

BOOK KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER - JOURNEY TO JO'BURG

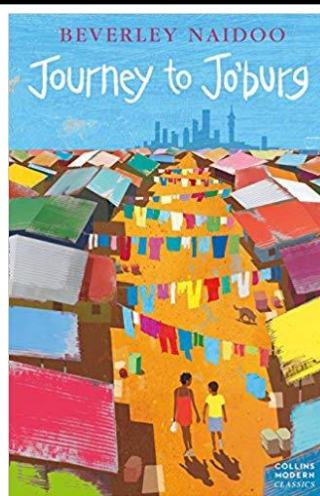
Important information

Plot

This is the story of love, commitment and the flowering of the human spirit against the background of South Africa's apartheid. Frightened that their baby sister Dineo will die, thirteen-year-old Naledi and her younger brother Tiro run away from their grandmother to Johannesburg to find their mother, who works there as a maid. Their journey illustrates at every turn the grim realities of apartheid - the pass laws, racism, the breakdown of family life. The opulence of the white "Madam's" house contrasts starkly with the reality that Naledi and Tiro face - that their baby sister is suffering from starvation, not an incurable disease.

Themes - bravery, courage, family

Setting - The time of Apartheid in South Africa



What can the book teach us?

The importance of treating all people equally.
Being grateful for free education.
Being grateful for our free health service.

Writing genres

A newspaper report - What are conditions like in an African hospital at the time of Apartheid?

Diary entry - What happened in the orange grove?

Story - What happened next when the children eventually found mum?

Sentence types - Using brackets to add detail about a character's feelings; using semi-colons to mark the boundary between independent clauses; using embedded clauses to add more detail to an opening noun.

Name of the book: Journey to Jo'Burg

Author: Beverley Naidoo

Illustrator : Lisa Kopper

Date published: 2008

Context - This story is set during a time of Apartheid in South African. During apartheid, people were divided into four racial groups and kept apart by law. The system was used to deny many rights of non-white people, mainly black people. The laws allowed the white people to keep the black people out of certain areas. Black people had to carry special papers (passes) or have permission to live and work in particular areas. The government separated mixed communities and forcibly moved many people. Many laws were made, for example: people of different races were not allowed to marry each other; black people could not own land in white areas or vote.

Key vocabulary

Apartheid - a former policy of segregation and political and economic discrimination against non-European groups in the Republic of South Africa.

Racism - the belief in the natural superiority of one race over another
Segregation - the practice or policy of separating a race, class, or group from the rest of society.

Poverty - not having enough money for basic needs such as food, water, shelter, or toilets.

Prejudice - judging someone or having an idea about them before you actually know anything about them