

SALHA35! SACHED

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UPBEAT

R1

The youth magazine for all

THIS ISSUE

BACK HOME IN MOGOPA

SOWETO'S SHARP SHOOTER

THE EYE CAN LIE
— new series begins!

TELL US WHAT YOU WANT
IN UPBEAT

Free
Book
Supplement



Front cover
Cedric Nunn

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UPBEAT

No 7

*Will come
out in
September*

Dear Readers,

There is a great, bumper book supplement in the middle of the magazine. We put together this supplement because it is often difficult to find enjoyable books to read. You'll find information on more than 40 books. Many reviews are done by young readers, not oldies who usually know what is good for you but not what is fun. There is something for everyone, a little bit of love, adventure, true life stories, politics, history and science.

Find out what the favourite books are of some well-known South African writers. Read Ahmed Essop's views on reading. And last, but not least, there is a short story competition with great prizes to be won.

You will notice that for the first time we have adverts in the magazine. All these years we have received grants to pay for Upbeat. But now things are changing and we have to bring in more money. Without more money, we might have to close down.

The people who advertise, pay us for the space we give them. With that money we can write bigger, better and more interesting stories for you.

Editors

EVELINA DE BRUIN GOES FREE

The people of Paballelo in Upington had a big party. They started celebrating on Thursday 30 May and they carried on right through the week-end. They were happy because their friends were home, home from death row in jail.

Perhaps some readers will remember reading a story in Upbeat last year about Evelina de Bruin. She was one of the people from Upington on death row. She was also one of the people set free on the 30 May.

The first thing that Evelina did when she stepped out of prison was to hug her children

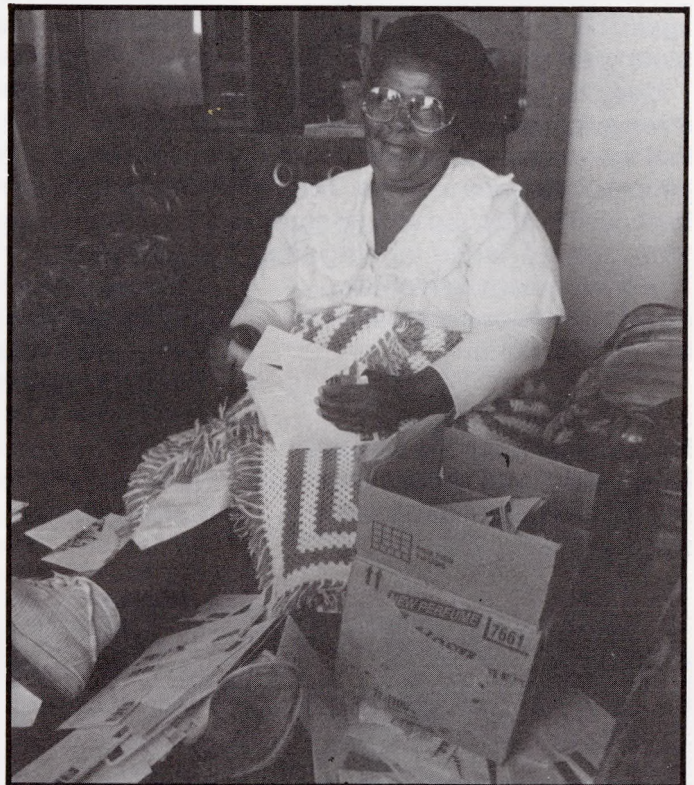
that she had missed so much. 'I feel the same now, seeing my children as I did when I saw them for the first time as newborns,' said Evelina. Next Evelina gave her husband, Gideon Madlongwane a big hug. Gideon had also just been freed from death row.

Evelina still says she was innocent. 'I heard about the death of the policeman while I was doing my washing,' said Evelina. 'I was shocked when I was arrested. But I was not afraid. I knew Gideon and I had done nothing. I never dreamt that we would spend three and a half years in jail.'

Book competition winners

Here are the names of the lucky Upbeat readers who won the book competition that appeared in No.2 this year. Congratulations! Look out for your books in the post.

Mahlaule William
Soshanguve
Paulos Sibeko
Mabopane
Janine Mtaner
Eldorado Park
Raziena Millward
Retreat
Christine Moalusi
Soweto
Rinah Moremi
Kwa-Xuma
Sipho Nkosi
Meadowlands
Ahmed Mannatho
Dobsonville



Evelina de Bruin – free after three and a half years on death row.

