



STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 6-8

The Breadwinner

Deborah Ellis

READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

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NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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3901 Union Blvd., Suite 155

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Name _____

Word Map

Talib (8) parcel (25) fortress (40)	majestically (17) turbans (30) hobbled (43)	scornfully (17) lavatory (34)	resentful (21) regulation (39)
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Directions: Choose seven vocabulary words from the list above and complete a word map for each.

<p>Synonyms</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Magazine cut-out, drawing, or symbol that shows what the word means</p>
<p>Word</p> <hr/>	
<p>Definition in your own words</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Word used in a sentence</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Name _____

Chapters One–Two, pp. 7–33

1. Why does Parvana accompany her father to the marketplace?
2. List some of the laws that the Taliban instituted in Afghanistan.
3. Why does Parvana want to be “invisible” when the Taliban are around?
4. How has Parvana’s family been affected by the bombings?
5. Describe Parvana and Nooria’s relationship.
6. Name some of the items that Parvana’s family sells for money.
7. Describe Kabul before the war.
8. How does the family get water? What does this demonstrate about their living conditions?
9. Whom does Parvana play with in her free time? Why?
10. Who was Hossain? Describe his personality.
11. Describe the Afghan culture of hospitality.
12. Why is Father arrested?
13. Why does Father call Parvana “Malali” as he is being arrested?
14. How does Parvana prevent the soldiers from discovering Father’s books? What does this demonstrate about Parvana’s personality?
15. **Prediction:** What will happen to the family and Father after his arrest?

Chapters Three–Four, pp. 34–53

1. What does Parvana repeatedly imagine after Father is arrested?
2. Which family member has always made Parvana feel safe?
3. Describe Father’s health.
4. How does the reader know that Parvana is respectful of her elders?
5. Why does Nooria write a note for Mother?
6. What do the soldiers do to the picture of Father? How does Parvana respond to this?
7. What happens to Mother because of the trip to the prison?
8. How do Nooria and Parvana provide for the family without Mother?
9. What do Nooria and Parvana decide to do when the food runs out?
10. **Prediction:** What will happen when Parvana ventures out to get food?

Name _____

Character Analysis Blocks

Directions: Select a character from the book to describe using the blocks below.

<i>Who is the character?</i>			
<i>What does the character do?</i>		<i>Why does s/he do it?</i>	
<i>What, if anything, is significant about the character's name?</i>	<i>What is the nature of this character's actions?</i> <small>(reactive, active, important, consequential, secondary)</small>	<i>What is the significance of the book's time and place to the character?</i>	
<i>What is unusual or important about the character?</i>	<i>How does the character change in the story?</i>	<i>Does the character remind you of another character from another book? Who?</i>	<i>Do you know anyone similar to this character?</i>