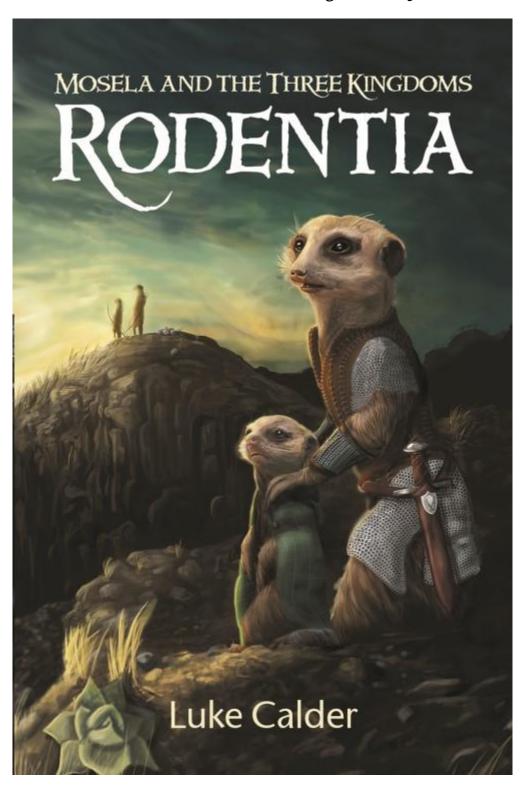
# Readers' guide:

Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms by Luke Calder



This readers' guide was written according to CAPS guidelines by Zoë Calder and is intended for use in the grade 8-9 English Home Language classroom.

## Contents

SECTION A: PRE-READING	4
Introduction	4
Short biography of the author:	4
Plot summary:	5
Literary features in Rodentia	6
Narration and perspective	6
Map of Rodentia	7
Conflict	9
Milieu: time, place and background	9
Language	9
Literary devices	10
Characterisation	11
SECTION B: POST-READING:	13
CONTEXTUAL QUESTIONS	13
Prologue	13
Chapter 1	13
Chapter 2	14
Chapter 3	15
Chapter 4	15
Chapter 5	16
Chapter 6	16
Chapter 7	17
Chapter 8	18
Chapter 9	18
Chapter 10	19
Chapter 11	20
Chapter 12	20
Chapter 13	21
Chapter 14	21
Chapter 15	22
Chapter 16	22
Chapter 17	23
Chapter 18	23

Chapter 19	24
Chapter 20	24
Chapter 21 & Epilogue	25
SECTION C: POST-READING:	26
CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT	26
Introduction	26
PHASE 1: FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 6: Part 1: Research (20 Marks)	26
Step 1: Define research topic	26
Step 2: Gather information	26
Step 3: Organise information	27
Step 4: Summarize researched facts in your own words	28
Step 5: List resources / Create Bibliography	28
PHASE 2: FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 6: Part 2: WRITING: Article (30 Ma	arks) 29
PHASE 3: FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 7:	30
Oral presentation (20 Marks)	30

### SECTION A: PRE-READING

### Introduction

Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms is an anthropomorphic fantasy novel set in a fictional world inspired by South Africa. The main character, Mosela, has a **hero's journey** thrust upon her during the start of a war. On her journey, she must find the **Chosen One** and convince the Three Kingdoms to stand together against the enemy.

A **fantasy** novel is a fiction genre that focuses on the imaginary, often including magic, the supernatural or mythical creatures. As in the case of Rodentia, fantasy novels are often inspired by real-world folklore. The setting is a fictional universe, that, although inspired by the real world, is <u>different from reality</u>. This means that Rodentia is a **high fantasy** novel, which differs from low fantasy, where stories take place in the real world. Another characteristic of high fantasy works, is that it often explores **moral issues**. Rodentia explores important topics such as war, poverty, crime, gender roles, cultural diversity and mercy.

Rodentia is also an **anthropomorphic** novel, which means that non-human characters (in this case animals) have been given human qualities and abilities – such as the ability to speak and carry weapons. Other examples of anthropomorphic fiction include: The Wind in the Willows, Winnie the Pooh, Redwall, Narnia, etc.

Central **themes** in this novel are: courage and bravery, self-doubt, leadership, grief and adventure.

### Short biography of the author:

Luke Gregory Calder is an animator based in Johannesburg. He completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Rhodes University in Makhanda (Grahamstown) in 2012 and then completed a post-graduate diploma in Animation at Wits University in 2015. He has a passion for character design and world building and focused on drawing animal characters in his spare time. In 2019 he sold prints of these characters at his first stall at Comic Con Africa. Fans of his art often felt that they needed to know the story behind the artwork, and thus he felt compelled to write Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms.



### Plot summary:

One evening, the peaceful village of Sireletsa is attacked by pirate penguins. The village is destroyed, and villagers are captured. Mosela and other young meerkats are sold as slaves and shipped to distant lands. During the voyage, the meerkats manage to escape on a lifeboat and row back home.

Upon returning to land, the meerkats decide to seek help at the next village. There, they meet Baneet, a helpful old toad, who suggests only one meerkat should fly to Ovidivo, the capital of Rodentia, to inform the mouse king about the penguin invasion. Mosela reluctantly agrees, because flying is the fastest way, but she doesn't want to leave her friends.

While flying with her new friend, Harold the hadeda, a storm forces them to take shelter in the forest. Vervet monkeys steal their belongings, and in the ensuing chaos, Mosela is separated from Harold and becomes lost. Strange, glowing chameleons guide her deeper into the forest, where she stumbles into a cave.

Inside, she meets Gundwane the rat, an eccentric sangoma-like-character, who shows Mosela a prophecy written in the ancient meerkat language, and together they translate it. Because of this prophesy, Gundwane believes Mosela's destiny is to find the future king, a powerful leader who will unite the Three Kingdoms and end the war with the penguins.

Meanwhile, Khova, a young mage owl at the Imfihlo Academy in Navya, sharpens his skills in magic but struggles with a short temper. His forbidden practice of fire manipulation leads to an accident, injuring his wing. After an altercation with bullies, Khova decides to leave the Academy and return home. However, he finds his mother arrested for stealing from the Academy to give him a better life. She is soon to be tried in Bhakabhaka, and Khova promises to rescue her.

As he flees, Khova accidentally causes a wildfire and falls into the forest, where he wanders injured. He ends up in Gundwane's cave, and the rat believes Khova is the Chosen One. Gundwane sends Khova on a quest to unite the Three Kingdoms, and Mosela is asked to accompany him due to his injuries.

Khova and Mosela meet the mouse king, but he dismisses their request for help, threatening to have them killed. Mosela's plea softens the king's anger, and he lets them go, though he refuses to join their quest. Khova, frustrated, wants to abandon the mission, but Harold insists on staying. They fly to Bhakabhaka, where Khova hopes to find his mother before her trial.

Mosela, meanwhile, seeks out the owl king on her own and persuades him to send aid. While visiting Khova in the legal terrace, Nandi, Khova's friend, tells him that his mother has been executed. Khova, filled with rage, sets fire to the surroundings and shoots flames at Mosela. In self-defence, Mosela kills Khova. The mage owls extinguish the wildfire, but Mosela is left devastated, believing she has killed the Chosen One.

Bhalo, the owl king's advisor, suggests that Mosela might be the true Chosen One. Her story fits the prophecy—she was chased from her home, and her actions show leadership. Bhalo agrees to accompany her on the remainder of her quest.

Mosela then visits the tortoise king, trying to convince him to help unite the kingdoms, but he dismisses her. However, after hearing news of her battle with Khova, a crowd gathers outside. Mosela makes an impassioned speech, convincing them that the penguin threat is real. The tortoise king relents and agrees to support her.

With an army at her side, Mosela sails to Ovidivo to inform the mouse king of the alliance between Phibya and Navya. However, by the time they arrive, Scraw's penguin army has already launched an attack on the capital. Mosela's army fights off a snake about to breach the city's defences, while Mosela, too young to fight, watches from the side-lines. She realizes that the snakes are not aggressive but controlled by Scraw with a magical sword.

Mosela devises a plan: if the snakes can't hear the sword's magic, they will stop fighting. She orders the Rodentian army to bang their weapons, which disrupts the spell. The snakes retreat, and Scraw's forces, now hopelessly outnumbered, surrender.

With the Three Kingdoms united, Mosela fulfils the prophecy. The mouse king acknowledges her as the Chosen One but hesitates to crown her, believing she is too young. They agree to revisit the matter when she is older.

