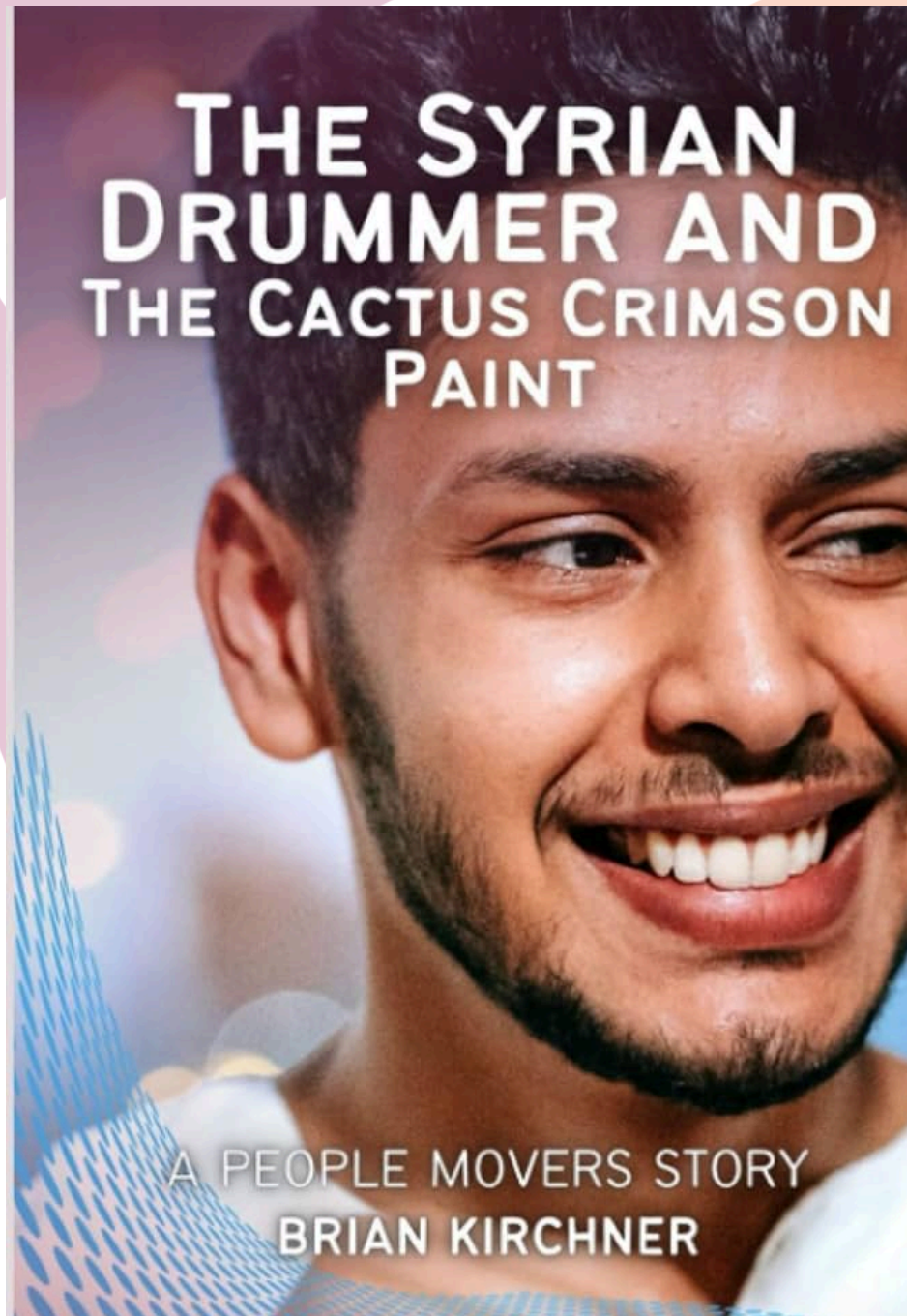


TEACHER RESOURCES & STUDENT ACTIVITIES



How to Use Storyshares Teacher Resources & Student Activities

Pre-Reading

Share **background information**.

