

**1a Complete the information about the book.**

## HOMEGOING

**Author:** Yaa Gyasi was born in Ghana, <sup>1</sup> **East / West** Africa.

**Moved to:** <sup>2</sup> **Alabama / The Bahamas** in the USA with her family when she was two.

**Started writing:** after reading <sup>3</sup> **American / British** author Toni Morrison.

**Story about:** two separated half- <sup>4</sup> **brothers / sisters**, Effia and Esi, with the same <sup>5</sup> **father / mother**, who live in <sup>6</sup> **different villages / the same village** in Ghana in the <sup>7</sup> **1700s / 2000s**.

**Each chapter:** follows the lives of Effia and Esi's family <sup>8</sup> **members / friends** over the next <sup>9</sup> **30 / 300** years.

**Topics of the novel:** family <sup>10</sup> **curses / luck**, <sup>11</sup> **success / slavery** and its effects on <sup>12</sup> **Black / White** Americans, the importance of learning about your <sup>13</sup> **future / past**.

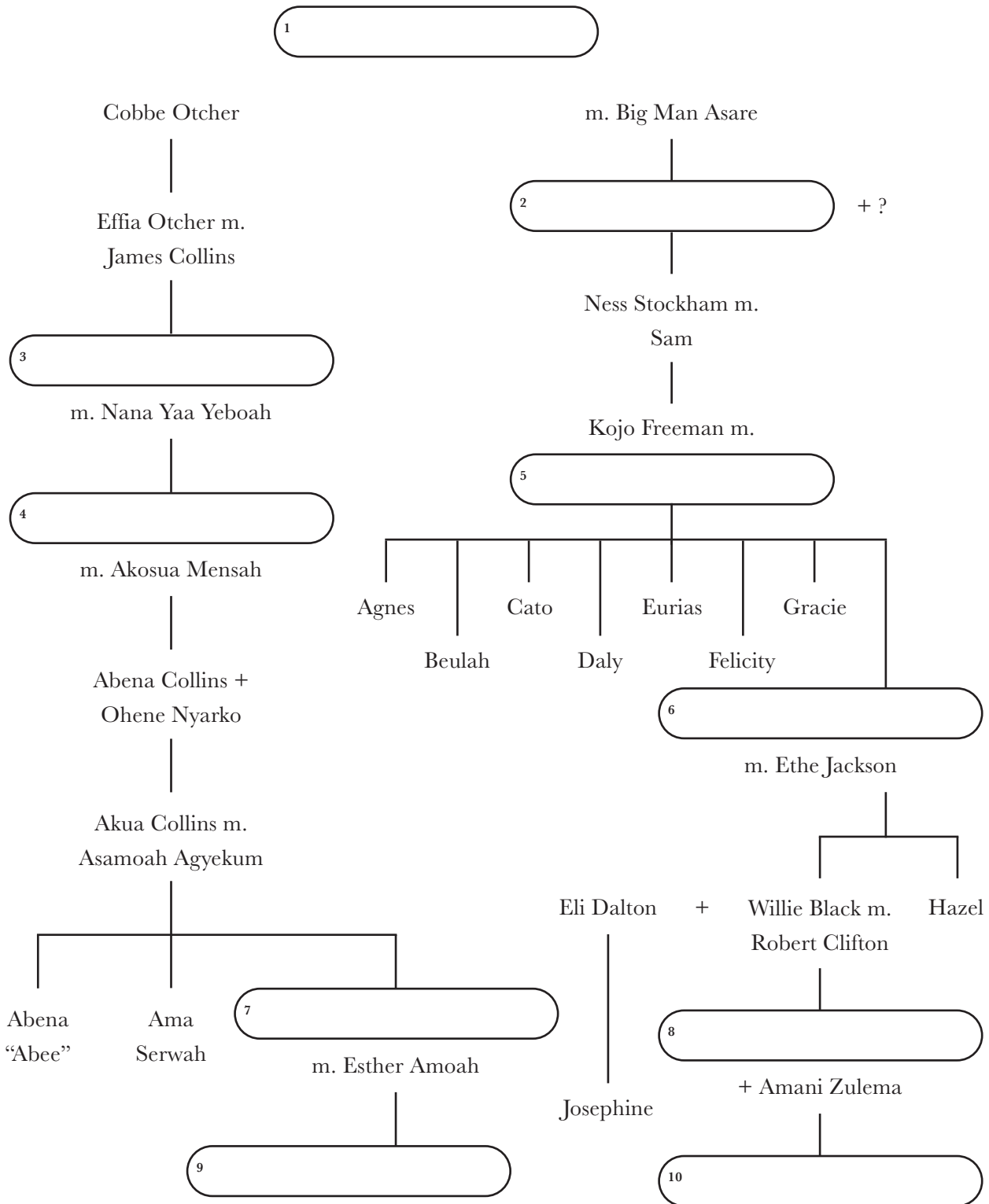
**1b Put the information in the correct column.**

marry people of different races    have slaves    go to war with their neighbours  
 buy and sell people    have children if they were unmarried    treat women the same as men  
 have difficult lives    understand differences    have equal rights    believe in curses

At the time of the story people used . . .	At the time of the story people didn't use . . .