Mosela's final request is for mercy for the penguins, quoting her father's wisdom: "You use force to end a battle, you use kindness to prevent the next one." The story concludes with Mosela reuniting with her family.

### Literary features in Rodentia

### Narration and perspective

Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms is told by a **Third person subjective / limited narrator**. The **third person** narrator is not a character in the story and uses third person pronouns when telling it. The narrator is not omniscient (all-knowing) because the story is told from the perspective of certain characters and the information revealed is **limited** to what those characters can see / know. A **subjective** narrator takes on the feelings and opinions of the character from whose perspective the story is being told.

Rodentia's story / plot is bigger than any one character, and it can be better conveyed through the use of multiple perspectives. The story is broken into different sections and is told from the **point of view** of multiple characters. This provides the reader with more background and information to the story and it allows the reader to get to know characters on a deeper level.

The following table shows the perspective from which each of the chapters is told:

Section	Chapter	Perspective
Prologue		Captain Scraw
Book 1: RODENTIA	Chapters 1 – 3	Mosela
	Chapter 4	Captain Scraw and then switches to Mosela after the page break on pg. 43
	Chapters 5 – 9	Mosela
Book 2: NAVYA	Chapters 10 – 14	Khova
Book 3: PHIBYA	Chapters 15 – 18	Mosela
Book 4: THE BATTLE	Chapter 19	King Renner
	Chapter 20 & 21	Mosela
Epilogue		Mosela

### Map of Rodentia



Authors (especially fantasy authors) often choose to include maps of the world in which their stories take place because it can enhance the readers' experience. Maps allow readers to keep track of where the characters travel during their journey, creating a more interactive and submersive reading experience.

In Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms, the map is captioned: Map of the Known World. This implies that the world is not yet fully explored. It can also be deduced that the civilisation

is relatively young and that the technology to travel vast distances has not yet been invented / developed.

There are three kingdoms in this fictional world. They are defined by their landscape and the kind of animals that would thrive there. Rodentia is the largest region. It contains the savannah, as well as the Sontaha Mountains, inspired by the Drakensberg mountain range. Rodents can thrive there because they are good at burrowing and tending the land. The mountains also house the dassies, who are known for their climbing abilities. Phibya is a harsh marshland full of swamps and difficult terrain. The animals that thrive there are amphibians and reptiles, more adapted to such muddy conditions. It is also well known for its strong, giant warrior tortoises. Lastly, Navya is known for its supernatural forests. Its trees grow to preternatural heights. The prestigious Imfihlo Academy – the school of the Mage Owls – is in the middle of the forest. Navya is home to all the different owl species, from tiny little wood owls to giant eagle owls.

The three kingdoms are not allies as such, but it is not unheard of for some traveling animals to spend time with creatures from other kingdoms. Evidence of this clear in the scene with the Bartoad's Tavern.

Mosela's journey begins in Sireletsa where she is captured and taken south through the Sebaka ocean. She escapes and makes it back to mount Katiba before heading towards 2nd Watch. She meets Baneet along the way who lets her use Harold to fly over Southern Rodentia and the Sontaha Mountains before landing in the Rodentian Forest. Here she gets lost and wanders around before finally falling into Gundwane's Cave.

Khova's journey begins at Imfhilo Academy. When he escapes he wanders south until he finds the main road called the N1. This is where he is picked up by friendly rabbits on their way to Kaasfontein. While traveling along Hasepad, Khova has a terrible dream and runs from the rabbits south towards the forest and also falls into Gundwane's cave where he meets Mosela.

Our travellers then embark on a quest to unite the Three Kingdoms. They fly to Ovidivo to talk to the mouse king. When he refuses to help them, they fly to Bhakabhaka to talk to the owl king. After the owl king agrees to help Mosela, she flies to Chataan to get the tortoise king on her side. Lastly, Mosela sails along the coast towards Ovidivo where the final battle occurs.

Classroom activity: draw arrows on the map that depict both Mosela's and Khova's journeys.



#### Conflict

Conflict in literature exists when there is some kind of struggle between opposing forces. We differentiate mainly between **external conflict** and **internal conflict**. External conflict refers to struggles between two or more characters. This kind of conflict can be physical (shown through body language and descriptions of actions) or verbal (shown through dialogue). Internal conflict refers to struggles a specific character has with their own emotions, or struggles that arise when characters' moral values make them disagree with something happening in their life or when they struggle to make decisions. This kind of conflict is usually shown through the thoughts of the character, but we can also see it in their words.

Examples of external conflict in Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms include how rudely Scraw speaks to his crew, the fight scene between Vlerkie and the young meerkats, the war scenes and the fight scenes between Khova and the owls in his class who make fun of him.

Examples of internal conflict in the novel include Scraw's frustration when his crew doesn't work as hard as he wants them to / when they don't understand the importance of what they are doing, the ways in which Mosela has to accept and overcome her fears and self-doubt in order to save her family, Mosela having to come to terms with the death of her best friend and Khova having to accept that his mother was not quite who he thought she was.

Class discussion activity: Find and table other examples of both external and internal conflict.

### Milieu: time, place and background

Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms takes place in a **fictional world** inspired by South African history, nature and landscapes. Mosela's Father was inspired by King Moshoeshoe of the Sotho tribe. King Moshoeshoe ruled his tribe in the early 1800's, in the time when Shaka Zulu was King of the Zulus. Shaka Zulu was a fierce militaristic king and warrior, whereas Moshoeshoe was rather known for his diplomacy and mercy.

The rain queen is a dassie in this novel. She is inspired by the line of the Modjadji queens of the Balobedu people. They are known for being able to bring rain to areas with harsh climates or places that have suffered because of long droughts.

### Language

Language is used effectively in this novel to differentiate between animal species. Meerkats speak a certain way, Penguins speak another. There are slight differences in the accent of each species, but the distinction is the clearest when it comes to the Royal mice of Ovidivo. Note the extra consonant sounds in their words to show that they speak in a lofty fashion. Their pronunciation of certain words shows that they think highly of themselves – even to the extent of thinking they are better / more important than other animals.

It is also worth noting that the characters all use a common language (Lingua Franca) to communicate with each other (in this case "common tongue"), but each species has their own ancient language, inspired by languages spoken in South Africa. This is evident in how characters and places are named, for example, Mosela's name means 'tail' in Sesotho and is a name often reserved for the youngest (last) child of a family. Imfihlo Academy is derived from the Xhosa / Zulu word for 'secret' referring to how the academy holds hidden magical

knowledge. The use of these languages is intended to make the story feel more relatable to South African readers. It also allows readers from diverse backgrounds to find something in the story that feels special just for them. The languages in the novel were, however, merely inspired by South African Languages, but was not necessarily intended to be a true representation of these languages. In a country such as South Africa, with its multitude of languages, translation errors occur quite often. Some of these are funny, and some can get quite serious. This was the inspiration for the translation error in the prophesy.

Language tradition is an important issue all over the world. When people only use Lingua Francas, like English, and neglect their mother tongues, they can lose a part of their ancestral identities or their heritage. This is noticeable in the novel when Gundwane scolds Mosela for not being able to read Ancient Meerkat and therefore struggles to understand the prophecy.

### Literary devices

Authors often use comparisons to create images in the readers' imagination to enrich literary texts. Ideas can be compared to one another through the use of, among others, metaphors and similes. In a metaphor, two ideas are being compared directly. One thing is the other thing – such as 'he **is** a wolf in sheep's clothing'. In a simile, the words like or as are used to make a more indirect comparison – such as 'he moves like a mouse'.

In Chapter 1, a cloud is being compared to a sailboat in the <u>metaphor</u>: "A casual sailboat gliding across the vast ocean." This emphasizes the severity of the drought and the word casual also refers to the idea that this cloud isn't actually going to bring rain. It is the only cloud in the sky, and it doesn't do what Mosela and her village want it to do, making it useless.

On page 204, we find another funny metaphor. "He has a beetle in his head." Here, the idea of craziness or oddness is being compared to having a beetle in your head, messing with your thoughts and with the way your head is supposed to work. It is a direct / strong comparison – it is not *like* he has a beetle in his head.

In Chapter 2, Dinawa accuses Mosela of "standing there like a blind snail." This is a <u>simile</u> – it compares two ideas using the words like or as. Dinawa is comparing the fact that Mosela is slow to start working or uncertain of what to do next, to a blind snail that is of no use to him in the kitchen. He wants her to hurry up and get to work – in other words be more useful.

