

## Before-reading questions

- 1 Example answer:** You would feel very afraid. You might be hungry and tired if you did not have anything to eat or a place to sleep. You would miss your family. It would be worse if you didn't speak the same language.
- 2 Example answer:** India has many more people than Australia and it is more crowded. Australia has more space than India. There are more poor people in India. People in Australia probably have more money, but Australia is more expensive to live in. The food is very different.

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1** He did not want to be alone on the train platform in the night and he thought that Guddu might be on the train.
- 2** He is afraid of them because they put Guddu in prison once.
- 3 Example answer:** There are too many trains leaving the station so it is hard to find the right one. And he cannot read or ask for help.

### CHAPTER TWO

- 1** He knows that the city is dangerous because of the men that tried to catch him and the other children in the station and the two dead bodies he sees by the river.
- 2** There are too many hungry children on the streets – the people in the cafés cannot help them all.
- 3** He is sad that the men who offered their help were really bad men. But he feels better about himself because he can look after himself. This thought makes him feel stronger.

### CHAPTER THREE

- 1** He takes him to a police station.
- 2** Liluah is like a prison for children. It is a big, dangerous place where there are violent children and adults who hit anyone who gives them trouble. Nava Jeevan is an orphanage. It is smaller and feels like a friendly place. There are bad children but they are not as bad as the ones in Liluah, and the adults never hit them.
- 3** He sees his new parents (the Brierleys) and their car, and pictures of his new home in Australia.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 1** She cleans the chocolate off his hands.
- 2** Mantosh is Saroo's younger brother, who is also adopted. His adoption was harder than Saroo's because it took longer and he had to stay in Liluah for a long time. Mantosh also came from a difficult family. Because of his past, life in Australia is more difficult for him.
- 3** Sue Brierley once dreamed that she saw a brown child. She and her husband knew that India had lots of children who needed homes and ISSA did adoptions quickly.

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 1** He starts thinking about his past and his home and family in India because they knew the places he told them about. This made it much more real. He also started thinking that it might be possible to find his home in India.
- 2** He cannot remember some information very well – he is not sure about the names of places or how long he was on the train.
- 3** It is getting too difficult and taking too much time away from his studies. And he might be a little afraid of searching and finding nothing.

## CHAPTER SIX

- 1 Inside the circle are all the possible places where his home could be. He thinks that he travelled 1,000 kilometres (from his friend's dad's advice), so the circle is 1,000 kilometres around Kolkata on the map. He can search every station inside the circle to find his home.
- 2 She understands how important his search is, she is positive about it and she never tells him to stop.
- 3 He wants to tell his Indian family that he is OK, and he wants to understand his life and himself better.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 **Example answer:** He found his home while he was taking a break. He moved past the circle to look at some different and interesting land when he suddenly found Burhanpur train station.
- 2 The Brierleys are unsure that Saroo could find his home on a map. It is hard for them to believe that Saroo found his home in a huge country like India using only his memories. They are also afraid of losing their son if he goes back to India.
- 3 He is worried about being wrong. He also does not want to be in a big group because they would be noticed too much. And because he started the journey himself, he wants to finish it himself.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 The place where he played as a child is still there and his home is still there, but they look different now. Some of the older houses are gone and there are now more modern houses.
- 2 **Example answer:** It means that he is very, very nervous and a little afraid while he is walking towards his home.

- 3 **Example answer:** It means he is very, very sad when he learns about his brother's death.

## CHAPTER NINE

- 1 She always believed that Saroo might return, and she wanted to be in the same place waiting for him to find her.
- 2 He visits Mrs Sood.
- 3 He says thank you to the homeless man who saved his life there when he was a child.

## CHAPTER TEN

- 1 He wants to buy her a better house.
- 2 He wants to meet his Indian mother again.
- 3 **Example answer:** He feels like the same person, but he feels more complete now because he has both his families. He still feels Australian but he feels like an Indian, too.

## After-reading questions

- 1 **Example answer:** Saroo's real Indian name is "Sheru", which means lion. Lions are strong animals, so maybe Saroo is like a lion when he has to live on his own in a dangerous place like Kolkata.
- 2 **Example answer:** Sue Brierley is important in Saroo's story because she became his second mother and gave him a good life in Australia with John. Mrs Sood is important in Saroo's story because she found a family to adopt him. Kamla is important because she is Saroo's birth mother. Saroo never stopped thinking about her when he was in Australia, and she never left Ganesh Talai because she believed that Saroo would return one day. Guddu is important because he was Saroo's older brother when he was a child, and he did not come back to the train station. Mantosh is important because he becomes Saroo's adopted brother in Australia and Saroo understands how lucky he is when he learns about Mantosh's difficult life.

