secure environment while Thulisa and Menzi do not. (4)
- 2 She decides to carry out part of the plan on her own ✓ by getting into the Zamanis’ house to see the baby herself. ✓ (2)
- 3 Dodo waits for Zuzi to come home and flatters ✓ her by saying she wants her autograph because she’s a fan. ✓ Zuzi lets her in. (2)
- 4 Yes she is lying, because babies are usually born after the mother has been pregnant for nine months ✓ and Dodo calculates that from when the article in the magazine was published to the baby arriving is far longer than nine months ✓. So, Zuzi must be lying. (3)
- 5 Dodo wants to take a photo of the baby. ✓ (1) [12]

Chapter 12

- 1 Menzi wants to join the gang because it will make him feel accepted and important. ✓ He will get respect and money by joining the gang. ✓ (2)
- 2 Menzi can meet with the Rough Riders at the mall the next day to find out what they want him to do, which could lead to him joining them. ✓ This is a bad idea because Menzi will get into trouble as part of a gang, and may even be arrested and go to jail. ✓ He may be throwing his life away. But if he chooses to help Thulisa and stay at school, he will be a good friend

and get an education that could improve his life. ✓ (3) [5]

Chapter 13

- 1 Thulisa's mother takes her shopping ✓ to buy new jeans. ✓ (2)
- 2 Menzi has let Thulisa down ✓ by going to meet with the Rough Riders. ✓ (2) [4]

Chapter 14

- 1 The meat is used to keep the dog occupied or to distract it ✓ while they rescue the baby. (1)
- 2 If Dodo's mother came with they would not be able to carry out their plan because she would get in their way and want to know what they were doing ✓ and if she found out the truth then they wouldn't be allowed to rescue the baby. ✓ (2)
- 3 Their relationships with their mothers are very similar because they both argue with their mothers ✓ and don't like their mothers interfering in their lives or telling them what to do. ✓ (2) [5]

Chapter 15

- 1 Menzi sees Songololo Woman and Stokman approaching Zuzi's house ✓ and whistles to try to warn Thulisa and Dodo inside of this. ✓ (2)
- 2 Menzi watches Songololo Woman and Stokman enter through the open electric gate. ✓ He throws a rock to stop the gate from closing completely and so is able to get in. ✓ (2)
- 3 The dog adds tension by surprising us and creating suspense. ✓ At the end of Chapter 14 Thulisa gets baby Anita and is surprised to see the dog behind her. We are not immediately told what happens. We can only hope that the dog does not attack her. ✓ We are kept in suspense until in Chapter 15 we see Thulisa running towards Menzi with the dog. But again the dog surprises us by jumping on Menzi, who expects it to maul him. This time, though, we quickly hear from Thulisa that the dog is friendly and we can feel relief. ✓ (3) [7]

Chapter 16

- 1 Zuzi is afraid her husband will leave her if she does not have a baby. ✓ Either she is unable to have children or she doesn't want to go through a pregnancy that might destroy her good looks. ✓ Having a baby could also add to her celebrity image. ✓ So she pays to have a baby stolen for her instead so she can continue living her expensive lifestyle. (3)
- 2 Menzi thinks the dog is intelligent because China seems to know he must keep quiet and still in the taxi so that the driver won't know he is there. ✓ China is also intelligent because he protects the teenagers from Stokman and Songololo Woman as if he knows they are criminals. ✓ (2)
- 3 Four phases. Phase One – obtain meat for the dog ✓, Phase Two – distract the dog ✓, Phase Three – collect the baby ✓, Phase Four – escape with the baby. ✓ (4) [9]