On pg. 89, the Sontaha Mountains are compared to a castle with the sentence: "The Sontaha Mountains stretched out before them like vast castle walls." This strengthens the Kingdomidea in the reader's imagination and emphasizes how small Mosela feels, looking up at the vast mountain range.

<u>Irony</u> is when the opposite of what the reader expects, happens. It would be considered ironic if someone who adores cats, finds out they are allergic to them. Or if someone is allergic to cats, but owns one anyway, because they just love cats that much. In Mosela's story, we find quite a few examples of irony. One of these is where the meerkats have been desperately longing for rain, but when they are captured by the penguins only a short time after it finally starts raining, they wish the rain would end.

It is also ironic on pg. 174 when Mosela misses Palesa's positive outlook on life, after being very annoyed with it earlier on in the novel. On pg. 184 it is ironic that Khova couldn't convince Harold to abandon Mosela, despite Khova's intelligence and the fact that Harold is described

as "a bird of little brain". Harold's loyalty ends up being so strong that Khova cannot convince him to leave Mosela behind.

On pg. 217, King Renner bites his nails. This is considered "unseemly" and therefore ironic, because he is the king. His royal status and his lofty speech lead the reader to expect more refined actions and habits from him, but, ironically, even kings get scared enough to act unseemly sometimes.

The most important **symbol / motif** in this novel, is the idea of the Chameneons. They symbolize destiny. They are shining symbols of following one's destiny and taking the (sometimes dangerous) paths that will lead you there, because reaching your destiny is worth it.

<u>Juxtapositions / Contrast</u> is when two opposing ideas are used in close proximity to each other, to emphasize the point the writer is trying to make. We see this on pg. 131, when Nothando acts and speaks cheerfully despite her tiredness. ""How is my little patient?" said Nothando in her usual pleasant voice, despite the fatigue etched into her face." This juxtaposition of pleasantness and tiredness, emphasizes both how tired Nothando is, and the fact that she is a good mother (sometimes), who works very hard to provide for her son, but doesn't show how tired she is, so that Khova doesn't have to feel guilty.

Another literary device that plays an important role in this novel is **foreshadowing**. This is where events in the novel predict what will ultimately happen. We see this most clearly with the prophesy, which creates some mystery as to who exactly the Chosen One is, but which does tell us what will happen in the sense that the Three Kingdoms will be united and that they will defeat their common enemy. Smaller examples of foreshadowing also exist in the novel, such as on pg. 115 when Nandi tells Khova to be careful with Fire Magic. She warns him that he will take it too far "-and [burn] the entire school down." Ultimately, Nandi was right, and this is exactly what happens.

#### Characterisation

The following **character architypes** can be found in this novel:

Protagonist / Hero: Mosela

Antagonist / Villain: Captain Scraw

Anti-hero: Khova

Mentor / Guide: Gundwane, Bhalo

Supporting Characters: Harold, Palesa, Litelu, Lefika, etc.

#### **Characterisation techniques:**

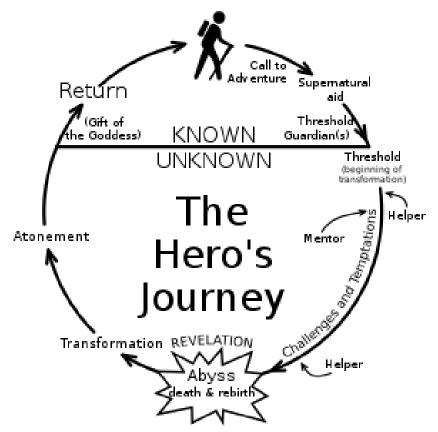
There are a few different ways in which authors can introduce readers to characters. These can be grouped into **direct characterisation** and **indirect characterisation**. Direct characterisation is when the author directly tells us what a character looks, sounds or acts like. This can be done using what other characters are saying about this character (**dialogue**) or by what the character says about him- or herself. It could also include things we learn about

characters in their actions or even their thoughts or feelings, as long as the author directly states it. The reader doesn't have to infer any information about the character.

Indirect characterisation is information that readers get about characters when they read between the lines and infer certain aspects of a character's personality or any other attributes, based on conclusions the reader has to make about the character. A character's motivation can be determined using indirect characterisation – think about why the character acts the way they do.

Gundwane is a very interesting character that has many unique abilities and characteristics. He uses the well-known film technique of "breaking the fourth wall" by telling Mosela that she is the protagonist. Usually, characters are not supposed to "know" that they are characters in a story. They are supposed to feel real in their world. Gundwane, by revealing that Mosela is the protagonist, breaks this "illusion" of the characters not being real.

The reader is well aware that Khova is lying about being able to read his prophecy. This is a good example of indirect characterisation. Neither Mosela or Gundwane question him about this. But even though it is never explicitly stated that he is lying, the reader can easily infer it.



Class discussion activity: work in groups of 2 (Think-Pair-Share). Discuss how the novel would be different if Lefika had been the hero (main character) or Gundwane, or Khova, or Nandi or any of the other characters. Each group should use a different character for this thought experiment. Share your thoughts with the rest of the class in a short, informal speech.

# SECTION B: POST-READING: CONTEXTUAL QUESTIONS

## **Prologue**

1.	Question What was the name of Captain Scraw's ship?	Marks 1	Level 1
2.	What does Captain Scraw's use of language and the tone of voice in which he speaks to his crew tell you about him as a character?	2	5
3.	On pg. 2, a penguin confuses Captain Scraw with his friend, Pik. Explain the humour in his confusion.	1	3
4.	What type of animal is a cobra?	1	1
5.	What is the difference between the body language of the crew and that of Captain Scraw after the cobra is let loose?	2	2
6.	What expectation does the caption / title of the map: "Map of the known world" create?	1	3
7.	Scraw says that he 'busts his tailfeathers' which means that he works very hard. What does this word-play imply about the world-building techniques used by the author?	1	3
8.	Predict how Scraw will use his cutlass to achieve his goal at the end of the chapter: "Tomorrow night, we conquer Rodentia!"  Total marks (Prologue)	1 [10]	3
Cha	ipter 1		
1	Question What is the implication of the italian used in the first centance on no	Marks	Level
1.	What is the implication of the italics used in the first sentence on pg. 9: " staring up at the cloud – the <i>one</i> cloud in the sky."?	1	3
2.	Do you think Mosela has always been used to rationing water? Give a reason for your answer.	2	3
3.	Give a synonym for the word relentless in "finally find relief from the relentless heat."	1	2
4.	Explain the metaphor: A casual sailboat gliding across the vast ocean.	3	2
5.	What is Mosela's best friend's name?	1	1
6.	Who makes the first move in the game of morabaraba?	1	1
7.	Mosela and her best friend are both unhappy with their education. Compare their ideas toward their lessons.	4 x ½ = 2	4

8. Do you agree with Mosela's best friend's views on the roles of male / female meerkats as he expresses them in this chapter? Give a reason for your answer.
9. Explain how seeing the length of the shadow of the tree affected Mosela's behaviour.
3
3
Total marks (Chapter 1) [15]

## Chapter 2

1.	Question What are Mosela's parents' names?	Marks 2	Level 2
2.	How does the map at the start of the novel affect your understanding of Sireletsa's military vulnerability?	3	3
3.	List 2 characteristics of meerkats that make them good warriors according to Moshesh's plan.	2	1
4.	Describe the irony of the last sentence before the page break on pg. 19.	2	2
5.	5.1. Explain the main idea behind Litelu's statement: "Yes, but the dassies have been a monarchy for hundreds of years. It is a tradition they've clung to no matter who is in charge, and we really need to respect their culture as well."	1	3
	5.2. Do you agree with the above statement? Motivate your answer.	1	4
6.	What do you think Mosela's favourite dish is? What about the typography of pg. 21 makes you think that this dish is her favourite?	2	2
7.	What does the expression "standing there like a blind snail" tell you about Dinawa's personality?	2	3
8.	What does the older meerkat's statement about "the daughter of the chief" reveal about the rest of the town's attitude toward Mosela's family?	2	3
9.	Mosela refuses to give up with the mielies. What does this tell you about her values?	1	4
10.	Why do you think Litelu thinks dassies are the best creatures to have by your side when traveling through the mountains?	1	5
11.	Do you think the image of a scorpion tail dripping venom is a fitting image for the badge of Sireletsa? Give a reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 2)	1 [20]	5