**2a** Complete the family tree with the names in the box.

Quey Collins   Carson “Sonny” Clifton   Esi Asare   H Black   Maame   Marcus Clifton  
 James Richard Collins   Marjorie Agyekum   Anna Foster   Yaw Agyekum



**2b Answer the questions with names from the family tree.**

- 1 Who was the best fighter in the Asante village? .....
- 2 When Effia married the governor of Cape Coast Castle, who was trapped in the dungeons under the castle? .....
- 3 Who was the daughter of the Asante King? .....
- 4 Who had deep scars all over her body after being beaten by a slave trader? .....
- 5 Who was kidnapped and killed herself while she was pregnant? .....
- 6 Who made money by selling cocoa seeds? .....
- 7 Who was drowned by a missionary? .....
- 8 Who had two children from two different men who both drank a lot? .....
- 9 Who got scars from a fire that his mother started? .....
- 10 Who was a drug addict? .....
- 11 Who wrote a poem? .....
- 12 Who did not like water? .....

**2c Which character do you most identify with and why? Which character do you dislike and why?**

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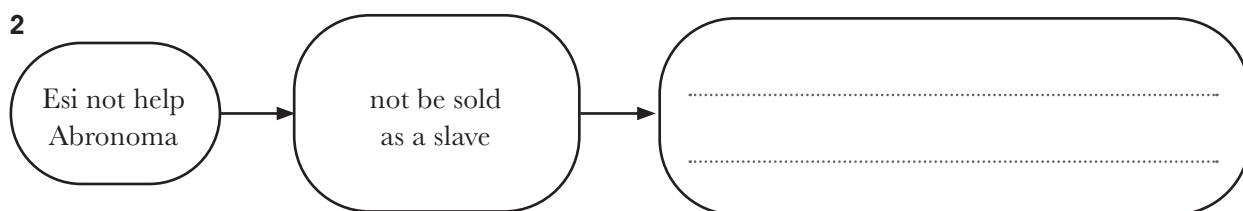
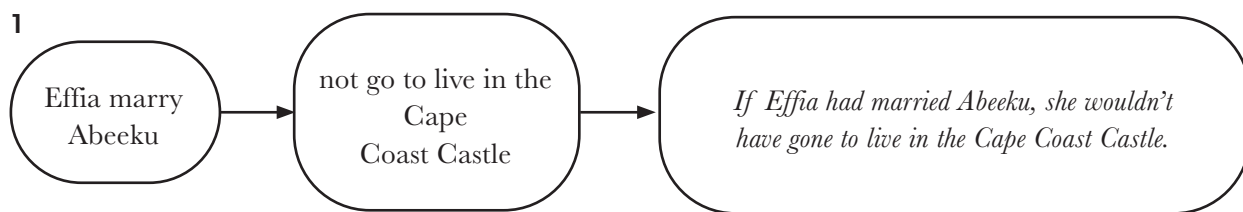
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**3a How would the story be different in the following situations? Complete the chains using the third conditional.**

*The first one is an example.*



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Fiifi not  
capture  
Nana Yaa



Quey not be forced  
to marry her



.....

.....

4

Sam learn  
English



Nessa not  
be whipped



.....

.....

5

Ma Aku not  
adopt Jo



be killed by  
the Devil



.....

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6

Anna not  
kidnap



Jo's family stay  
together



.....

.....

7

H still have  
family



not be sold to  
mines for ten years



.....

.....

8

Akua not have  
nightmares



not burn house  
and scar son



.....

.....

9

Willie lighter  
skin



get job in Harlem  
jazz club



.....

