



SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

— EXTRA

Level 4

This level is suitable for students who have been learning English for at least four years and up to five years. It corresponds with the Common European Framework level B2. Suitable for users of CLUB magazine.

SYNOPSIS

A young Indian man, Jamal, is being interrogated in a police cell by an inspector who wants to learn how a 'slumdog' from the streets of Mumbai did so well on a TV quiz. In a flashback, we see Jamal going onto *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* Each question reminds Jamal of his life story, and this helps him to answer the question correctly.

In this way, we see Jamal's life story in a series of flashbacks prompted by the questions. After their mother is killed in anti-Muslim rioting, Jamal and Salim befriend a young orphaned girl, Latika. The three live by foraging in the city's dumps, until a man called Maman takes them to his orphanage. Maman's real intention is to make the children earn him money by begging. Salim and Jamal escape, but Latika is unable to follow. After years away from Mumbai, Jamal persuades Salim to return to look for Latika. As they free her, Salim shoots and kills Maman. However, Jamal is not reunited with Latika for long; Salim is enlisted by a local crime boss, Javed, and Salim threatens Jamal with a gun, sending him away. When Jamal finds Salim years later, he finds that Salim is still working for Javed. Latika has become the crime boss's 'girlfriend' – a prisoner in his luxurious home.

We learn that Jamal has come onto the quiz in the hope that Latika will be watching TV, and will see him. After he is cleared of the charge of cheating, he faces the final question. Latika does see him on the show, and Salim helps her escape from Javed and his men, killing Javed and dying himself. Jamal answers the final question correctly and he and Latika are reunited.

THE BACK STORY

Slumdog Millionaire is a 2008 film by British director, Danny Boyle. Simon Beaufoy's screenplay was based on the novel *Q&A*, written by Indian writer and diplomat, Vikas Swarup. Boyle auditioned many young Indian actors for the part of Jamal as a young man, but he finally chose Dev Patel, a young British Asian actor. Freida Pinto, who plays Latika when she is a young woman, was an Indian model who had never appeared in a film before. Set and filmed in India, the film won eight Academy Awards (Oscars) including Best Picture and Best Director.

Despite this success, the film received some criticism. In India, some people felt that the film perpetuated a stereotypical view of life in Indian cities. Some critics felt that the word 'slumdog' was offensive. Some British newspapers reported that the child actors, were poorly paid for their work on the film. In response to this claim, the filmmakers explained that they had set up trust funds for the child actors and made provisions for their education.

MEDIA LINKS

DVD: *Slumdog Millionaire* is available on DVD.

CD: A recording of *Slumdog Millionaire* is available to accompany the Scholastic Reader.

Internet: Students can read and see more about the film at: www.foxsearchlight.com/slumdogmillionaire

Book: Advanced students might try the original novel *Q&A* by Vikas Swarup (first published by Doubleday in 2005).

HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC READER

Choosing and motivating

Is this the right story for your class? Bear in mind that the structure of the story involves jumps between different timelines when Jamal remembers his past in flashbacks. Also, the story includes elements that some members of the class may find disturbing, for example, one boy is intentionally blinded.

Motivate them with background information (see The Back Story above) and by reading aloud the first page of the story.

Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the Self-Study section at the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. (All answers on pages 5 and 6 of this resource sheet.)

Using the CD

Students can listen and follow in their books. They can listen and then read. They can read and then listen. All these activities will improve their reading speeds and skills.

Using the DVD

Select the English language option on the DVD. The film is 115

minutes. You could show it in chunks of, say, 15–20 minutes in parallel with the class reading schedule. Alternatively, show it when the class have finished the book, as a reward.

Glossary

Go to 'New Words' at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find meanings at home. The Vocabulary Builder on page 4 of this resource sheet practises the new words in a different context.

Fact Files

Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. These provide background information about the making of the film; India and its history; and the plight of India's eleven million street children.

What did they think?

Get everyone to do a written or spoken review of *Slumdog Millionaire*. Compare opinions. Will they go and see the film? Did you like it? Let us know at readers@link2english.com.

COMPETITIONS AND UPDATES

Check www.scholasticelreaders.com for competitions and other activities related to the Scholastic Readers.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES



SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE
— EXTRA

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS IN YOUR NOTEBOOK

Prologue—Chapter 1

1 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- a) The police want to know how Jamal has won ~~sixteen thousand~~ rupees.
The police want to know how Jamal has won ten million rupees.
- b) The Inspector and Jamal listen to *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* on the radio.
- c) Jamal's job is making telephone calls in a call centre.
- d) The first question is about a famous singer.
- e) Salim is Jamal's father.
- f) Amitabh arrives in the slum by car.
- g) Jamal uses a 'lifeline' for his first question.

