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X-kit

Achieve!

LITERATURE STUDY GUIDES

Prescribed literature for Grades 10 to 12



X-kit Achieve Literature Study Guides make nationally prescribed novels, dramas, poetry and short stories accessible to learners. They provide insight into the context and analyses of themes. Stimulating exercises and questions encourage learners to revise and understand the material in a structured and systematic way. They include specific guidelines for writing the literature exams.



Themes, plots and characters thoroughly taught and tested

Themes

A theme is an important idea or concept underlying the action and all the other elements of the play. Themes in this play include a wide range of issues including ones that are personal, social and moral or ethical. Other themes are based on the differences between generations, gender and political beliefs as well as the different circumstances for white and black people in apartheid South Africa.

SOME KEY THEMES IN My Children! My Africa!

- Friendship
- Revolution
- Conflict
- Race relations
- Violence
- Privilege and poverty
- Politics and power
- Generation clashes
- Tradition and culture
- Justice
- Words and literature
- Debate
- Education
- Gender

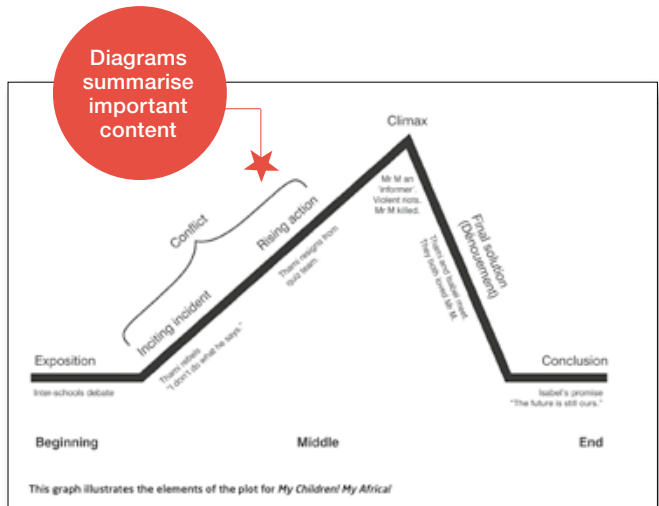
A mind map of key themes in *My Children! My Africa!*

A number of the themes in *My Children! My Africa!* involve a tug-of-war between opposites. We are called upon to consider and weigh up both viewpoints and make up our own minds. Usually the truth of the matter lies somewhere between the two extremes. For example, there are tensions involving opposing poles as shown below.

ORDER	versus	DISORDER
WORDS		ACTION
TEACHING		LEARNING
DISCIPLINE		FREEDOM
VIOLENCE		NEGOTIATION
WESTERN CULTURE		AFRICAN CULTURE
FUTURE		PAST
FRIENDSHIP		ENMITY
MALE		FEMALE
OLD		YOUNG
TOWN		LOCATION
PRIVILEGE		POVERTY
INTEGRATION		SEGREGATION
BLACK		WHITE
NEGOTIATION		REVOLUTION
TRIALS		PEOPLE'S JUSTICE
POLITICS		STORYTELLING

Some thematic tensions in the play

30 Part 3: Analyse the play



Diagrams summarise important content

Thought-provoking exercises

Model answers provided to check understanding

Activity: Test your understanding of the dramatic structure

1. What sets the plot in motion?
2. What action makes the opening of the play so dramatic?
3. Why are Isabel and Thami in the quiz team?
4. What is the high point of their friendship?
5. What threatens their friendship?
6. What conflicts undermine the relationships of the characters?
7. What causes suspense in the play?
8. At what point does the play reach its climax?
9. Where does the final resolution of the play take place?
10. How does Isabel end the play on a positive note?