**3 Example answer:** When he went back to India, he was excited to be back, but he also felt like a lost boy again because he did not speak the language. When he took the train to Kolkata again, the journey was very strange for him. In the city, he remembered a lot of things from the last time he was there, like feeling lost and hungry, the large crowds of people and the homeless man.

**4 Example answers:** He is very happy that he has found his family. He feels lucky that he has two families now. He is also famous now because of telling his story. He talks to people all around the world about his life. He is the same person as before but he is also different because now he has found his other family and understands where he has come from.

**5 Example answers:** He wanted to tell the world about his story so that other people who are adopted might feel like they could find their family. He wants to give people hope. People were interested in hearing his story.

## Exercises

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1** 1 beg    2 lost  
 3 scar    4 platform  
 5 carriage

### CHAPTER TWO

- 2** 1 Saroo **saw** two dead bodies on the ground by the river.  
 2 Saroo **was saved** from the water by the homeless man.  
 3 Saroo **found** a new place to sleep most nights.  
 4 Saroo **was given** food by the railway man.  
 5 Saroo **hid** from the men by staying in a space between two houses.

### CHAPTER THREE

- 3** a 4    b 5    c 1    d 6    e 3    f 2

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 4** 1 false    2 true  
 3 true    4 false  
 5 true    6 true  
 7 false    8 false

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 5** 1 What did Saroo do after he finished studying Accountancy at college?  
 2 Who did Saroo meet in Canberra/at the school?  
 3 Why was it difficult for Saroo to search for his home?  
 4 Why could Saroo not use maps?/Why didn't maps help?  
 5 What website helped Saroo a lot in his search/did Saroo use for his search?  
 6 What did Saroo do after he finished studying at the Australian International Hotel School in Canberra?

### CHAPTER SIX

- 6** While I <sup>1</sup> **was living** with my parents I <sup>2</sup> **broke up** with my girlfriend. I decided to move in with my friend Byron and I also <sup>3</sup> **started** the search for my home again. One night, while I <sup>4</sup> **was searching**, I <sup>5</sup> **found** a station that looked like my home. But I was wrong. I was still living with Byron when I <sup>6</sup> **met** Lisa. Any time that I was not working, I was on Google Earth.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>7 Who spoke?</b>               | <b>Who to?</b>            |
| 1 Saroo                           | Lisa                      |
| 2 Lisa                            | Saroo                     |
| 3 Mr Brierley                     | Saroo                     |
| 4 Saroo                           | Khandwa<br>Facebook group |
| 5 Mr and Mrs Brierley<br>and Lisa | Saroo                     |
| 6 Mrs Brierley<br>and Lisa        | Saroo                     |

## CHAPTER EIGHT

- 8** Saroo is <sup>1</sup> **surprised** when he notices how different India looks from Hobart. He is <sup>2</sup> **worried** at first because he does not recognize the town, but he feels better at the railway station. He is very <sup>3</sup> **excited** so he can't sleep. He is quite <sup>4</sup> **nervous** when he is walking towards the house where he lived as a child. He is <sup>5</sup> **sad** when he finds that his home is now empty. Kamla is very <sup>6</sup> **surprised** and <sup>7</sup> **happy** when she sees Saroo. She is <sup>8</sup> **happy** that Saroo was adopted. The people in the crowd are <sup>9</sup> **excited**. Saroo is <sup>10</sup> **sad** about Guddu's death.

## CHAPTER NINE

- 9**
- 1 **Mrs Sood** still remembered Saroo after many years.
  - 2 **Kallu** worked in a business.
  - 3 Saroo said thank you to the **homeless man**.
  - 4 **Cheryl** helped Saroo and his Indian family to talk.
  - 5 **Saroo** decided to take another train journey to Kolkata.
  - 6 **Kamla** never left the town where she lived.
  - 7 **Shekila** was afraid of losing her children if she sent them to school.
  - 8 **Lisa** and **the Brierleys** were nervous when they saw Saroo after his journey to India.

## CHAPTER TEN

- 10**
- 1 Sue felt a little nervous about going to India for the **first** time.
  - 2 Saroo wants to buy a **home/house** for Kamla.
  - 3 Saroo is helping Mrs Sood with **Nava Jeevan/the orphanage**.
  - 4 Mantosh would like to meet **his Indian mother** again.
  - 5 Saroo and Asra are still **friends**.
  - 6 Saroo feels like a man with two **families**.

## Project work

*Reader's own answers.*