## Chapter 3

	tpter o		
1.	Question  Taking the end of chapter 2 into account, explain why the queen's	Marks	Level
	behaviour at the start of chapter 3 can be considered ironic.	2	4
2.	List 3 things that Mosela looks forward to eating at the feast.	3	1
3.	Why do you think nobody heard the distress signals?	2	3
4.	Moshesh doesn't get to finish his speech about the three pieces of advice he got from one of the most prosperous chiefs in Rodentia. What do you think the last piece of the advice was? Complete the sentence: "The most important key to being a powerful chief is to		_
	keep-"	1	5
5.	Who was the first person to see the injured soldier?	1	1
6.	Give a synonym for the word gravity in the following sentence on pg. 33: "Mosela stood frozen for a moment, but the gravity of the situation soon snapped her out of it."	1	2
7.	Compare the actions of Mosela and Mamma Pula when Litelu needs help with the first aid supplies.	4	3
8.	Describe the threats along the coast.	2	1
9.	Why do you think Mosela fights so hard against the tears when she fails to help her mother with the injured soldier?	2	3
10.	How does the use of the phrase "The ground flew up at her" (pg. 35) affect your understanding of the situation?	2	3
11.	Summarize the chaotic effects of the catapults on Mosela's village.	3	2
12.	Comment on the appropriateness of the author's choice of words in the simile on pg. 37: "It rang through Mosela's head like a burning arrow."  Total marks (Chapter 3)	2 [25]	4

# Chapter 4

1.	Question Quote an example of onomatopoeia from pg. 38.	Marks 2	Level 1
2.	Explain both the literal and figurative meanings of the description of the pirate's feet as "calloused". (pg. 38)	2	3
3.	What do you think is causing the orange and yellow light?	1	1
4.	"He was already planning the next step, his next move in a large-scale game where, rather than snatching coloured stones, he took whole communities, homes, lives." Which game does this sentence allude to?	1	3

5.	Scraw resists the urge to hurt the Koala on pg. 39. Do you agree that this is out of his respect for Koalas?	1	4
6.	The author keeps mentioning Captain Scraw's headache. What do you think this says about Scraw's attitude towards the suffering of the meerkats?	1	3
7.	Discuss the author's use of language when it comes to the way the Koala's speak.	1	5
8.	Comment on the tragic irony of the meerkats hoping that the rain would stop on pg. 43.	2	3
9.	What is the baby meerkat's name? (pg. 44)	1	1
10.	Explain the difference between Mosela's and Lefika's approach to dealing with Vlerkie.	2	2
11.	Which of the two approaches mentioned in question 10. do you agree		_
	with most? Give a reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 4)	1 [15]	5
Cha	apter 5		
1.	Question  Do you think it is realistic for Mosela to start thinking rationally about	Marks	Level
	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?	2	4
2.	·	2	2
2. 3.	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?		
	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.	3	2
3.	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.  Who was the senior / higher ranked pirate penguin?  How would you feel if you were one of the captured meerkats who	3	2
3. 4.	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.  Who was the senior / higher ranked pirate penguin?  How would you feel if you were one of the captured meerkats who saw the events of Chapter 5 transpire? Motivate your answer.  The commotion on deck almost woke up the koalas. How would it	<ul><li>3</li><li>1</li><li>1</li></ul>	2 1 5
<ul><li>3.</li><li>4.</li><li>5.</li></ul>	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.  Who was the senior / higher ranked pirate penguin?  How would you feel if you were one of the captured meerkats who saw the events of Chapter 5 transpire? Motivate your answer.  The commotion on deck almost woke up the koalas. How would it affect the other characters if they did wake up?	<ul><li>3</li><li>1</li><li>1</li><li>2</li></ul>	2 1 5
<ul><li>3.</li><li>4.</li><li>5.</li><li>6.</li></ul>	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.  Who was the senior / higher ranked pirate penguin?  How would you feel if you were one of the captured meerkats who saw the events of Chapter 5 transpire? Motivate your answer.  The commotion on deck almost woke up the koalas. How would it affect the other characters if they did wake up?  How many species were present on the ship?  Give one word from pg. 56 that means the same as 'give up' or	<ul><li>3</li><li>1</li><li>2</li><li>1</li></ul>	<ul><li>2</li><li>1</li><li>5</li><li>3</li><li>2</li></ul>
<ol> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>7.</li> <li>8.</li> </ol>	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.  Who was the senior / higher ranked pirate penguin?  How would you feel if you were one of the captured meerkats who saw the events of Chapter 5 transpire? Motivate your answer.  The commotion on deck almost woke up the koalas. How would it affect the other characters if they did wake up?  How many species were present on the ship?  Give one word from pg. 56 that means the same as 'give up' or 'surrender'.  Compare the attitudes of Mosela and Vlerkie when things don't go according to plan.  Total marks (Chapter 5)	3 1 1 2 1 1	2 1 5 3 2
<ol> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>7.</li> <li>8.</li> </ol>	an escape plan immediately after witnessing such a horrific event?  Summarize Mosela's escape plan.  Who was the senior / higher ranked pirate penguin?  How would you feel if you were one of the captured meerkats who saw the events of Chapter 5 transpire? Motivate your answer.  The commotion on deck almost woke up the koalas. How would it affect the other characters if they did wake up?  How many species were present on the ship?  Give one word from pg. 56 that means the same as 'give up' or 'surrender'.  Compare the attitudes of Mosela and Vlerkie when things don't go according to plan.	3 1 1 2 1 1	2 1 5 3 2

2.	What does Mosela's thoughts and actions at the start of Chapter 6 say about her state of mind?	2	4
3.	Explain the simile on pg. 60. "That thought lingered in her brain, like a river frozen in winter."	2	3
4.	Who were the two meerkats who couldn't sleep?	2	1
5.	What coping mechanisms did the other meerkats use that Mosela found difficult to understand?	1	2
6.	What does it mean for the suns to reach their zenith? (Pg. 62)	1	3
7.	What helped Mosela finally get some sleep on pg. 63? Give a reason for your answer.	2	1
8.	What is the name of the landmark Palesa looks for first?	1	1
9.	On pg. 64, Dinawa tells Mosela to take a break from rowing. What does her reaction / thoughts reveal about her as the main character?	2	3
10.	How would you have felt if you were one of the meerkats in the boat with Mosela? Motivate your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 6)	1 [15]	5
Cha	apter 7		
1.	Question What time was it when Mosela and the other meerkats reached the shore? Write the answer in your own words.	Marks 1	Level
2.	State whether the following is TRUE or FALSE. Quote SIX consecutive words from pg. 68 to substantiate your answer. The chameleon Mosela saw had sharp, scary teeth.	1	2
3.	Give two possible reasons why Mosela feels like she is starting to lose her mind on pg. 68.	2	1
4.	What did the meerkats need to make fire?	1	1
5.	What are two things, according to Mosela, that can really help lift your spirits (pg. 69)?	2	1
6.	If you were Mosela and you had to choose between going to the village to try to get news about your family OR going to the watch point to send a distress signal / message to the Mouse King, which		

Mosela bites her nails when she has to decide which course of action will be best. What does this behaviour say about her state of mind?

2

5

4

option would you choose and why?

7.