2 Answer the questions.

- a) Why does the inspector think that Jamal has cheated?
The inspector does not believe that someone from the slums could know all the answers...
- b) Do you think Prem expects Jamal to do well in the quiz? Why, or why not?
- c) How does Salim behave towards Jamal in the Amitabh story? What does this show about his character?
- d) Why does the audience laugh when they hear the possible answers for the second question?

3 Answer the questions.

- a) Salim and Jamal are brothers, but they are very different. Why does Salim behave so differently to Jamal, do you think?
- b) Are you similar to your brother/sister? In what ways?

Chapter 2

1 Number the sentences in the correct order.

- a) Jamal tells a young girl to follow them.
- b) The brothers see a boy dressed like a Hindu god.
- c) Jamal and Salim go with their mother to the river.

- d) The police refuse to help the children.
- e) The girl tells them her name is Latika.
- f) Jamal sees someone hit his mother with a heavy stick.
- g) They look at their old area from the top of a hill.

2 Answer the questions.

- a) Why does Jamal's mother go to the river?
She goes there to wash the family's clothes...
- b) Why do the men attack the people in the river?
- c) Why don't the police help the children?
- d) Why doesn't Jamal smile when he answers the second question correctly?

3 Why do you think the film-makers included the scene with the boy dressed as the god, Rama? In your opinion, what does this add to this part of the film?

Chapters 3–4

1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false sentences.

- a) Maman wants to help the three children.
F. Maman wants them to work for him by begging.
- b) Salim passes on Punnoose's orders to the other children.
- c) Latika likes to take the baby when she is begging.
- d) Arvind is blinded because he sings badly.
- e) Salim chooses not to pull Latika onto the train.
- f) The brothers find several ways to make money at the Taj Mahal.
- g) Jamal knows that Benjamin Franklin is on a one-hundred dollar bill because of Arvind.
- h) Jamal returns to Mumbai to find Arvind.

2 Work with a partner. Imagine that you are Jamal and Salim. Pick one of these moments in the story and have a conversation.

- a) The brothers are on the train. Jamal wants to go back for Latika; Salim does not want his brother to know that he let go of her hand.
- b) Years later, the brothers are at the Taj Mahal. Jamal wants to return to Mumbai; Salim is happy to stay where they are.

3 Answer the questions.

- a) How would you describe Salim's character? Is he a 'good' older brother? Use examples from Chapters 3 and 4 to support your opinion.
- b) In your opinion, what makes a good older brother or sister?

4 Who do you think will be the 'man with the Colt 45' in Chapter 5? Give reasons for your answer.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Chapters 5–6

1 Choose the correct answer.

- a) What was Latika doing on Pila Street?
- i) She was working.
 - ii) Somebody was teaching her to dance.
 - iii) She was begging for money.
- b) Why was Maman interested in Latika?
- i) He was going to sell her.
 - ii) He was in love with her.
 - iii) He wanted her to be a dance teacher.
- c) What does Javed think about Maman?
- i) He is his friend.
 - ii) He does not know him.
 - iii) He dislikes him.
- d) Why does Jamal have the phone to call Salim?
- i) It is his job to call people.
 - ii) One of the call centre workers asks Jamal to take his place.
 - iii) He sits there when one call centre worker goes for a tea.
- e) How does Jamal feel when he first sees Salim again?
- i) He is happy.
 - ii) He is afraid.
 - iii) He is angry.
- f) How does Latika feel about Javed?
- i) She loves him.
 - ii) She is afraid of him.
 - iii) She is bored with him.

2 Answer the questions.

- a) Why does Maman say that he can “make an exception” for the brothers?
He is afraid because Salim has got a gun.....
- b) Why does Salim point the gun at Jamal?
- c) Years later, what work does Salim do for Javed?
- d) Why does Latika want Jamal to leave Javed’s house?

3 When Jamal sees Latika again, he says that they can live on ‘love’. Latika thinks that people need more than just love. In your opinion, who is right? Why?

Chapters 7–8

1 Describe in your own words what happens during the question about cricket.

*Jamal does not know the answer to the question.
 During a break, he goes to the studio toilets.....*

2 Answer the questions.

- a) Where did Jamal go every day to meet Latika?
*He goes to the main train station in Mumbai ...
 ... the VT Station.....*
- b) What ‘price’ did Javed make Latika pay?
- c) Which question does the inspector think was very easy?
- d) Why did Jamal become a contestant on *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*
- e) How does the police inspector change his opinion of Jamal?
- f) Why do you think Jamal does not trust Prem’s help?
- g) Do you think Prem really thinks that Jamal is cheating? Why, or why not?