Chapter 17

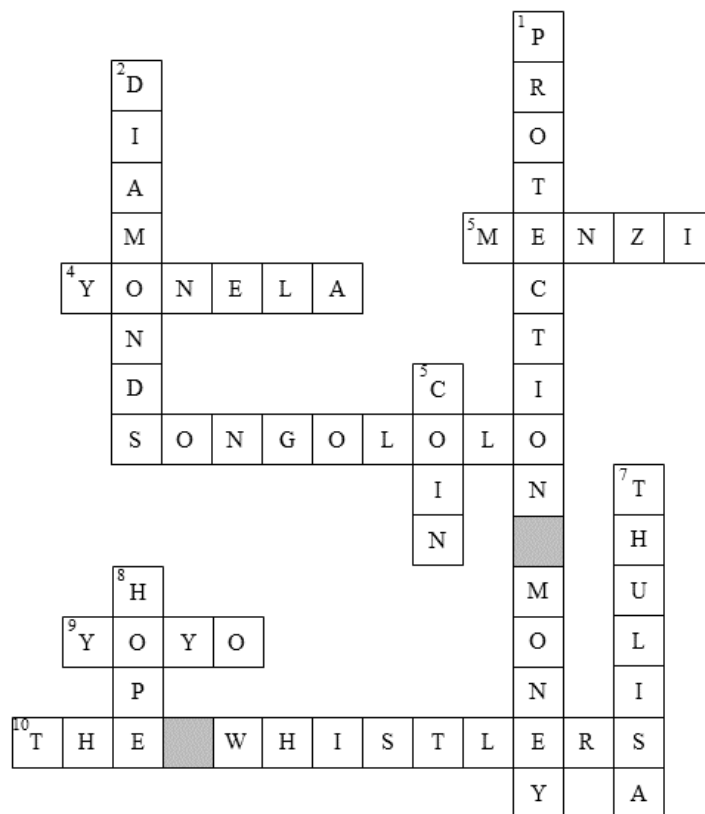
- 1 She is the fat woman in the taxi. ✓ She is the one who gets irritated at Menzi and Thulisa's whistling in the taxi rank and calls them the Whistlers in the taxi. ✓ She is also in the taxi when it helps them escape and she asks them to explain what is going on. ✓ (Any one) (1)
- 2 The taxi driver is grumbling because he is forced to obey Mrs Yoyo's instruction to drive to the police to report what has happened and return Baby Anita to her mother. He will lose business this way. ✓ But he becomes happy when he sees how beautiful the mother is. Buhle looked beautiful again and the taxi driver is even happier when he hears that Buhle is single. ✓ (2)
- 3 Dodo learns that real adventures, like the one she has just been through, are much more frightening than the ones she imagines. ✓ She learns to appreciate her mother. ✓ (2)
- 4 Menzi does not choose the Rough Riders because he wants to work harder at school and be successful, not a criminal. ✓ Yes, he does do the right thing ✓ as choosing the gang could get him arrested. ✓ (3)
- 5 Menzi's mother decides to tell him where his father is; ✓ he gets a new dog; ✓ and he decides to work harder at school to become successful. ✓ (3)
- 6 Thulisa learns how to be more assertive ✓ and to speak up for herself. ✓ Her life improves because she no longer has to feel bad about the missing baby ✓ and her parents will start arguing less in front of her. ✓ (Any three) (3)
- 7 Learners give and substantiate their own opinions. The story does have a happy ending ✓ because Baby Anita and Buhle are reunited, Menzi and Thulisa's lives improve, Dodo gets a new friend and the wrongdoers are brought to justice. ✓ (2) [16]

Exploring the novel further

Multiple choice questions

- 1 A ✓
- 2 C ✓
- 3 B ✓
- 4 D ✓
- 5 A ✓
- 6 B ✓
- 7 C ✓
- 8 C ✓
- 9 D ✓
- 10 C ✓ [10]

Crossword puzzle: Character



[10]

Match the columns: Character

- 1 G ✓
- 2 E ✓
- 3 I ✓
- 4 B ✓
- 5 H ✓
- 6 D ✓
- 7 A ✓
- 8 C ✓
- 9 J ✓
- 10 F ✓

[10]

Place in sequence: Plot

- 1 g ✓
- 2 c ✓
- 3 j ✓
- 4 d ✓
- 5 i ✓
- 6 a ✓
- 7 f ✓
- 8 b ✓
- 9 e ✓
- 10 h ✓

[10]