8. Palesa states that the meerkats will be safer when they all travel together. How does this statement relate to the badge of Rodentia on 2 pg. 6? 3 9. Explain the outcome of the voting process by referring to the three groups of meerkats. 3 Total marks (Chapter 7) [15] **Chapter 8** Question Marks Level 1. Where is the music coming from? 1 2. What animal is beating the drum? 1 3. Why did Mosela not just use messenger birds to send for help? 2 2 4. Why do you think Mosela pronounces it 'koowah-wahs', instead of koalas? 2 3 5. What is Baneet's motivation for wanting the Three Kingdoms united? 2 6. Ditoro does not quite agree with Baneet about uniting the kingdoms. 2 Explain how Ditoro's opinion differs from Baneet's. 3 Moshesh believes that 'you should treat your enemies with kindness'. 7. Do you agree with this belief? Motivate your answer. 1 4 8. Mosela is shown to be afraid of many things. Do you think this makes her an appropriate hero for the story? Substantiate your answer. 2 5 9. Baneet and Mosela greet each other by saying 'Peace be'. What does this greeting refer to? 3 Total marks (Chapter 8) [15] Chapter 9 Question Marks Level 1. Who do you think Mosela is dreaming about on pg. 87? 3 2. What is the name of the mountain range that Mosela and Harold fly over? 1 3. What animals stole Mosela's belongings? 1 1 4. 2 Why was it so hard for Mosela to stay on Harold's back on pg. 91? 5. On pg. 91 – 93 Mosela recalls a fond memory of her father. What moral value do you think her father was trying to teach her? Discuss 2 why this moral value is important. 3 6. As Mosela follows the chameleon towards Gundwane's cave, its colour changes from cool colours (blue and cyan) to warmer colours

	(yellow and red). What is the chameleon trying to say with these colours?	2	3
7.	On pg. 95 Gundwane refers to Mosela as the 'protagonist'. What does this word mean?	1	3
8.	What is a 'creature of destiny' and what do they look like?	2	2
9.	Gundwane talks about 'neon lights' on pg.98. What does this suggest about him?	2	4
10.	Do you think Gundwane is right to be disappointed that Mosela cannot speak the language of her ancestors? Motivate your answer.	1	5
11.	According to Gundwane, what is Mosela's destiny?  Total marks (Chapter 9)	1 [15]	1
Cha	pter 10		
1.	Question Why was Khova fluttering frantically on pg. 105?	Marks 1	Level 3
2.	What is Prof. Futhi's title at the academy?	1	1
3.	Is the following statement TRUE or FALSE? Motivate your answer. Khova rolled his eyes at Prof. Futhi's long rant.	1	1
4.	Do you think Nandi is a good student? Give TWO reasons for your answer.	2	4
5.	How long has Khova been at the academy?	1	2
6.	Explain in your own words what the effect of Ephemera-spells are.	3	3
7.	Which words firstly begins and secondly ends the Ephemera-spell?	2	2
8.	Do you empathise with Nandi's frustration at not being able to produce the spell as well or as quickly as Khova? Motivate your answer.	2	5
9.	Compare Khova's and Nandi's attitudes towards the rules that forbid the practice of fire magic.	4	3
10.	What is Khova's mother's name?	1	1
11.	On pg. 119, Khova's mother says that two things can be true at the same time. Summarise the two reasons why she lives with Khova in your own words.  Total marks (Chapter 10)	2 [20]	2

# Chapter 11

1.	Question What was Khova's favourite thing to create out of flames and why do	Marks	Level
	you think so?	3	1
2.	Why do you think Khova needed an empty clearing to train in?	2	3
3.	Comment critically on the success of the following simile on pg. 124: "His scream echoed, breaking the silence of the early morning like shattered glass."	2	5
4.	What is the secret to Khova's first successful attempt to shoot the flame of the candle on pg. 125?	1	3
5.	Do you agree that Khova was lucky to have stopped the fire spreading?	1	4
6.	How do non-magical owls move about Imfihlo Academy?	1	1
7.	What do you think Nothando's words: "We can say you burned yourself at home. No one needs to know!" reveal about her as a character?	1	3
8.	What is the similarity between the layout of Khova's classroom in the previous chapter and the dome-shaped building of the Infirmary?	2	2
9.	Khova compares the nurse's voice to the sound of cutlery being poured into a metal sink. What does this metaphor tell you about him?  Total marks (Chapter 11)	2 [15]	3
Cha	apter 12		
1.	Question Khova couldn't help practicing fire magic even though it was forbidden, he injured himself, and his mother ordered him not to (at	Marks	Level
	least until he recovered). What does this reveal about him as a character?	1	3
2.	Summarize Khova's progress with fire magic on pg. 131.	3	2
3.	Do you think Nothando is a good mother? Motivate your answer.	1	4
4.	Name one reason why there is tension between the Owl Kingdom and the Mouse Kingdom.	1	1
5.	What do you think Nandi's tone of voice is when she says: "Oh, you like it actually?" on pg. 134?	1	3
6.	Discuss Impethu's value judgements on pg. 134 critically.	2	5
7.	Compare Khova's and Nandi's attitudes / reactions to Impethu & Bunghane's mean words.	4	3

Nandi to prove your answer. Nandi had romantic feelings toward Khova. 1 Total marks (Chapter 12) [15] Chapter 13 Question Marks Level 1. 1.1. Why does Khova think Prof. Futhi is at his house? 1.2. Is this the real reason? Motivate your answer. 1 1 2. Do you think it is a good idea that Khova starts looking for a source of fire to help him escape prof. Futhi on pg. 140? 3 What does the expression "I won't beat around the bush" on pg. 141 3. mean? Give a definition and use it in an example sentence. 2 2 4. Discuss possible pros and cons of Prof. Futhi's view of a "culture of support". 2 4 1 5. What does prof. Futhi recommend for anxiety? 1 Comment on the author's use of wordplay when he describes Khova's 6. attempt to stay calm as: "Khova had to keep his cool." 2 5 4 7. Compare the attitudes of prof. Futhi & Khova. 3 8. Is the following statement TRUE or FALSE? Give a reason for your answer. Nothando is being held at the Bhakabhaka Prison. 1 2 9. 3 Explain the root cause of Nothando's theft from her point of view. 3 Summarize Khova's attempt to escape in two full sentences. 10. 2 Total marks (Chapter 13) Chapter 14 Question Marks Level 1. Why is Khova experiencing delusions at the start of Chapter 14? 2 2. Who rescued him?  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 2 1 = 1 3. Khova gives his rescuer a fake name. What would you have done in a similar situation? 5 4. Explain the irony in Juan's words: "I said your name - not your life 1 3 story." 5. What do you think the outcome will be of Khova falling into Gundwane's cave? 3 Total marks (Chapter 14)

Is the following statement TRUE or FALSE? Quote two actions of

8.

# **Chapter 15**

9.

change his mind?

1.	Question The narrator tells the story in such a way that the readers know things the characters do not yet know. What does "Giant beasts" in Mosela's prophecy refer to?	Marks 1	Level
2.	Who is Mosela talking about when she asks: "Do you really think he is the Chosen One?"	1	1
3.	According to Gundwane, there is no such thing as coincidence. Do you agree with this notion? Motivate your answer.	1	5
4.	Gundwane says that they should focus on the facts. Why could this statement be considered ironic?	2	3
5. 6.	What do you think is symbolised when the chame-neon climbs into Mosela's lap and falls asleep there (pg. 163)? What is Harold's name for Mosela?	1	5 1
7.	Compare Mosela's and Khova's prophesies.	2	2
8.	Predict the outcome of Mosela's and Khova's trip.  Total marks (Chapter 15)	1 [10]	3
Cha	apter 16		
<b>Ch</b> a	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.	Marks 3	Level 2
	Question		
1.	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.	3	2
1. 2.	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.  Why do you think Mosela felt uncomfortable on pg. 172?  Why do you think the crowds are so overwhelming, particularly for	2	2
<ol> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.  Why do you think Mosela felt uncomfortable on pg. 172?  Why do you think the crowds are so overwhelming, particularly for Mosela?	<ul><li>3</li><li>2</li><li>1</li></ul>	<ul><li>2</li><li>4</li><li>4</li></ul>
<ol> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> </ol>	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.  Why do you think Mosela felt uncomfortable on pg. 172?  Why do you think the crowds are so overwhelming, particularly for Mosela?  What does the king's way of speaking reveal about his character?	<ul><li>3</li><li>2</li><li>1</li><li>2</li></ul>	<ul><li>2</li><li>4</li><li>4</li><li>3</li></ul>
<ol> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> </ol>	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.  Why do you think Mosela felt uncomfortable on pg. 172?  Why do you think the crowds are so overwhelming, particularly for Mosela?  What does the king's way of speaking reveal about his character?  What is the relationship between Arora and King Renner?  Who is the king referring to when he says 'derranged old rrat' on page	<ul><li>3</li><li>2</li><li>1</li><li>2</li><li>1</li></ul>	<ul><li>2</li><li>4</li><li>3</li><li>1</li></ul>
<ol> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> </ol>	Question Explain the metaphor used to describe the city on pg. 171.  Why do you think Mosela felt uncomfortable on pg. 172?  Why do you think the crowds are so overwhelming, particularly for Mosela?  What does the king's way of speaking reveal about his character?  What is the relationship between Arora and King Renner?  Who is the king referring to when he says 'derranged old rrat' on page 179?	<ul><li>3</li><li>2</li><li>1</li><li>2</li><li>1</li><li>1</li></ul>	<ul><li>2</li><li>4</li><li>3</li><li>1</li><li>3</li></ul>

2

Total marks (Chapter 16) [15]