Introduce the **vocabulary** to the students. Discuss meanings. Click here for an **instructional routine** for vocabulary.

Reading

Share the written response to reading prompt ahead of time as the **focus for reading**.

Encourage students to **read a chapter** of the text independently or in pairs.

After Reading

Students can complete the **trivia worksheet** or make it into a game! Either way, make time to review answers.

Students complete the **written response to reading** prompt.

Background Information

Three bandmates are searching for a new drummer in their hometown just outside of Detroit. A few streets over, talented drummer Yusuf and his family are Syrian refugees, searching for a new life and new opportunities. It's a perfect match, except that racial and religious tensions are at an all-time high, and there are some who would come between the new family and their chances at success.

Visual Vocabulary

This vocabulary guide was created with English language learners in mind. This table flags Tier 2 vocabulary words in every chapter. This guide includes the definitions in context, as well as images and examples from the text.

Trivia Questions


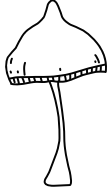

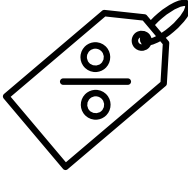

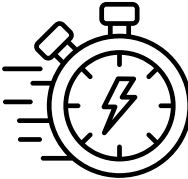


This is a ready-made student worksheet that can be given as a check for understanding after students have finished the book. You can also gamify the trivia questions, making this a small group activity. **Answers: 1. B; 2. A; 3. A; 4. C**



Click [here](#) for reading comprehension worksheets and graphic organizers.



The Syrian Drummer and the Cactus Crimson Paint by Brian Kirchner

| Word | Definition | Image | Example |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| slogan (noun) | a short phrase used to state an idea or political message |  | "As usual, he was wearing his ill-fitting red baseball cap with his favorite political slogan printed on it." (ch 1) |
| scrawny (adjective) | very thin; skinny |  | "For some reason he had a pair of binoculars slung around his scrawny neck." (ch 1) |
| amplifier (noun) | something that increases the power of something else |  | "The amplifier stack against one wall blasted his voice out at maximum volume." (ch 1) |
| discount (noun) | an amount taken away from the full or regular price or cost |  | "Uh-uh, I give you ten to one he was looking to get the five-finger discount ." (ch 2) |
| vocal (noun) | a sound made by someone's voice; singing |  | "We didn't sound that good, to be honest, but X killed the vocals ." (ch 3) |
| rapidly (adverb) | quickly; fast |  | "Yusuf nodded rapidly ." (ch 3) |
| ruin (noun) | complete destruction |  | "Our native Syria is in ruins ." (ch 5) |
| native (adjective) | being the place of birth or origin |  | "Our native Syria is in ruins." (ch 5) |

Name: _____ Date: _____

Multiple Choice

Read the questions carefully. Choose the answer that fits the question best.

1. The first time Carlos, Kenji, and X meet Yusuf, what is he wearing on his head?

- A. a Yankees baseball cap
- B. a straw cowboy hat
- C. a turban

2. What does Mrs. Karout, Yusuf's mother, show his new bandmates when they visit Yusuf's family?

- A. The lifejacket her daughter was wearing when she drowned
- B. An ornate Arabic tea set from Morocco
- C. A scrapbook

3. Why does X suggest that the band should visit Linda Hendrickson's place?

- A. Yusuf borrowed paint from her.
- B. She saw who really spray-painted the Bodley garage.
- C. She is a scientist who is an expert in paint chemistry.

4. What was found on Derek Bodley's shoes that proved he was at Linda Hendrickson's?

- A. Motor oil
- B. Pollen from an exotic plant
- C. Fertilizer from Thailand

Written Response to Reading

How does X's dad help the band solve the case? (*X's dad helps the band solve the case by...*)