Evelina's lawyers are happy and angry. They feel that she shouldn't have gone to jail in the first place. But they are

happy that their appeal against the death sentences of the 14 people from Upington has been overturned.

FEATURE

Home again in Mogopa

The 15 April this year was a very special day for the people of Mogopa in the Western Transvaal. It was the day that the new school in Mogopa opened. Before this, students of Mogopa had nowhere to go to school. So everyone was excited. But people were happy for another reason too.

In 1983 the government knocked down the school at Mogopa. But education was so important to the people of Mogopa that they immediately started to rebuild the school. Then the government knocked it down again. So 15 April was the end of a seven year battle.

How can a government knock down a school? Well, the answer is that the government wanted the people of Mogopa to move. Their farm, which they had owned since 1912, was in a 'white' farming area. The government wanted the people of Mogopa to move to Bophuthatswana.

Ntate Molefe's story

Ntate Daniel Molefe grew up at Mogopa. He told Upbeat about the people of Mogopa and their struggle to keep their land.



People plant flowers in front of their zozos – a sign that they're home to stay.

'Mogopa is no paradise but we love our land. Life was always difficult but we never slept with hungry stomachs. Some people had cattle, but mostly we grew crops which we sold. Men worked on the mines to get money to plant. White farmers simply borrowed money from the government's Land Bank.

'Over the years we built schools. There was a primary school and a secondary school that went to Std 8. We built churches, a clinic and a water reservoir for the people in the community. We even had a diamond mine. Money from the diamonds went to the

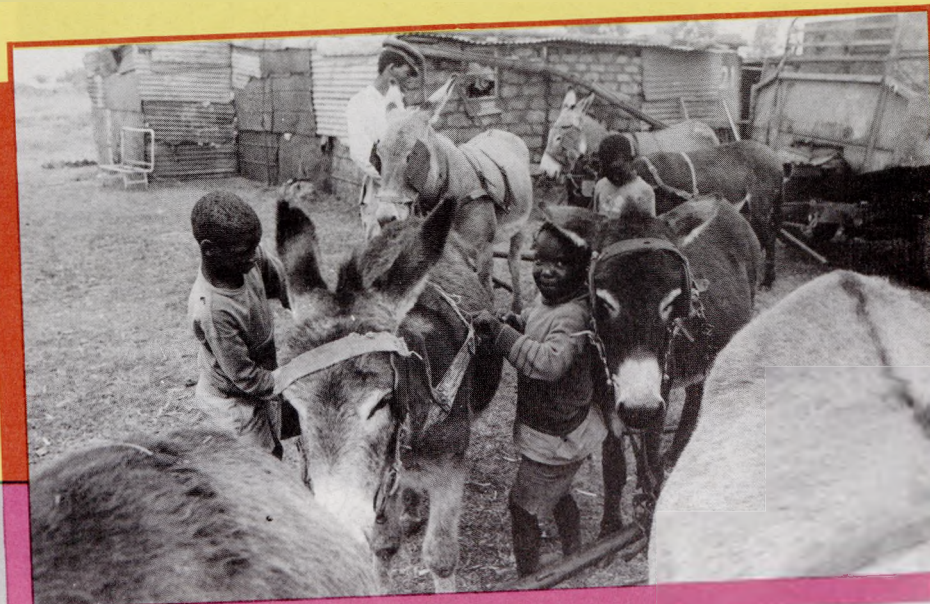
Tribal Trust Fund. We used this fund to pay for things the community needed.

'Our problems begin...'

'Before 1982 we heard rumours that the government wanted our land. We did not believe these stories so we did not worry. What we did worry about was our headman, Jacob More. He was talking to the government and President Mangope. We did not know what he was saying. We also thought he was eating the money in the Tribal Trust Fund. So we told More that we did not want him as headman anymore.

'More told the government and Mangope that we wanted to move to Pachsdraai, in Bophuthatswana. But we did not want to move. In June 1983 government bulldozers came and smashed our schools and churches. They even knocked down some houses. This frightened people. So some people moved to Pachsdraai with More and his friends.

'But most of us refused to move. The government then stopped paying old people's



Children help with the donkeys used to fetch water in dry Mogopa.



Daniel Molefe and part of the committee that fought to save Mogopa.