The king decides to execute Mosela and Khova. What makes him

# Chapter 17

1.	Question What does Khova's actions and tone of voice reveal about his attitude / emotions on pg. 183-184?	Marks 2	Level
2.	Why do you think it is so important for Mosela that the prophecy turns out to be true?	1	4
3.	What similarity is there between the cities of Ovidivo and Bhakabhaka?	1	2
4.	Do you think the Parliament of Owls rarely receives non-flying guests? Give a reason for your answer.	1	3
5.	Who convinces the king to help Mosela on pg. 193 and what type of owl is he?	2	1
6.	Why does Bhalo think that they should help Mosela?	1	1
7. 8.	Who is Nandi? Why do you think Khova is so angry at Mosela on pg. 198-199?	1 2	3 1
9.	Khova was never able to use his magic to throw fire. Explain why he suddenly became powerful enough to do so.	2	3
10.	Do you think Mosela intended to kill Khova?  Total marks (Chapter 17)	2 [15]	5
	Total marks (Chapter 17)	[15]	
Cha		[13]	
	apter 18 Question	Marks	Level
<b>Cha</b> 1.	apter 18		Level
	apter 18  Question  Do you agree with Bhalo's statement that Mosela should be proud of	Marks	
1.	Question Do you agree with Bhalo's statement that Mosela should be proud of herself on pg. 202? Give a reason for your answer.  Explain what Bhalo means when he says 'hindsight is like being	Marks	4
1.	Question Do you agree with Bhalo's statement that Mosela should be proud of herself on pg. 202? Give a reason for your answer.  Explain what Bhalo means when he says 'hindsight is like being given water to drink, when you are drowning in the ocean' (pg. 202)  List the reasons why Bhalo thinks Mosela is actually the Chosen One.  Is the following statement true or false? Give a reason for your	Marks 1	3
<ol> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	Question Do you agree with Bhalo's statement that Mosela should be proud of herself on pg. 202? Give a reason for your answer.  Explain what Bhalo means when he says 'hindsight is like being given water to drink, when you are drowning in the ocean' (pg. 202)  List the reasons why Bhalo thinks Mosela is actually the Chosen One.	Marks 1	3
<ol> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	Question Do you agree with Bhalo's statement that Mosela should be proud of herself on pg. 202? Give a reason for your answer.  Explain what Bhalo means when he says 'hindsight is like being given water to drink, when you are drowning in the ocean' (pg. 202)  List the reasons why Bhalo thinks Mosela is actually the Chosen One.  Is the following statement true or false? Give a reason for your answer.  The prophecy is originally in Meerkat, but it was initially translated	Marks 1 2	3 2
<ol> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> </ol>	Question Do you agree with Bhalo's statement that Mosela should be proud of herself on pg. 202? Give a reason for your answer.  Explain what Bhalo means when he says 'hindsight is like being given water to drink, when you are drowning in the ocean' (pg. 202)  List the reasons why Bhalo thinks Mosela is actually the Chosen One.  Is the following statement true or false? Give a reason for your answer.  The prophecy is originally in Meerkat, but it was initially translated correctly to the Common Tongue.  How does the idiom, 'he has a beetle in his head' on pg. 204 affect	Marks 1 2 2	<ul><li>4</li><li>3</li><li>2</li><li>1</li></ul>

8.	Why is the king unwilling to help Mosela, a Rodentian?	1	3
9.	Why is there a large crowd gathered in the king's courtyard?	2	2
10.	Why would Bhalo make a magical shield for Mosela, why would she not just conjure it up herself?	1	3
11.	Do you think that it was ethically correct that Bhalo made it look like Mosela was using magic, when it was really him?  Total marks (Chapter 18)	2 [15]	4
Cha	pter 19		
1.	Question Why is King Renner so nervous?	Marks 1	Level 1
2.	Arora and Renner's names are both palindromes, (their names are spelled the same backwards as they are forwards), why do you think this is significant, considering the beliefs of the Mice?	2	3
3.	According to king Renner, what is the penguin army's usual strategy?	3	2
4.	Give two reasons why King Renner's army is less powerful than Captain Scraw's, even though King Renner has more troops?	2	3
5.	Do you think Renner and Arora have a good relationship? Give a		
	reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 19)	2 [10]	4
	reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 19)		4
	reason for your answer.		4 Level
Cha	reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 19)  Paper 20  Question What is it called when someone feels nauseated on / in a moving	[10] Marks	Level
<b>Cha</b>	reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 19)  Apter 20  Question What is it called when someone feels nauseated on / in a moving vehicle like a ship?  Summarize the reason why Mosela & Bhalo are going to Ovidivo	[10] Marks 1	Level
<b>Cha</b> 1. 2.	reason for your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 19)  Apter 20  Question What is it called when someone feels nauseated on / in a moving vehicle like a ship?  Summarize the reason why Mosela & Bhalo are going to Ovidivo ahead of the army. Why are they not waiting for King Inesh?  What is one of the main advantages (for the smaller creatures) to	[10] Marks 1 2	Level 3
<b>Cha</b> 1. 2. 3.	Total marks (Chapter 19)  Letter 20  Question What is it called when someone feels nauseated on / in a moving vehicle like a ship?  Summarize the reason why Mosela & Bhalo are going to Ovidivo ahead of the army. Why are they not waiting for King Inesh?  What is one of the main advantages (for the smaller creatures) to have a tortoise fighting with them?  Was Mosela well prepared for the battle even though they did not know they would fight so soon? Quote a sentence from pg. 224 to	[10] Marks 1 2	Level 3 2
1. 2. 3. 4.	Total marks (Chapter 19)  Question What is it called when someone feels nauseated on / in a moving vehicle like a ship?  Summarize the reason why Mosela & Bhalo are going to Ovidivo ahead of the army. Why are they not waiting for King Inesh?  What is one of the main advantages (for the smaller creatures) to have a tortoise fighting with them?  Was Mosela well prepared for the battle even though they did not know they would fight so soon? Quote a sentence from pg. 224 to substantiate your answer.  Do you think Mosela is a natural leader (leadership comes easily to	[10] Marks 1 2 1	Level 3 2 3
Cha 1. 2. 3. 4.	Total marks (Chapter 19)  apter 20  Question What is it called when someone feels nauseated on / in a moving vehicle like a ship?  Summarize the reason why Mosela & Bhalo are going to Ovidivo ahead of the army. Why are they not waiting for King Inesh?  What is one of the main advantages (for the smaller creatures) to have a tortoise fighting with them?  Was Mosela well prepared for the battle even though they did not know they would fight so soon? Quote a sentence from pg. 224 to substantiate your answer.  Do you think Mosela is a natural leader (leadership comes easily to her)? Give a reason from pg. 225 for your answer.  Comment on the irony of the soldiers yelling out "Phibyyyaaaaaaa!"	[10] Marks 1 2 1 1	Level 3 2 3 1 5

9.	Mosela explains the magic of the sword to Harold on pg. 234. What is his intension when he still tries to stop her from going back to the battle?	2	3
10.	Was the prophecy from earlier in the novel fulfilled? Use the events from chapter 20 to guide your answer.  Total marks (Chapter 20)	2 [15]	3
Cha	pter 21 & Epilogue		
1.	Question Explain why King Renner thinks that Captain Scraw's secret will be easy to uncover.	Marks 1	Level
2.	How did Mosela apply her father's lesson: "You use force to end a battle, you use kindness to prevent the next one" to her current situation?	2	2
3.	Explain King Renner's reluctance in making Mosela Queen.	3	3
4. 5.	Why is it fitting for a dassie to be leading the way to the prisoners? How does the author link chapter 21 to chapter 1 (and other parts of the story) in terms of Mosela's self-doubt?	2	3
6.	Who's is the first voice Mosela hears when they roll away the boulder at the entrance to the cave?	1	1
7.	How would you have felt if you were Mosela finding your loved ones?	1	5
8.	The Epilogue starts with Mosela doing the same thing she was doing in chapter 1. How does this affect the novel as a whole?	1	4
9.	Summarise how the three Kingdoms became united since the battle?	2	2
10.	What literary device does the author use when Mosela calls vomit 'feeding the fishies' at the end of the novel?  Total marks (Chapter 21 & Epilogue)  GRAND TOTAL	1 [15] <b>[330]</b>	3



### SECTION C: POST-READING: CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT

#### Introduction

The fictional world in which Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms is set, was inspired by the beautiful cultural diversity of real-world South Africa. In the novel, a few characters, including Litelu and Gundwane, express the belief that cultural diversity should be respected and honoured and that ancient languages should be preserved.