Cloze exercise: Plot

- 1 babysit/take care of/watch ✓ (Any one)
- 2 Songololo Woman ✓
- 3 Stokman/a man ✓ (Any one)
- 4 kidnapped/stolen ✓ (Any one)
- 5 taxi rank ✓
- 6 whistle ✓
- 7 The Whistlers ✓
- 8 boy ✓
- 9 posh/upper-class/rich/wealthy ✓ (Any one)
- 10 Dodo ✓
- 11 Zuzi Zamani ✓
- 12 steal a baby for her ✓
- 13 her mother takes her shopping ✓
- 14 he has to do something for the Rough Riders ✓
- 15 flattery ✓
- 16 photo ✓
- 17 four ✓
- 18 Songololo Woman and Stokman ✓
- 19 the fat woman/Mrs Yoyo ✓ (Any one)
- 20 grow/learn lessons ✓ (Any one)

[20]

Analysis through drawing: Plot

Learners' diagrams should contain the following information:

- Introduction: Chapters 1–2. Introduced to Thulisa and Menzi – their background and type of people they are, where they live, family situations, relationships with their parents, school life.
- Rising action: Chapters 3–4. Baby Anita is kidnapped. Chapter 4: Thulisa recognises Songololo Woman at the taxi rank. Chapters 6–7: Thulisa and Menzi follow Songololo Woman and Stokman. Chapter 8: We meet Dodo. Chapter 9: The Whistlers spy on Zuzi, Songololo Woman and Stokman next door. Chapter 10: Menzi has a brilliant idea. Chapter 11: Dodo gets into the Zamanis' house and sees the baby. Chapters 14–16: There is a four-phase mission to rescue Baby Anita.
- Climax: Chapter 16. The Whistlers succeed in rescuing Baby Anita and confront Songolo Woman and Stokman.
- Falling action: Chapter 16. Menzi, the girls and the dog run away from Songolo Woman and Stokman. A taxi stops to pick them up.
- Conclusion: Chapter 17. The baby is returned to her mother, the kidnappers are arrested and charged, the Whistlers learn valuable lessons and there is a happy ending.

Match the extract: Themes

- 1 Adolescence ✓
- 2 Hope ✓
- 3 Friendship ✓
- 4 Whistling ✓
- 5 Contrasting Worlds ✓

- 6 Friendship ✓
- 7 Contrasting Worlds ✓
- 8 Whistling ✓
- 9 Hope ✓
- 10 Adolescence ✓

[10]

Identify the example: Style and language use

- 1 Metaphor ✓
- 2 Simile ✓
- 3 Onomatopoeia ✓
- 4 Metaphor ✓
- 5 Onomatopoeia ✓
- 6 Alliteration ✓
- 7 Simile ✓
- 8 Alliteration ✓
- 9 Onomatopoeia ✓
- 10 Simile ✓

[10]

Express yourself creatively

- 1 Possible scenario that the learners could act out: Thulisa's mom and dad argue over something because they don't agree. Thulisa speaks up for herself calmly and confidently about how her parents' arguing upsets her. The parents stop to listen and hear what their daughter has to say. Thulisa reprimands them for arguing so much. They are surprised at how confident she suddenly is, but support her. They apologise to each other and promise to argue less. Family hug.
- 2 Possible scenario that the learners could act out: Menzi's mom tells Menzi who and where his father is. Perhaps he is someone famous. Perhaps he has passed away. Perhaps he is in jail or in another city or country. Menzi will react according to what his mother tells him and decide what to do with this new information about his father.
- 3 Possible scenario that the learners could act out: Menzi meets BC and his gang at the mall. BC and his gang tell Menzi what they want him to do so he can join their gang. But Menzi disappoints them by turning their offer down and explains why he is no longer interested in joining. Perhaps BC and the gang tease and insult Menzi. But Menzi shows that he knows he has made the right decision.
- 4 Possible scenario that the learners could act out: The setting is a court. The judge calls the court to order. The bailiff brings in the accused kidnappers. The prosecution reads out the charges against them. The judge asks them to plead. They plead guilty – straight to sentencing. They plead not guilty – trial proceeds. Prosecution argues for a guilty verdict by bringing in evidence and witnesses. The defence argues for a not guilty verdict by bringing in their own evidence and witnesses. Witnesses are cross-examined by the defence and prosecution lawyers. After all of this the judge decides on a verdict and finds the accused guilty or not guilty, followed by a sentencing:

how long they will go to prison, perhaps a fine or community service.