Mogopa's new school, a sign of victory, stands behind the ruins of the old school.

pensions. They stopped the bus service. They refused to stamp the shopowners' licences and they took our water pumps. But we bought new pumps. And people took leave to rebuild Mogopa. That was when we rebuilt the school.

The police arrive

'But on the 14 February 1984 we woke up before dawn. There were lights everywhere, policemen, dogs and guns. They arrested some of our leaders. Then they put our furniture and children on the trucks and took them to Pachsdraai. Parents rushed there, desperately looking for their kids.

'I refused to be loaded. I spent my own money and went to Bethanie. So did many other people. Bethanie was the home of our paramount chief. We did not want to live in Bophuthatswana, under Jacob More and his friend, President Mangope.

'We took the government to court to get our land back. We won our case. But the government still refused to let us move back to our land. They said they now owned it. If we went home, they would arrest

us for trespassing.

'So we gave up hope. And we joined other people who were forced off their land. We planned to buy a farm called Holgat. Just before we were going to move there, the government took over Holgat so we could not buy it. Instead the government said we must move to Onderstepoort. We agreed to stay there until the government found a better place for us to live, outside of Bophuthatswana.

'We decide to move home'

'By 1988 we were tired. We asked for permission for 50 people to move back to Mogopa. We wanted to clean our ancestors' graves. I was one of them. Slowly, slowly, people joined us. Today there are more than 300 families back at Mogopa. But our houses have gone and we all live in zozos.

'We still do not know what is going to happen. But the school is the first sign that the government will let us stay. At first the DET refused to register the school. But after we met with some government ministers, they changed their minds. So, you see, the opening of the school is a big victory for us. ■

How people lost their land.

Much of our history is about people losing the land they have lived on and farmed for many years. Since white settlers arrived in South Africa, African communities have lost their land through wars, treaties and contracts, through land being sold or bought and through laws.

1657 – Dutch burghers seize Khoi land around Cape Town.

1771 – The Cape Frontier moves eastwards. Clashes between settlers and Xhosa begin.

1848 – British seize Basotho land.

1854 – Boers defeat Ndebele in the Transvaal and take their land.

1858 – Xhosa finally defeated by the British.

1879 – Pedi lose their land in the Transvaal and Zulus in Natal defeated.

1913 – Natives Land Act. This act sets up African reserves, giving African people only 7% of the land.

1936 – Amendment to Native Land Act. This forces African farmers off white-owned farms. African reserves extended to 13% of the land.

1991 – Government ends the Land Act and Group Areas Act. This means people can own land anywhere, no matter what colour their skin is. But millions of black people have had their land taken from them. And the government doesn't yet have plans to give back to people the land that they lost.



Dear Upbeat,

On 1 March this year, the government withdrew its subsidy of bread. By doing this, the government increased the price of bread. As bread is the food of the poor, the removal of the subsidy is an attack against the poor. This is all part of the government's move towards privatisation and de-regulation which has cost many South Africans their jobs. It shows us that apartheid and capitalism are inseparable twins. I call on all South Africans to intensify the struggle for a democratic, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa.
Fana Jiyane, Johannesburg

Dear Upbeat,

I am 19 years old and in Std 9. My problem is my parents. They do not respect each other. We are six children and our parents always fight in front of us. They do not work, but sell fruit and vegetables. At school, while teachers are talking, I sit and worry about them. So now I am repeating Std 9. Please publish my letter. Maybe my parents will see it and feel pain. Maybe they will try to do something about my problem.

Joseph Letsoalo, Alexandra

Dear Joseph,

We are sorry to hear about your problem. Have you tried talking to your parents? Tell them how you feel and that their fighting is upsetting you. Maybe you must also try to understand why your parents fight. Perhaps they are very worried about money and having enough food for you and your brothers and sisters. Here is a phone number for you (011) 833-2057. It is the number of the Family Life Association of South Africa. If you phone them they will organise counselling for you and your parents. You could also try talking to the guidance teacher at school or your priest or a doctor.
Editors

Dear Upbeat,

I would like to thank the Upbeat staff for the story on the World Youth that appeared in Upbeat No.2, 1991. I was also very glad to see the article on how to work together to build democracy in our schools. We are struggling to keep democratic organisations like SRCs and PTAs alive and working well. So thanks for your ideas. Keep it up. Give us more about people's education.
Johanna Molepe, Meadowlands

Dear Upbeat,

I am a student of Rantailane High School in Ga-Rankuwa. I'm not impressed by the way things are going in the Soshanguve schools. My reason for saying this is because students lack direction. Many students who call themselves 'comrades' don't know what democracy means.