Setting

In Fugard's plays the settings are typically bleak, uncomfortable places where two or three characters linked together by some bond, such as friendship or friendship, play out a tense human drama. *My Children! My Africa!* is no exception. The setting for the play is a small Eastern Cape Karoo town. The setting is a bare, matric classroom at the Zolile High School in a local town. The setting for the play is a small Eastern Cape Karoo town. The setting is a bare, matric classroom at the Zolile High School in a local town. The setting for the play is a small Eastern Cape Karoo town. The setting is a bare, matric classroom at the Zolile High School in a local town.

Contextual question 1

Read the following extracts from the play and answer the questions set on each. The number of marks allocated to each question serves as a guide to the expected length of your answer.

NOTE: Answer the questions set on BOTH extracts, i.e. QUESTION 1.1 AND QUESTION 1.2.

1.1 EXTRACT A

Mr M: Order please!
Isabel: I never said anything of the kind.
Thami: Yes you did. You said that women were more ...



ashram	a spiritual centre for Hindu cultural activity such as yoga, music study or religious instruction.	Glossary for Chapters 5 and 6
swim lore	knowledge relating to swimming.	Sikh ... turban
colonial administration	British rule in India.	Sikhs are followers of Sikhism, a monotheistic religion originating in South Asia. Male Sikhs must cover their hair with a turban which is cloth wound around the hair.
cesspool	a section of a sanitation system that contains sewage. Used to refer to an area that is unhygienic or dirty.	Simon ... Paul
artesian wells	wells where water flows or spouts out of the ground due to positive pressure.	disciples of Christ who were known by more than one name.
		My Roman soldier
		a reference to the Roman soldier who stabbed Jesus while he was dying on the cross - Jesus' torturer.
		imperceptible modulations
		very small or gradual changes.

Glossary of important words

TITLE	GRADE	ISBN
Afrikaans Home Language		
Droomdelwers	Graad 11	9781928330776
Om die aarde aan te haal en ander gedigte	Graad 11	9781928330738
Onderwêreld	Graad 12	9781928330073
Afrikaans First Additional Language		
Die kind	Graad 10	9781928330066
Die kruppel engel	Graad 11	9781928330745
sprak of sprook en ander gedigte	Graad 11	9781928330752
Verneukkind en ander verhale	Graad 11	9781928330769
Fiela se kind – die drama	Graad 12	9781928330080
Lien se lankstaanskoene	Graad 12	9781928330103
Afrikaans Second Additional Language		
Perdekrag	Graad 12	9781928330097
English Home Language		
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Things Fall Apart	Grade 11	9781928330844
Tsotsi	Grade 11	9781928330813
Hamlet	Grade 12	9781928226543
Othello (for Matric 2016)	Grade 12	9781868914852
Animal Farm (for Matric 2016)	Grade 12	9781868914913
Crucible, The (for Matric 2016)	Grade 12	9781770254985
Great Gatsby, The (for Matric 2016)	Grade 12	9781868914883
Life of Pi	Grade 12	9781928226710
English First Additional Language		
Sophiatown	Grade 11	9781928330820
Romeo and Juliet (for Matric 2016)	Grade 12	9781868917198
Macbeth	Grade 12	9781928226727
Cry, the beloved country	Grade 12	9781928226581
My Children! My Africa!	Grade 12	9781928226598
Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, The	Grade 12	9781928226734
To Kill a Mockingbird (for Matric 2016)	Grade 12	9781868914876
IsiXhosa Home Language		
Ngenxa Yesithembiso	Grade 11	9781928330851
IsiZulu Home Language		
Impi Yabomdabu Isethunjini	Grade 12	9781928330493
Setswana Home Language		
Ntlhomole Mmutlwa	Grade 12	9781928330509



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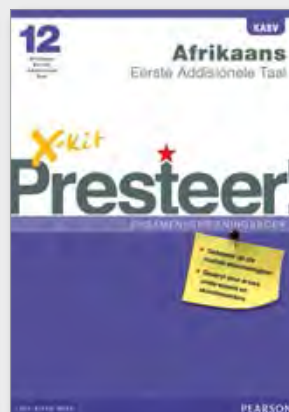
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IsiXhosa FAL Grade 12
IsiZulu FAL Grade 12



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