3 Work with a partner.

Student A: You are the police inspector. Explain to your boss why you let Jamal go.

Student B: You are the inspector’s boss. You are angry that Jamal is free.

Chapter 9–Epilogue

1 Who says these words? Write the names. Then number the sentences in the correct order.

- a) ‘Open this door!’ *Javed*
- b) ‘I don’t know. I’ve never known.’
- c) ‘Just drive. There won’t be another chance.’ **1**
- d) ‘This is our destiny.’
- e) ‘If you get the answer wrong, you lose everything ...’

2 Write a summary of the events in Chapter 9 in fifteen sentences.

1. A crowd of people waited for Jamal to come out of the police station.....

3 What do you think? Work with a partner.

- a) Why does Salim decide to help Latika?
- b) Why do the people of Mumbai want Jamal to win *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*?
- c) Salim doesn’t try to escape from Javed. Why does he choose to die?
- d) How does Prem Kumar feel when Jamal wins *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*?

4 Which character do you think changes the most in the story? Give reasons for your answer.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES

FINAL TASKS

Discussion

Apart from two short meetings, Jamal has not seen Latika since they were both young children. How can they be in love with each other? Discuss in groups.

Example:

'I think Jamal and Latika love each other because they shared hard times as children.'

Project

Write questions and possible answers for your class's own *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*. Choose a presenter and contestants, then have your quiz.

Writing

Slumdog Millionaire tells the story through Jamal's eyes. Imagine that you are Latika or Salim. Write diary entries that tell parts of the story from your point of view.

Example:

Latika: I hate life with Javed but I know that I can never leave ...

Salim: I think about my brother more and more. Where is he now? Why did I point the gun at him? ...

VOCABULARY BUILDER

1 Find 'New Words' at the back of the book for these definitions.

1. A kind of gun. revolver
2. A popular sport in India.
3. A kind of TV programme.
4. A home for children with no parents.
5. A poor part of a city.
6. An old kind of weapon.
7. A place for rubbish.
8. A place where TV programmes are made.
9. Something that helps you use the phone without using your hands.
10. When a dead body is put in the ground.
11. Something used instead of money.
12. A feeling of terrible surprise.

3. Jamal is a worker on *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*.
4. Prem is the programme's director.
5. All of the crowd sing for Jamal.
6. The police inspector thinks that Jamal knew the answers because he studied.
7. In one question, Prem asks who made a kind of gun.
8. When he sees Salim's gun, Maman tells the children that he will make a rule for them.
9. Jamal thinks that it is his luck to be with Latika.

2 There are mistakes in each of these sentences. Correct with words from the 'New Words' list.

1. Maman made the children ~~fight~~ for money. beg
2. There are three lions on the national flag of India.

3 Circle the correct word in *italic* to complete the sentences.

1. 'Have a drink!' she *asked* / *insisted*.
2. At the swimming pool you can change your clothes in a *cubicle* / *hall*.
3. She always gives money to *beggars* / *policemen* on the street.
4. After the accident he had a *break* / *scar* on his face.
5. I usually clean the windows with a *cloth* / *towel*.
6. When she died, many people came to her *party* / *funeral*.



MAKING SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (pages 78–9)**Research/Presentation**

Divide the class into small groups. Ask each group to find out more about one of the following topics:

- the earlier films and career of director, Danny Boyle
- the book *Q&A* by Vikram Swarup
- the film business in India, sometimes called 'Bollywood'

Students can use information from the Internet, books and magazines, etc. Ask each group to present to the class what they have found out about their topic.

Debate

Many critics thought that *Slumdog Millionaire* did a lot of good by bringing the situation of India's street children to worldwide attention. However, some critics thought that the film was harmful because it presented an unfavourable and stereotypical view of Indian life, as seen by a Western director. Which view do you agree with? Set up a debate and then hold a class vote on your decision.

INDIA (pages 80–1)**Research**

Ask the students to use the library and the Internet to find out more about India. Students work in small groups and research one of the following topics:

- religion
- population
- economy
- climate and environment

The groups create posters to present their findings to the class.

Speech

Tell students that Gandhi is probably the most important person in modern Indian history. Ask them to pick someone who was important to the history of their country. They should find out more information about him or her, and then write a speech explaining why this person was so important. They might want to deliver the speech as if they were the historical figure themselves.