The Soshanguve students go to school when they want to. If they don't feel like going to school, there's no school. I would like to remind all students that we must work to get education. Books and education should be our weapons. Let's surprise everyone by having a sit-in for education in our schools.

Upbeat reader, Soshanguve

Dear Upbeat,

I want to inform you that your magazine receives tremendous support from both teachers and pupils in my school. But I wish to make a point or two concerning the article on SRCs in Upbeat. Firstly, SRCs in most schools have been inefficient and problematic. The formation of SRCs normally divides pupils and so a school without an SRC is preferable.

Pupils need guidance in whatever they are doing. In an SRC who will give the guidance? A blind man cannot lead a blind man. At school, pupils need the assistance of teachers. And therefore I recommend that you don't have SRCs, but representative bodies for teachers, parents and pupils.

S. Khumalo, Nkundla

Dear Upbeat,

I would like to thank the Upbeat staff for the articles on how to prevent pregnancies. Every student must read it. This will help them understand what's happening to their growing bodies.

I'm worried about girls who have to leave school because they are pregnant. They will stay at home while their boyfriends continue their studies. In the end the boys forget about their girlfriends and their children. So girls must be very careful. They must not destroy their future by sleeping with boys.

Upbeat, thanks for trying to take the youth of today out of the dark room. God bless you.

Godfrey S. Mathebula, Temba

Dear Upbeat,

I am a student at Langa Comprehensive School. I'm very worried about the situation in South Africa. When I listen to the radio or watch news on TV, I realise that the government is not doing anything to stop the violence. We say that we want peace, but there is no peace in our country. I would like to ask the government of South Africa this question. Is this a new South Africa when so many people are killed every day?

Maureen Mqingswana, Gugulethu

Dear Upbeat,

I would like to thank the Upbeat staff for all the good work that they do for us. I am a boy of 18 doing Std 8 at Tsogo High School.

Upbeat teaches us how to take care of ourselves and also to work towards a better future for all. Thanks for all the stories you offer to improve the knowledge of the youth of today. Especially stories like choosing a contraceptive and starting an SRC. Please continue to give us this information. We all need it.

Samuel Ephraim Makhura, Brits

Dear Upbeat,

Thank you for publishing my short story. I've shown it to all my friends at school and they are very proud. Lots of them say that I should become a writer. I've thought about it and would like you, Upbeat, to help me. I also want to know if I can send stories to you again, since I have already won money. Please say yes, because there isn't any other magazine I can send my poems and stories to.

Anthea Solomons, Retreat

Dear Anthea,

We'd love to receive more stories and poems from you. Have you seen our School beat page? We want stories from you, our readers. But very few readers send us their stories. Maybe they find writing hard. Once you start writing you'll find that it's not so difficult after all. Remember, if we publish your story, we will pay you R30 for it!
Editors

TALKSHOP

Violence in the townships

There is much violence in our townships. Many people are dying. What is the cause of all the violence and how can we work to stop it? Upbeat asked readers for their views.



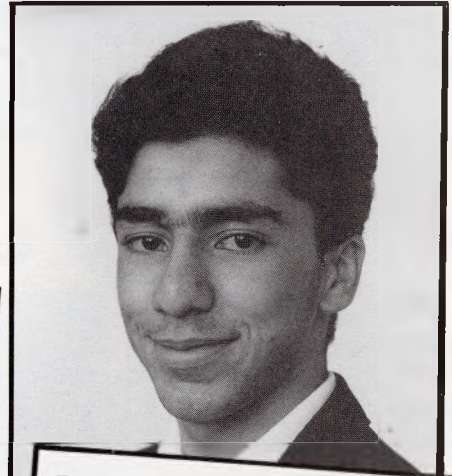
Tiny Pule (23)

The police are to blame. We don't know if they are acting under instruction or are just uncontrollable. And the men in the hostels want to show people that they are warriors. There will be peace if the police apply justice. Buthelezi must also look at the damage that Inkatha has done.



Mandisa Shiceka (20)

I think the government wants to put the ANC in a bad light but they are unable to influence members of the ANC, PAC and Azapo. So they are using Inkatha to destabilise the whole community. I think that Vlok and Malan must resign as they are major players in the violence. And the ANC must stop negotiating with the government and withdraw their suspension of the armed struggle.



