

Chapter Questions **The Breadwinner**

Chapter Five

1. What are your first impressions of Mrs. Weera? Find two things she says or does that give you a strong sense of her character.
2. Parvana is responsible for bringing in water for the family. Why is it such an important and tiring job? Why must the water be boiled before they can drink it?
3. A reference to an Afghan Women's Union appears on page 57. What kind of services and support do you think this organization would offer?

Chapter Six

1. What is the plan that Mrs. Weera thought of? How well did it work on the first day?
2. How does Parvana feel when she is out in the market as a boy?
3. The author mentions Parvana's special red shalwar kameez on page 69, already described on page 24. Why is it important to Parvana? As you read, watch for further mentions of it and think about what it might symbolize.

Chapter Seven

1. What is Parvana's job? How does she feel about it?
2. Why do you think the author included the scene with Parvana reading the letter for the Talib?
3. Parvana must sell her special shalwar kameez. How would you feel if you were forced to sell something that was important to you?

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Chapter Eight

1. How does the family's life change when Mrs. Weera moves in?
2. Nooria says that she had forgotten how good the sun feels on her face. Maryam has to be helped to walk down the stairs. If you were forced to stay indoors, what would you miss most about being outside? Why is it unhealthy to be indoors for so long?
3. Why do you think the woman in the window is throwing small items down to Parvana?