STREET CHILDREN IN INDIA (pages 82–3)**Writing**

Ask students to write a letter to a local newspaper bringing readers' attention to the situation faced by street children in India. They can refer to Rukshana's story and the information in the Fact File, and they can do further research on the Internet.

Project

Ask students to find out about charities that help street children in India. Have them plan and organize a charity event to raise money to help street children.

FILM/CD FOLLOW-UP

If you want to show the film in class, watch it yourself first. There is some use of subtitles. Some scenes – in particular, the blinding of Arvind – may be unsuitable.

Film and book

Show the DVD up to the moment when Prem asks the first quiz question. Ask students to note the ways in which the film and the book differ. What do they think are the reasons for this? (*Possible answers:* Students might comment on how the film cuts much more rapidly between different scenes and timelines. This technique might prove confusing in text.)

Music

Play the song from the end credits that shows Jamal and Latika singing and dancing alongside the actors who played them as children. Ask students why they think the film-makers decided to include this. What does it add to the film? (*Possible answers:* some students might say that this scene adds to the 'feel good' ending; others might note that it is a conscious nod to the style of 'Bollywood' musicals.)

Deleted scenes

Play students the deleted scene entitled The Folder. Ask them what this scene adds to our impression of the police inspector. Why might the film-makers have decided to cut this scene? (*Possible answers:* The scene makes the inspector's change of heart about Jamal more obvious; he risks his own job by letting Jamal go free. Film-makers might have cut this scene in order to focus on the main plotline of Jamal and Latika.)

CD character analysis

Choose a scene from the CD, for example the scene in the hotel after the brothers have rescued Latika. Allocate characters to different sections of the class – Jamal, Salim, Latika. While they listen, students note down what the scene reveals about their character, e.g. *Jamal realises how much he has missed Latika; Salim finally reveals the darker side of his character to his brother, etc.*

ANSWER KEY**Self-Study Activities (pages 84–8)**

- 1 a) cheer b) cricket c) slums d) quiz e) beg f) emblem
g) presenter h) cheat i) studio j) contestant
- 2 a) Maman b) Mumbai c) Jamal d) Latika e) violent crimes
f) a call centre g) *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*
- 3 a) ten million rupees b) He thinks that Jamal cheated.
c) Prem Kumar d) chai wallah – he serves tea
e) *The Three Musketeers* f) sign a picture
g) They think that the question is really easy.
- 4–5 Open answers.
- 6 a) orphanage b) bow c) dump d) shock e) cloth
- 7 Open answers.
- 8 a) Jamal is a Muslim.
b) Jamal and Salim run away./Jamal's mother is killed.
c) The boys see a child/boy dressed as the god Rama.
d) A group of policemen refuse to help the boys.
e) Jamal asks Latika to join them.
f) The children do not return to Juhu.
g) Prem tells Jamal to 'take the money and run'.
h) The yellow van is from Maman's orphanage.
- 9 a) Salim b) Maman c) Punnoose d) Jamal e) Arvind
f) Latika

- 10 Open answers.
 11 a) funeral b) revolver c) exception d) invent e) scar
 f) cubicle
 12 Open answers.
 13 The correct order is: k, c, l, h, a, f, d, j, b, e.
 14–15 Open answers.
 16 *Possible answer:* any job in which workers are required to speak on the telephone a lot, for example, call centre worker.
 17 b
 18 Open answers.
 19 a) Salim b) Jamal c) Latika d) Prem Kumar
 20 a) Javed
 b) He follows Salim; then he pretends to have a job in Javed's kitchen.
 c) Mumbai's main train station, the VT Station
 d) Because she goes to meet Jamal
 e) He writes it on the mirror in the bathroom.
 21–23 Open answers.
 24 a) F. He goes to the train station. b) T c) T
 d) F. Javed wants to play music. e) T
 f) F. Latika does not know the answer. g) T
 h) F. Jamal and Latika meet again at the train station.
 25–26 Open answers.

Resource Sheet Activities

Prologue–Chapter 1

- 1 b) The Inspector and Jamal **watch** *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* on the **television**.
 c) Jamal's job is making **tea** in a call centre.
 d) The first question is about a famous **actor**.
 e) Salim is Jamal's (**older**) **brother**.
 f) Amitabh arrives in the slum by **helicopter**.
 g) Jamal uses a 'lifeline' for his **second** question.
 2 b) Prem does not think that Jamal will do well because he makes jokes about his job.
 c) Salim treats his younger brother unkindly: he locks him in the toilet and later he sells Jamal's picture of Amitabh. This shows that he only thinks about himself.
 d) They think that this question is very easy.
 3 Open answers.