# PHASE 1: FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 6: Part 1: Research (20 Marks)

You are a writer for a travel magazine. Your editor asks you to write an article about cultural heritage in South Africa. Conduct research that explains why you think cultural diversity should be respected and honoured and why ancient languages should be preserved in South Africa. Your research can be about any cultural practices and/or any South African language (whether one of the official languages of South Africa or ancient) that you believe should be cherished, protected and celebrated.

### Step 1: Define research topic

Phrase the driving question / topic of your research, by completing this sentence:

Three beautiful traditions in South Africa that should be preserved and celebrated, are:	
1)	, _ and ,
	)

Step 2: Gather information

Gather relevant information from reliable sources about THREE cultural / linguistic traditions you think should be preserved / celebrated. There should be a clear link between these three traditions.

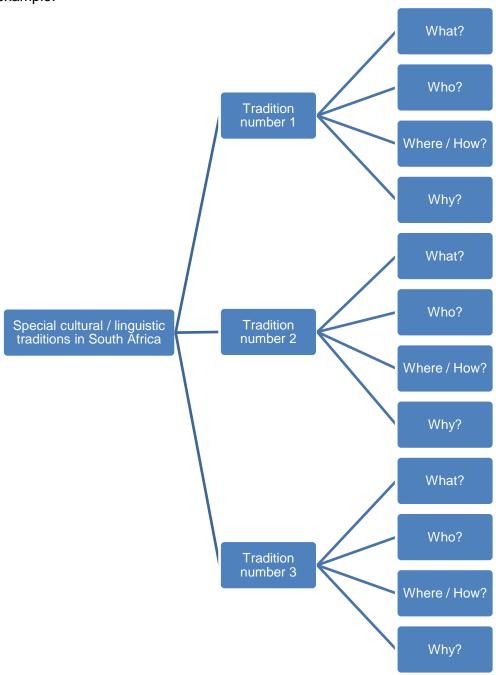
Possible sources of reliable information include newspaper or magazine articles, certain websites and interviews with relevant people. Remember that not all information on the internet is reliable! Look for well-known online publications, like travel magazines (in this case) or online articles that list the author's name and the date on which the article was published. Avoid online encyclopaedias with anonymous authors or personal blogs where anyone can write anything they want.

A good rule of thumb when deciding if a source (on the internet) is reliable or not, is to ask yourself: If any of these facts are proven untrue, what would the consequences be? If it would simply be negative comments or critical feedback on something an individual posted, it is probably not a reliable source. A reliable source has the responsibility of making sure that the information they provide stays true and up-to-date. Authors who write for reliable sources not only have to do extensive research before writing something, but they also have to retract things that aren't true or update website listings if the facts have changed since their articles were written.

### Step 3: Organise information

Create a mind map to show the main points you want to make about EACH of your chosen traditions.

#### For example:



#### Step 4: Summarize researched facts in your own words.

Use the information organised in your mind-map (step 3) to write a short paragraph about each tradition. These paragraphs should consist of the facts found during step 2 and 3, but should be rewritten in your own words.

### Step 5: List resources / Create Bibliography

After finding at least ONE reliable resource for EACH of your chosen traditions, create the bibliography for your article. You should thus have a minimum of THREE sources for the entire project. (If one of your sources lists two or more traditions you would like to write about, find more sources supporting or elaborating on that tradition). You will use this bibliography in PHASE 2 (Article). Use the following table to help you create your bibliography:

### For printed resources:

Author	Title	Year	Publisher	Place of publication
(Example:) Calder, L.	Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms	2023	Human & Rousseau	Cape Town

#### For online resources:

Author	Title	Year	Available at (URL)	Date of
				access
(Example:) Caulfield, J.	Reference a Website in Harvard Style   Templates & Examples	2020	https://www.scribbr.co.uk/referencing/harvard-website-reference/	Date of access: 14 July 2025

#### For other sources of information, such as interviews:

Name of person being interviewed	Year of interview	Title / topic of interview	Interviewed by:	Name of publication (if printed)
(Example) Luke Calder	2025	The importance of cultural preservation illustrated in Rodentia: Mosela and the Three Kingdoms.	(Your name) Zoë Calder	(N/A)

Read the rubric on pg. 31 that will be used to assess your work.

# PHASE 2: FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 6: Part 2: WRITING: Article (30 Marks)

Use the information gathered during Phase 1 of this project and write a research paper (article) about three beautiful traditions in South Africa that should be preserved and celebrated.

Follow the following guidelines for research papers:

A research paper consists of four sections: the introduction, the body, the conclusion and a list of references (the bibliography).

- The introduction is where you will briefly explain to the reader the topic you will be covering in your paper. The introduction section is typically one paragraph illustrating your chosen topic's importance to the reader. (You could edit and use your definition of your research topic / driving question (step 1 of PHASE 1 as your introduction.)
- Consider the body paragraphs of your research paper as the core of your work. This section is where you delve into the main points, present your arguments, discuss relevant facts, and provide essential information and detail related to your topic. Plan the amount of words you use well the vast majority of the content of a research article should be the body. The length of your article will be determined by your grade (120 140 words (grade 7); 140 160 words (grade 8) and 160 180 word (grade 9), but plan the amount of words used in the body (content) accordingly.
- The conclusion of your paper is a summary of the topics you covered in your paper and why they are important to your topic. The conclusion reinforces your point to the reader. It should summarize your paper's topic in an easily understandable, short, concise way.
- The list of references gives acknowledgement to the sources (authors) where the original facts (research) comes from, to avoid plagiarism.





Make sure to follow the steps of process-writing when planning, drafting and writing the final version of your research paper:

- 1. Planning/ pre-writing of the creative writing project
- 2. Drafting
- 3. Revising
- 4. Editing
- 5. Proofreading
- 6. Presenting

Also make sure to read the rubric on pg. 32 that will be used to assess your work.

### PHASE 3: FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 7:

### Oral presentation (20 Marks)

Plan, write and deliver an oral presentation of the three beautiful traditions in South Africa you have chosen that should be preserved and celebrated.

Make speech cards to help you during your oral presentation, but be very careful not to read your entire speech off of these cards.

Design a short digital presentation (with PowerPoint or a similar tool) OR a poster with helpful pictures that make your oral presentation more engaging to the audience. PLEASE NOTE: these visual aids should not contain too much written information. Your speech is the main source of information and the visual aids merely help keep the audience interested. They should consist of mainly pictures or other visual representations of facts (such as graphs / charts). You can include your bibliography on the last slide of your presentation or on the back of your poster, or you can name your sources during your oral presentation, but it is very important to acknowledge your sources!

Please remember the following during your presentation: maintain eye contact with the audience, maintain good posture, speak slowly and audibly, use natural hand gestures and natural tone of voice. When you have finished your presentation, invite questions or comments from the audience. If you are giving feedback to someone else's speech, or asking them a question or providing a comment, it is very important to remain respectful and sensitive to the rights and feelings of everyone else in the classroom.

Read the rubric on pg. 33 that will be used to assess your work.



FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 6: Creative Writing Project: Phase 1: RESEARCH (20 Marks)

Criteria	5-6	3-4		1-2	
Relevance of	Research topic Research to		opic	Research topic	
information	(driving question)	(driving qu	estion)	(driving question)	
(Step 1-2)	very clearly defined.	defined.		unclearly /	
	High quality, very	Appropriat	e,	inadequately defined.	
	relevant information	somewhat	relevant	Irrelevant / not	
	was sourced. Learner	informatio	n was	enough information	
	has more than	sourced. Le	earner	was sourced. Learner	
	enough information	has enougl	n	needs more	
/6	to carry on with	informatio	n to carry	information to carry	
/0	Phase 2.	on with Ph	ase 2.	on with Phase 2.	
	3-4			1-2	
Organisation of	Excellent to well organ	ised	Average t	o poorly organised	
information	information using logic	al	information lacking structure.		
(Step 3)	organisational structur	e	Information fails to address		
	(framework). Informat	ion	enough aspects of the topic.		
/4	addresses all or most a	spects of			
/4	the topic.				
	5-6	3-		1-2	
Documentation of	Information was	Informatio	n was	Information was	
relevant information	exceptionally	adequately	/	poorly paragraphed	
(Step 4)	paragraphed and	paragraphe		and summarised	
	summarised using	summarise	_	using mostly chunks	
/6	learner's own words.	mostly lear	rner's	of the original texts.	
70		own words	S		
	3-4			1-2	
Variety and reliability	3 or more highly releva	ant and	Not (relev	ant or appropriate)	
of resources	appropriate sources w	ere used	used enough sources were used ar		
(Step 5)	and cited correctly.		sources w	ere poorly cited.	
/4					
TOTAL MARKS	/20				