- 5 Suggestions for what should be in the poster: A large picture or photograph of a baby. The text: MISSING BABY: KIDNAPPED, or similar. Information should detail where and when the baby was kidnapped and what the suspected kidnappers looked like. Also contact details for the police detective in charge of the investigation. Perhaps a reward for any information leading to an arrest.

Extension activity

Learners should show an understanding of what whistle-blowing is: when somebody makes the public aware that of a wrongdoing, because informing the public is the right thing to do. This is exactly what Menzi, Thulisa and Dodo do in the novel. What the kidnappers did is wrong and now everyone knows it. Other examples can be found from current events to support this understanding and shared with the class in a presentation or report-back.

Talking about it

Learners' answers will vary depending on the content of their discussions. Make sure that they cover all of the points in Questions 1 to 6 and that each learner participates in the discussions.

Writing about it

Learners' answers will vary depending on the content of their written work. Make sure that they cover all of the points in Questions 1 to 7 and that the written work is relevant to the contents of the novel.

Practising questions for assessment

Contextual question 1 (from Chapter 3)

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----|------|
| 1 | A baby has been stolen or kidnapped. ✓ | (1) | |
| 2 | Her hair is thick, glossy braids like songololos. ✓ | (1) | |
| 3 | Anita ✓ | (1) | |
| 4 | Thulisa feels very bad, because she let Buhle down. ✓ The baby was in her care and was her responsibility when it was kidnapped. ✓ | (2) | |
| 5 | Stokman ✓ | (1) | |
| 6 | He attacked Thulisa by pulling a sack over her head. ✓ | (1) | |
| 7 | It was a bad idea because it wasted time. ✓ It should have been reported to the police immediately ✓ so they could start investigating sooner. ✓ Or it was a good idea because the kidnappers could have still been in the neighbourhood ✓ and they could have been caught with the baby ✓ and then handed over to the police. ✓ | (3) | [10] |

Contextual question 2 (from Chapter 16)

- 1 Thulisa ✓ and Dodo ✓ (2)
- 2 They have just rescued baby Anita from Zuzi Zamani's house ✓ and are being chased by her and the other kidnappers Songololo Woman and Stokman. ✓ They need to escape. (2)
- 3 Onomatopoeia. ✓ (1)
- 4 False. ✓ It was not a coincidence because when the taxi driver dropped Menzi off, he told Menzi that he would be back to fetch him in 20 minutes. ✓ (2)
- 5 Yes, I do agree, ✓ because there is a greater sense of community in a township where the people care about each other and are interested in each other's lives, ✓ whereas in a rich suburb the people hide behind their security and wall themselves in and show no interest in their neighbours. ✓ Or, no I, disagree, ✓ because in some townships gangsterism makes it more dangerous to live and the people are too scared to come out to help. ✓ Menzi is unfair in assuming that in rich suburbs everyone doesn't care about each other because Dodo has shown that this is not true. ✓ (3) [10]

Paragraph question

Suggested answers to points to include:

- Anita, Thulisa, Menzi and Dodo whistle in the novel.
- Anita purses her small lips; Thulisa places her thumb and forefinger in her mouth; Menzi curls his tongue and folds his bottom lip; Dodo cups her hands over her mouth.
- When Baby Anita whistles at the start of the novel. At the taxi rank Menzi and Thulisa whistle in case they lose each other. When Menzi sees Songololo Woman and Stokman approaching Zuzi's house he whistles to try to warn Dodo and Thulisa.
- For entertainment (baby Anita); to communicate (Thulisa and Menzi); for friendship (Thulisa and Dodo); to warn (Menzi).
- Only the good characters whistle: Thulisa, Menzi, Dodo (the main characters or protagonists) and the innocent baby Anita, who was taught to whistle by Thulisa.
- Yes, it is a good title because the main characters whistle and get called the Whistlers by Mrs Yoyo. Like whistle-blowing, they reveal criminal activity and do something good about it.

[10]