Zaheer Khan (16)

Before people did not have the right to represent themselves. So now the ANC and Inkatha are fighting for power. Everyone wants freedom but now they are not united. I think the government is to blame for not speeding up the negotiations. If the negotiations had not taken so long, all the fighting would not have happened.



Avanthi Govender (15)

I think that the violence is caused by a difference of opinion between Inkatha and the ANC. Instead of listening to each other, they are now fighting. I also think people feel that they are not getting anywhere in terms of what they want for the country. I think the violence will only end when the leaders find a better way to negotiate.

Razina Theba (15)

People are fighting because they are frustrated. People have lived in such a repressive society for so long, that they see violence as the only way to voice their opinions. The violence will only end when Mandela and De Klerk reach a compromise. But in the meantime the police must stop standing by and watching people kill each other. We have reached the point where so many people have died, that we are no longer shocked.

Justice Phetla (21)

The government is to blame for the violence. They are using the Inkatha Freedom Party to do this. The IFP want their bread buttered on both sides. They say they are fighting for freedom but they allow themselves to be used. I think defence units will bring peace. They will help people to defend themselves and so the attacks will stop.



MUSIC

The magic blower— Hugh Masekela

Ek se, mfowethu, I'll be with you now. Moenle worry nie.' And off rushed High Masekela, eyes flashing and hands waving.

Upbeat ran after him. We spoke to Bra Hugh, as everyone likes to call him. We found out more about this great trumpeter now that he was home for the first time in thirty years.

Hugh Masekela's great love for music started when he was still a naughty school boy. Everyone in Hugh's family loved jazz, especially the music of Dizzy Gillespie. Hugh's job at home was to wind their old-fashioned gramophone while his family listened to jazz records. Sometimes Hugh entertained his family by singing along with the American Jazz Singers.

At school Hugh had problems. He was not very interested in his studies. He spent his time playing soccer and dreaming about music. Hugh's big break came when he disgraced himself after a soccer match.

His school had won thanks to the goals Hugh scored. So his teammates rewarded him with some 'sqo' (sorghum beer). Like all schoolboys, Hugh did not know when he had



had enough. When his teacher arrived to find him, Hugh was so drunk that he was sick.

The teacher should have expelled Hugh. But Hugh was the teacher's favourite. So the teacher tried to save Hugh from his bad ways. The teacher spoke to the local priest, Trevor Huddlestone, about Hugh. They asked Hugh what he wanted more than anything in the world. 'A trumpet,' Hugh answered.

Rev. Huddlestone organised a trumpet for Hugh. And shortly afterwards, Hugh formed the 'Huddlestone Jazz Band', together with other musicians. Since that time Hugh has never looked back.

Hugh left South Africa in 1960 with the musical show, 'King Kong'. Hugh never came home. The

racist laws in South Africa made it very difficult for musicians. They struggled to earn enough money to stay alive. Black musicians were not allowed to play for white audiences. Black audiences did not have enough money to support jazz bands.

But Hugh did not forget his mother country. He continued to write songs about South Africa and the problems

of his people. Now Hugh is home and as a big home-coming celebration, he is touring South Africa.

Upbeat was also lucky to get a chance to see Hugh and his 'Sekunjalo' concert while they were in Johannesburg. Hugh's trumpeting is something we will never forget. But we were also impressed by his generosity in inviting younger musicians like Sankomota, Bayete and Princess Mthembu to play with him. ■

MUSIC COMPETITION

Five lucky readers can each win a copy of Hugh Masekela's album, 'Home is where the music is'.

Answer these simple questions:

1. What music instrument does Hugh love playing?
2. When did Hugh leave SA?
3. Name one of the groups that performed with Hugh at the 'Sekunjalo' concert.

Send your answers on a postcard to:
Upbeat Music competition
P O Box 11350
Johannesburg
2000

*Closing date:
16 Sept 1991*



Hugh Masekela — home after 30 years!

WRITERS

'...We found hundreds of africans gathering'

Saracen,*
Saracen
Mythical metal warrior,
Your young shelter cowardly within you
And your prey,
Labelled, categorised separated by
Your word,
Scatter, leaving shoes,
perhaps a jacket,
a shirt, filled with dying cells
These are
Your material gifts,
soaked with dark red/black history,
Your legacy
Saracen
Julia Clark, Rondebosch

* A saracen was a vehicle used by the police and army before the days of hippos and casspirs. The police used saracens in Sharpeville on 21 March 1961 when they shot and killed 69 people.