### FORMELE ASSESSERINGSTAAK 6: Kreatiewe Skryfprojek: Fase 2: TRANSAKSIONELE SKRYFWERK (Artikel) (30 Punte)

ONWELL ASSESSININGSTARY OF REGIEWE SKTYIPTOJEK. 1 ase 2. TRANSARSTONELL SKRTT WERK (Artikel) (50 Turke)							
Kriteria	Vlak 7	Vlak 6	Vlak 5	Vlak 4	Vlak 3	Vlak 2	Vlak 1
	(80-100%)	(70 – 79%)	(60-69%)	(50-59%)	(40-49%)	(30-39%)	(0-29%)
	12 – 15	11	9 – 10	8	6 – 7	5	0 – 4
INHOUD,	Uitstekende kennis	Baie goeie kennis	Goeie kennis van	Voldoende kennis	Onvoldoende kennis	Baie min kennis van	Geen kennis van
BEPLANNING &	van teksvereistes.	van teksvereistes.	teksvereistes.	van teksvereistes.	van teksvereistes.	teksvereistes.	teksvereistes.
FORMAAT	Inligting ondersteun	Inligting ondersteun	Inligting ondersteun	Inligting ondersteun	Sommige inligting	Inligting ondersteun	Inligting ondersteun
1 OKWACI	die sentrale idee (wat	die sentrale idee (wat	die sentrale idee (wat	tot 'n mate die	ondersteun die	meestal nie die	glad nie die sentrale
	heeltemal duidelik is)	baie duidelik is) op 'n	redelik duidelik is) op	sentrale idee (wat	sentrale idee (wat	sentrale idee (wat	idee nie. Sentrale
	op 'n hoogs	baie effektiewe wyse.	'n bevredigende	meestal duidelik is).	vaag is).	baie vaag is) nie.	idee is heeltemal
	effektiewe wyse.	Baie goed beplan.	wyse. Redelike	Voldoende	Onvoldoende	Grotendeelse gebrek	onduidelik. Algehele
	Uitstekend beplan.	Baie goeie	beplanning is	beplanning is	beplanning.	aan voldoende	gebrek aan
	Uiters doelgerig en heeltemal koherent.	doelgerigtheid en koherensie.	duidelik. Inligting word op 'n redelik	duidelik. Daar is tekens van	Skryfwerk is soms vaag / wyk gereeld	beplanning. Skryfwerk is baie	beplanning. Skryfwerk is total
	neellemai konerent.	Konerensie.	doelgerigte en	doelgerigtheid en	van die onderwerp	onsamehangend en	onsamehangend en/
/15			koherente wyse	koherensie, maar	af.	wyk meestal van	of wyk heeltemal van
			aangebied.	leerder wyk soms af.	ai.	onderwerp af.	onderwerp af.
	Level 7	Level 6	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	(80-100%)	(70 – 79%)	(60-69%)	(50-59%)	(40-49%)	(30-39%)	(0-29%)
	8 – 10	` 7 ′	` 6	5	` 4	` 3 ′	0-2
LANGUAGE,	Very skilfully crafted	Skilfully crafted text.	Well crafted text.	Adequate writing.	Mostly inadequate	Poor writing.	Very poor writing.
STYLE &	text. Writing is free	Writing is mostly free	Some writing errors	Quite a few language	writing.	Several errors after	Language and
EDITING	(or almost free) of	of errors after	occur after	errors occur after	Quite a few language	little to no	punctuation seriously
LDITINO	errors after	proofreading /	somewhat effective	proofreading /	errors occur – not	proofreading /	flawed. Complete
	proofreading /	editing. Good use of	proofreading /	editing. Adequate	enough proofreading	editing. Language	lack of adequate
	editing. Consistently accurate use of	appropriate vocabulary and	editing. Mostly adequate use of	use of vocabulary and punctuation.	/ editing. Simplistic use of basic	and punctuation mostly flawed. Very	vocabulary. Style and tone (register)
	impressive	punctuation. Style	vocabulary and	Style and tone	vocabulary and	basic vocabulary.	completely
	vocabulary and	and tone (register)	punctuation. Style	(register) somewhat	inaccurate use of	Style and tone	inappropriate.
	punctuation. Style	well suited to	and tone (register)	suited to purpose.	punctuation. Style	(register) mostly	паррторпасо.
/4.0	and tone (register)	purpose.	mostly suited to		and tone (register)	inappropriate.	
/10	highly suited to		purpose.		often not appropriate.	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
	purpose.						
	Level 7	Level 5	Level 3	Level 1			
	(80-100%)	(60%)	(40%)	(0-20%)			
0.70110.7110.5	4 – 5	3	2	0-1			
STRUCTURE	Sentences and	Sentences and	Some sentences are	Poor sentence			
	paragraphs very well	paragraphs decently	awkwardly structured	structure. Little to no			
	structured – varying in length. Ideas	structured. Some variation in length.	<ul> <li>meaning becomes slightly unclear.</li> </ul>	paragraph organisation. Ideas			
	expressed fluently	Ideas flow somewhat	There is some	are disorganised and			
	and well organised.	logically and are	attempt to write in	very difficult to follow.			
	and won organisou.	decently organised.	paragraphs, however	vor, annount to follow.			
		accorning organicous	ideas are not				
/5			adequately				
			organised.				
TOTAL:		<u></u>	30				
		/ (	JU				

## FORMAL ASSESSMENT TASK 7: Creative writing project: Phase 3: ORAL PRESENTATION (20 Marks)

Criteria	5	4	3	2	1	
CONTENT /5	Exceptional planning and preparation are evident. Very clear and logical presentation. Relevant resources clearly referenced. Exceptionally purposeful and effective presentation of content.	Detailed planning and preparation are evident. Clear and logical presentation. Relevant resources referenced. Purposeful and effective presentation of content.	Planning and some preparation are evident. Adequately logical presentation. Learner refers to some relevant sources. Purpose of presentation is somewhat clear.	Some planning and preparation are evident. Little to mention of relevant sources is made. Somewhat adequate presentation of content.	No evidence of planning / preparation. No relevant sources referenced. Completely inadequate presentation of content.	
ORAL PRESENTATION SKILLS	Excellent eye contact throughout presentation. Very suitable style / register. Exceptional use of tone, voice projection, volume, pacing and phrasing. Exceptional non-verbal communication (gestures and body language).	Very good eye contact throughout presentation. Suitable style / register. Decent use of tone, voice projection, volume, pacing and phrasing. Good nonverbal communication (gestures and body language).	Maintains good eye contact, but displays some lapses. Mostly suitable style / register. Some effective use of tone, voice projection, pacing and phrasing. Somewhat effective nonverbal communication (gestures and body language).	Some eye contact, but displays long / distracting lapses. Style / register somewhat suitable. Very little use of effective tone, voice projection, pacing and/or phrasing. Nonverbal communication does not support the presentation.	Struggles to maintain eye contact. Inappropriate style / register. Lack of effective use of tone, voice projection, pacing and/or phrasing. Body language and gestures are either completely absent or distract from the presentation.	
ORAGINISATION (Introduction-body-conclusion)	Exemplary organisation. Research findings are very clearly presented. Very clear link between content sections.	Well organised content. Research findings are clearly presented. Clear link between content sections.	Decently organised content. Some evidence of research findings that supports the content. Some proof of a link between content sections.	The content does not have a clear structure. The link between findings is lacking / not clearly presented.	Poor structure. No evidence of research findings or a link between content sections.	
USE OF RESOURCES / REFERENCE MATERIAL	Excellent use of relevant visual aids which enhances the overall success of the presentation. Very effective use of que cards.	Good use of relevant visual aids which mostly enhances the overall success of the presentation. Good use of que cards.	Visual aids either too detailed or not detailed enough and they pose some distraction from the presentation, harming the overall success. Learner often reads off of que cards.	Ineffective use of visual aids which negatively impact the overall success of the presentation. Learner reads off of que cards very often.	Complete lack of functional visual aids. Learner exclusively reads off of que cards.	
Total marks:		/20				