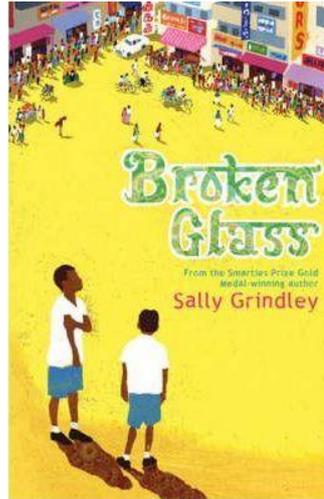


Broken Glass

by Sally Grindley

Writing Tasks



Please don't read ahead in the book. It will be much more enjoyable if we read it together even if we are reading it in our own homes. As well as that, some of the tasks I have created require you to develop thinking and prediction skills which won't be possible if you already know what's going to happen in the story.

All tasks should be completed in the same copybook (English copybook preferably)

and should be written with pen in one's best (joint) handwriting.

Read more about the author here - <http://www.sallygrindley.co.uk/about-sally/>. Scroll to the bottom of the page to read a Q&A with Sally (Questions and Answers)

Monday 23rd March - Chapter 8 Task:

This book is written from the perspective of Suresh. Write the thoughts and feelings of Sandeep as this chapter develops in your copybook – as if you are Sandeep (at least one copybook page). Write it in the first person (pretend you are Sandeep and use the word “I”). You might wish to re-read the chapter and zone in on when Sandeep is mentioned. Some questions to help you write from Sandeep's point of view:

- What age are you (Sandeep)?
- How did you feel and what were you thinking on the train?
- How did you feel and what were you thinking as he discovered the new city?
- Are you aware of how worried Suresh is about finding a job to earn money?

Optional Extra: if possible take a photo of your work and send it to me by email to info@scoilnaomheltin.ie and state that it should be forwarded to Mr Murray. I'll put a selection of the work I receive on the class webpage of the school website here - <http://www.scoilnaomheltin.ie/4th--5th-class---mr-murray>.

Tuesday 24th March - Chapter 9 Task:

In chapter 9, Suresh and Sandeep finally move onto the island we first read about in the blurb. Your task is to draw a picture of the island from your imagination – from your understanding of it from the words in the book. For instance, when I imagine “the island” they now live on I don’t see a typical island of land surrounded by water – I see a fence and some other items. What do you see in your mind’s eye?

You can draw your picture in your copybook or draw it on blank paper and stick it in after. Don’t forget to colour it and include as much detail as possible (items in the background and around the two main characters – Suresh and Sandeep). There is no “right answer” – just your own understanding of it.

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Wednesday 25th March - Chapter 10 Task:

The day described in Chapter 10 could be summarised as a roller coaster for Suresh and Sandeep. The day started boringly as “they trudged” through the city before the exhilaration of making friends and joining in in a game of cricket. The day has ended without them eating anything (apart from Sandeep having some dusty naan bread). We have now encountered two new characters in Vikas and Arun.

Your task today is to write a list of ten “I wonder . . .” questions about what we know so far. The questions could include your predictions for the story as well. For example,

- I wonder will Vikas turn out to be a good and reliable friend as Suresh seems to think?
- I wonder will Sandeep’s stealing get him into big trouble?
- I wonder will Suresh find work in the sari shop he saw when he first came to the city?

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Thursday 26th March - Chapter 11 Task:

In chapter 11 we meet Vikas and Arun again who appear to be helpful and friendly to Suresh and Sandeep – they both provided food and drinks to the two main characters when they didn't really have to. Suresh is curious as to how they came to live on the streets.

How do you think Vikas and Arun came to be homeless, live on the streets and, in Vikas's case, work as a ragpicker. Write half a copybook page each for Vikas and Arun describing how you believe they came to live on the streets. Were they born into homelessness? Maybe they have a similar story to Suresh and Sandeep?

It is your choice to write the background account of Vikas and Arun in the first person (pretending you are Vikas or Arun – “I was born . . .”) or in the third person (describing their history and referring to them by name – “Vikas was born . . .”)

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Friday 27th March - Chapter 12 Tasks:

1. It is often said that “higher is the best sauce”. Think about this phrase and explain what it means by using examples from Chapter 12.
2. In Chapter 8 Suresh appears to be a very honourable person who refuses to beg or steal. He is confident of finding a good job and of one day owning his own house to make sure that Sandeep is looked after.

I believe her has completely changed by the end of Chapter 12. He is now grateful for any scraps of food to eat as he is so hungry and was so weak with the hunger (lag leis an ocra) one morning that he couldn't stand up. He regularly lies about his age in the hope of getting work. He now understands that he will have to take a ragpicker job if he is to have any hope of earning money to feed Sandeep and himself. He might even start begging. In the space of five short chapters he has gone from being a good person with values and rules to his life to a bad person without values and with no rules to his life.

Do you agree or disagree with me? Debate your position. Argue why you agree or disagree by using examples from the book. Persuade me to change my point of view if you disagree! (Write one copy book page at least).

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