PEACE

Wars and death
Guns and hail
Bullets and fire
Oh! How I long
For peace!

The tears and emotions
Which these things awake
Let it be stopped
For the children's sake.
Peace, oh, how I
Long for it.
Penelope Solomon, Eldorado Park



Tongue

You are soft,
filled with saliva.
You are as red as a watermelon.

You know what's sour,
bitter, salty and sweet.
We can't eat, talk and kiss without you.
I'm scared of you
though you have no hands.
You have no feet but
jump over flowing rivers.

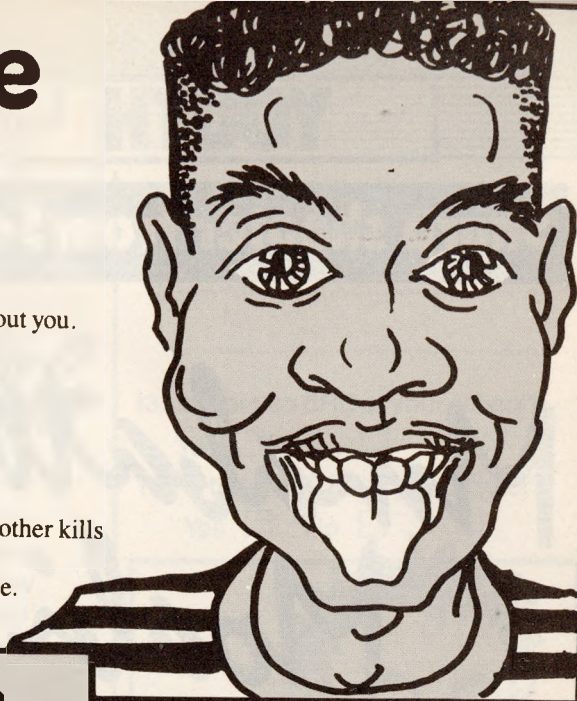
Fathers and mothers fight.
You sow hatred in people and brother kills another.
But we also need you to reconcile.
Peter Phago, Temba

PARENTS

You always strut about
In your Sunday best
Which you deny your children.
You are neglectful!
You are cruel!
The children are here because of you.
But you give your love to the bottle
That cheats and deceives you.
Jack Mokgabatlou, Swartbooiestad

The new porridge

I heard of a new
Kind of porridge;
Mandela porridge.
It's full of vitamin A and C.
Daniel Khoza, Temba



Colourbash productions

What am I to do?

People are beginning to see that I like him.
How I can avoid being found out?
What am I to do?

I like him, yes,
But I don't want anyone
To know.
What am I to do?

Does he know?
Will they tell him their suspicions?
Am I making it that obvious?
What am I to do?

I only told one person,
Someone whom I know I can trust.
I wish she could tell me
What to do.
Tanya Cholo, Cape Town

Send your poems, drawings
and stories with your name,
age and address, to:

Upbeat, P.O. Box 11350,
Johannesburg 2000

All readers whose
work is published
here
win

R15

YOUTH

Sharp shooter from Soweto-

Mmabatho Moabi



Mmabatho shows off her trophies.

Throw a ball and she's caught it. Give her a net or a ring and her team has won. Who is she? She is Mmabatho Moabi, a twenty-year-old girl, who has caused a storm with her netball and volleyball skills.

Mmabatho was in Std 2 at St Angela's School when the school netball coach, Miss Grace, noticed her. Miss Grace realised that Mmabatho had special talents and began to train her. The netball

team at St Angela's never looked back. They won every time Mmabatho played.

By the time Mmabatho reached high school, she was winning trophy after trophy for netball. But this was not enough for Mmabatho.



Mmabatho in action.



She saw some boys playing volleyball and really liked the look of the game. But volleyball was for boys and not girls.

But Mmabatho did not care. She asked to join a team. 'To my surprise, the team accepted me. Since then they have given me all the support I needed. To them, I am just another player in the team.'

'I knew some people would laugh at me for being the only girl in the team. As you can imagine, I was called many names. But I made those people swallow their insults. Today some of those people are my biggest supporters. I don't mind, I don't bear them any grudges.'