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10

Marjorie and  
Marcus  
not meet



we not understand  
the connection  
between the families

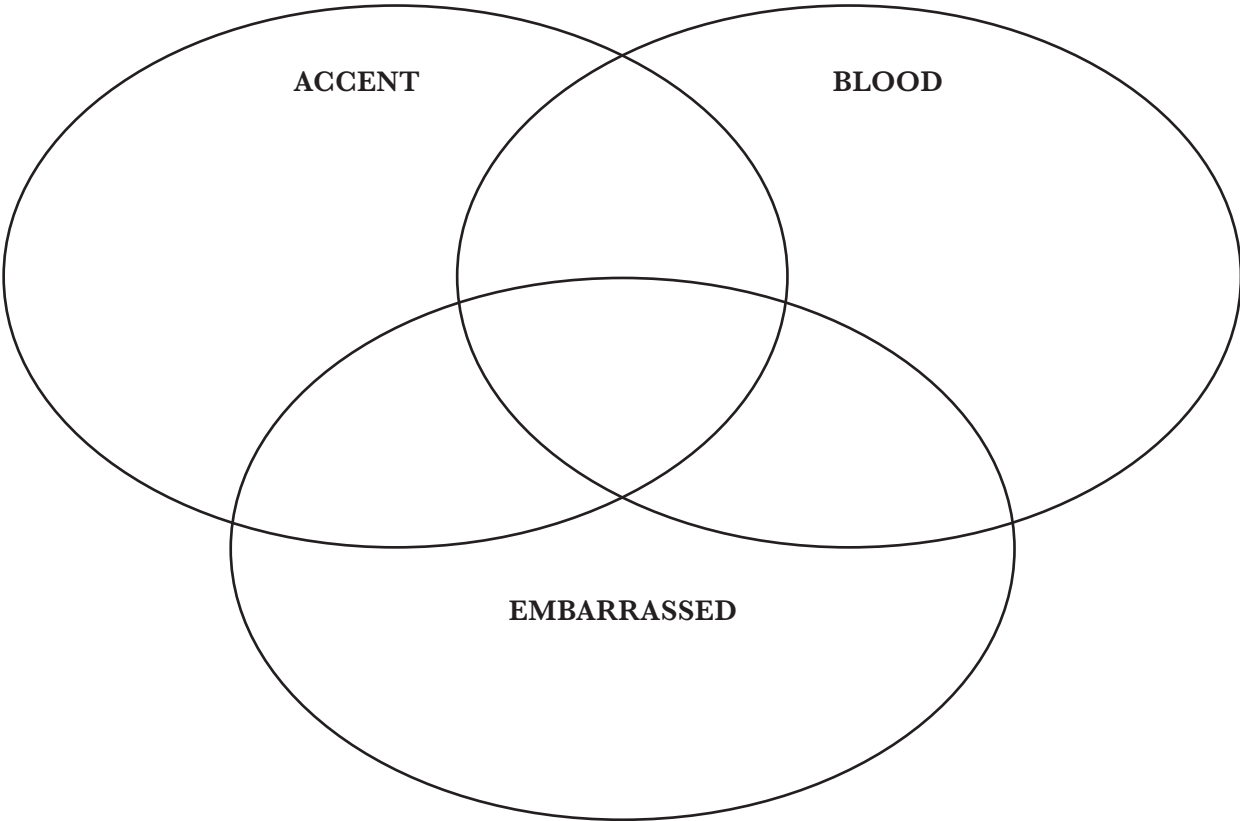


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4 Complete this mind map with the words in the box. Some words can go in more than one category.

hurt    pain    accent    shrug    hiccup    addiction    freedom    weak  
blood    embarrassed    scar    bruise    shame    cane    needle    ghost  
crying    lost    curious    heat    fear    screaming    cursed    gasp



5a Choose a chapter from the book. Write three important words about it. Look at the example below.

Yaw  
Mother  
Scars  
Teacher

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**5b** Work in pairs or small groups. Ask and answer yes/no questions about your chapter from 5a. Look at the example below for question and answer ideas.

*Is the character in your chapter a teacher?*

*Yes, he is.*

*Is his mother dead?*

*No, she isn't.*

*Does your character have scars?*

*Yes, he does.*

*Did his mother give him those scars?*

*Yes, she did.*

*Did she beat him?*

*No, she didn't.*

**5c** Now tell your partner or group the story of your chapter from 5a and 5b in your own words.

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**6a** Write a script for one of the scenes from a chapter in the book.

Chapter ..... :

STAGE DIRECTIONS: .....

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CHARACTERS: .....

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SCRIPT: .....

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**6b** Act out your script in small groups.

**7a** Do some research about people who made their money from slavery in your town, city, or country.

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**7b** Have a class debate on the topic below.



**7c** At the end of the debate, take a class vote.