Chapter 2

- 1 The correct order is: c, f, b, a, d, g, e.
 2 b) The attackers are Hindus and the people at the river are Muslims.
 c) Because there are hundreds of children like them in the same situation. To them, they are just children from the slums, nothing special.
 d) He is remembering his mother's death.
 3 Open answers.

Chapters 3–4

- 1 b) T c) F. Latika doesn't want to hold the baby.
 d) F. Arvind is blinded because he sings very well. e) T f) T
 g) T h) F. Jamal returns to Mumbai to find Salim and Jamal.
 2 Open answers.
 3 a) *Possible answers:* Salim is a good older brother because he saves Jamal from being blinded. Salim is a bad older brother because he treats Jamal badly when he is working as 'Punnoose's dog'; he chooses not to help Jamal's friend, Latika, to escape.
 b) Open answers.
 4 Open answers.

Chapters 5–6

- 1 a) ii b) i c) iii d) ii e) iii f) ii
 2 b) *Possible answers:* Salim is drunk and wants Latika for himself; perhaps he is jealous of Jamal's friendship with her.
 c) He does 'anything that Javed wants him to'. (We already know that Javed is a dangerous criminal.)
 d) She is afraid that Javed will hurt him.
 3 Open answers.

Chapters 7–8

- 1 *Possible answer:* During a break in recording, the presenter Prem gives him an answer. However, when the programme begins again, Jamal does not trust Prem's answer. He gives a different answer. This one is correct and so Jamal knows that Prem was trying to trick him.
 2 b) One of his men cuts her face and leaves a scar.
 c) The second question about the national emblem of India.
 d) He wants to find Latika again and he thinks that she will watch the programme.
 e) After he has heard Jamal's story, the inspector believes that he is telling the truth.
 f) *Possible answer:* Prem does not seem very kind; Jamal's hard life has helped him to understand people better.
 g) *Possible answer:* Perhaps Prem does not think that Jamal was cheating; he just wants to be the only millionaire from the slums.
 3 Open answers.

Chapter 9–Epilogue

- 1 b) Latika c) Salim d) Jamal e) Prem
 The correct order is: c, a, e, b and d.
 2 *Possible answers:*
 2. On the other side of Mumbai, Javed was having a party.
 3. Latika left the room and watched the news about Jamal on TV.
 4. Salim gave Latika his mobile phone and the keys to Javed's car and told her to go.
 5. Jamal left the police station and went to the TV studio.
 6. Prem Kumar read the last question for ten million rupees to Jamal.
 7. Jamal didn't know the answer and used his last lifeline: Phone-A-Friend.
 8. He called his brother's mobile because it was the only number he knew.
 9. Latika had driven to the city centre and was watching *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* outside a television shop.
 10. Latika ran back to the car to answer Jamal's phone call.
 11. Javed heard Latika's name on TV and called for Salim.
 12. Salim shot Javed and was shot dead himself by Javed's men.
 13. Latika told Jamal that she was safe but she didn't know the answer to the question.
 14. Jamal choose the right answer and won twenty million rupees.
 15. Jamal and Latika both went to their old meeting place at VT Station and were together again at last.
 3 *Possible answers:*
 a) He feels bad about his crimes and the way that he's treated Latika. He wants to help his brother.
 b) Because for many people, Jamal is just like them. He has nothing and he lives in the slums. Perhaps, they hope that it might happen to them too.
 c) He realises that he has led a bad life and has hurt a lot of people. Perhaps, he feels that he doesn't have the right to go on living.
 d) He may feel angry that Jamal is the star of the show and not him. He may also feel jealous of Jamal's success, especially as Jamal is from the slums, like him.
 4 Open answers.

Vocabulary Builder

- 1 2. cricket 3. quiz 4. orphanage 5. slum 6. bow 7. dump
 8. studio 9. head-set 10. funeral 11. cheque 12. shock
 2 2. There are three lions on the national **flag** of India. **emblem**
 3. Jamal is a **worker** on *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*
contestant
 4. Prem is the programme's **director**. **presenter**
 5. All of the crowd **sing** for Jamal. **cheer**
 6. The police inspector thinks that Jamal knew the answers because he **studied**. **cheated**
 7. In one question, Prem asks who **made** a kind of gun. **invented**
 8. When he sees Salim's gun, Maman tells the children that he will make **a rule** for them. **an exception**
 9. Jamal thinks that it is his **luck** to be with Latika. **destiny**
 3 2. cubicle 3. beggars 4. scar 5. cloth 6. funeral