

Tuesday 12/1/21: Skim and scan the text and respond to both sets of questions.

Chapter Sixteen

Granny's eyes were shut and her face was a horrible grey colour. For one dreadful moment, I thought I'd come too late. There was a woman sitting on the floor beside her, fanning her gently with a corner of the cloth, but it wasn't Mrs Zainab. It was someone from another room in the flat.

'Granny!' I called out, too loudly.

The woman frowned and put a finger to her lips.

'Shh. She's sleeping.'

I didn't take any notice. I dropped to my knees beside Granny's dusty old mattress.

'Granny, I've got your medicines. I've got them here. I went to see Dr Leila. Look.'

I upended the bag and tipped the cartons of medicines out on to the mat.

Granny opened her eyes and looked at me, but I couldn't tell if she'd understood me or not. Her gaze held mine for a moment, then wandered, and her eyes closed again.

The woman put out one hand from under the black chador that covered her from head to toe, and picked up one of the medicine cartons.

'You've seen a doctor? Is this stuff good for coughs? Can I have some for my daughter?'

I hardly heard her. I'd opened Dr Leila's letter and was trying to read it, but I couldn't make anything of her scrawly writing.

'I don't know what to do!' I wailed, suddenly feeling helpless. 'I don't know what to give her!'

The curtain moved and Mrs Zainab came in with Ahmed balanced on her hip. He saw me and squealed with joy, putting out his arms.

'Ayesha! Wherever have you been?' She looked annoyed. 'Fancy disappearing like that, today of all days, with your granny so sick. Especially with this news that's come through. I've got so much to do, I...'

I wasn't listening. I held up Dr Leila's letter.

'Please, Mrs Zainab, what does it say? Dr Leila's written down what to give her, but I can't read it.'

'Dr Leila? What are you talking about?'

She was looking at me, not at the letter. I was so impatient I wanted to scream.

'I went to see her,' I said, all in a rush. 'I ran

Across the Green Line. I found her. She gave me all this stuff for Granny. A UN ambulance brought me back.'

Her mouth was open. She was staring at me.

'You? But Samar said you'd gone off to look for food. You mean you went all the way across no man's land? Alone?'

'Yes, but quick, Mrs Zainab, please read the letter. I want to give Granny her medicine now.'

While we'd been speaking, the other woman had got up and slipped away. I could hear her high, cracked voice behind the curtain, telling anyone in the flat who would listen what that little wonder Ayesha had done.

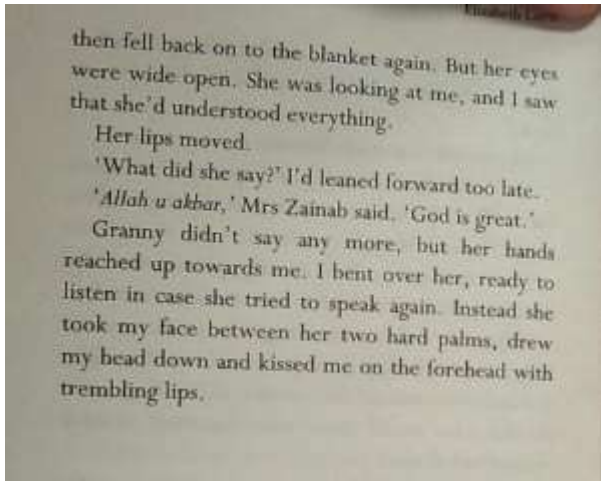
I hardly heard. My eyes were fixed on Mrs Zainab's face. She was reading the letter slowly, her lips moving. Then she bent down, picked up one of the boxes and opened it.

'Get some water, Ayesha,' she said crisply.

By the time I was back with a glass of water, she was kneeling on the mat, her arm under Granny's head, which she was carefully lifting.

'Come on, auntie,' she said. 'Swallow it down. And a sip of water.'

Granny's hand, waxy pale, feebly held the glass,



Chapter 16 – speed retrieval and inference questions (page 91 only)

- 1) Who was helping Granny? (1)
- 2) What one word is closest in meaning to 'tipped' on page 91 (the first page of Chapter 16)?
..... (1)
- 3) What was the girl's main worry on page 91?
..... (1)
- 4) Why was it that the girl couldn't tell if Granny had understood her or not? (THINK – what did Granny do?)
.....
..... (1)

LO: to use specific strategies to unpick retrieval questions

Chapter Sixteen, (Reading speed endurance practise – 350 words to cover + 10 marks = 14 mins)

1. Why did the girl have a 'dreadful moment?'
..... (1)

2. Look at the first paragraph.
The other woman in the room was kind.
How can you tell? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
..... (1)

3. Look at page 92.
What impression do you get of Dr Leila's handwriting? Use evidence from the text to support your impression. (1)

Impression	Evidence
.....
.....
.....

4. Explain how your evidence for Q3 shows the impression you decided for Q3. THINK – what links can you make between the evidence and what impression this creates in YOUR HEAD?
.....
..... (1)

5. Look at page 92.
Mrs Zainab did not know where the girl had been all day.
Give four ways this is shown in the text. Use specific pieces of evidence from the text that show she did not know where the girl had been. (2)

- 1.....
2.....
3.....
4.....

6. What did 'the other woman' end up doing after she left the area where Granny was, while the girl spoke to Mrs Zainab?

.....
..... (1)

7. Was the woman impressed with what the girl had done or did she frown upon it? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

.....
..... (1)

8. For Q7, how you have linked up your thinking from the question and to how you found your answer? Did you look for a synonym or antonym of a word in the question? What word/s in the text led you to the clue for the answer?

.....
..... (1)

9. What were the first words Granny had spoken to the girl?
Reference only the words spoken, exactly.

..... (1)