Upbeat asked Mmabatho how she came to be such a good sportswoman. 'Self-

discipline and hard work made me successful. I believe that no-one is born a success. Success is something you have to work for.'

At the moment Mmabatho is not playing netball. We asked her why. 'Netball is played on Saturdays. But on Saturdays I go to extra classes. I wish there wasn't a clash because I really miss playing but at the moment my studies must come first. I feel that my future will be safe if I am educated.'

At the moment Mmabatho is studying for her matric at Kagiso High. She hopes to go to university next year, to do a Bachelor of Commerce degree. It seems we will have to wait for Mmabatho's studies to be over before we can enjoy her sporting talents again. ■

Mmabatho poses with her volleyball team.



UPBEAT

Questionnaire

Readers, we need your help. Tell us about yourself. What do you want us to write about? What interests you most? Upbeat is your magazine. Help us make it better! Fill in the questionnaire below and send it to us. You could win a prize too. There will be a lucky draw and 10 readers will win a pocket calculator. So hurry, don't delay! Send off your questionnaire today.

About you

1. What is your name?

2. Are you male ☐ or female? ☐

3. How old are you?

4. Where do you live?

6. How many people live in your household, including yourself?

7. Are you a

student ☐

worker ☐

unemployed ☐



5. In what sort of area do you live?

city ☐

town ☐

village or farm ☐



Your school

8. What is the name of your school?

9. What standard are you in?

10. Is there a library at your school?

Yes ☐ No ☐

11. Do you use the school library? If not, why not?

12. Is learning taking place at your school? Explain.....

13. Is there an SRC at your school?

Yes ☐ No ☐

14. Is there a PTSA at your school?

Yes ☐ No ☐



You and Upbeat

15. How do you usually get Upbeat?

by subscription ☐

buy it at a shop ☐

buy it at school ☐

you read someone else's ☐

16. Do you have any problems getting Upbeat? Explain.

17. After you've read your Upbeat, do you:

throw it away ☐

give it to someone else ☐

keep it? ☐

18. How many people, male and female, see your Upbeat including yourself? Fill the number in the boxes.

males ☐

females ☐

19. When did you first start reading

Upbeat?

20. What do you like most about Upbeat?

.....

.....

21. What do you think is missing from Upbeat, that you'd most like to see included?

.....

.....

22. Which of the following do you read first? Tick your three favourites.

Music ☐ History ☐

Sport ☐ Feature ☐

Nature ☐ Education ☐

Science ☐ Labour ☐

Growing up ☐

23. Out of this list, which one would you read first? Penfriends, Talkshop, Writers, Letters, News beat or School beat? Which one would you read next?

1.

2.

24. Do you like doing the puzzle?

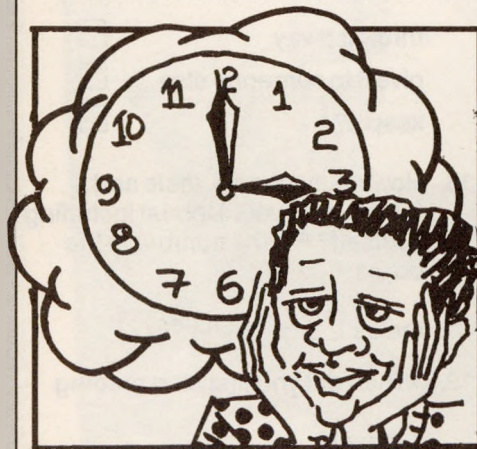
Yes ☐ No ☐

25. Do you use Willie Wordworm?

Yes ☐ No ☐

26. How many Upbeats did you read in 1990 and 1991? Count this one too.

.....



Your spare time

25. What do you do over weekends? Tick as many boxes as you like.

watch TV ☐

read ☐

play sport ☐

go to discos ☐

go to movies ☐

attend youth meetings ☐

do school work ☐

go to church ☐

go shopping ☐

28. Where do you get books?

from friends ☐

you buy them ☐

from the library ☐

from school ☐

29. Do your parents buy books?

Yes ☐ No ☐

30. How many books do you have at home?

.....

31. Why do you read?

to get information for school ☐

for pleasure ☐

to further your knowledge ☐

32. What do you read most?

textbooks ☐

magazines ☐

newspapers ☐

novels (stories) ☐

political pamphlets ☐

33. Which of these magazines do you read? Tick as many as necessary.

Talk ☐ Bona ☐

Tribute ☐ Thandi ☐

Pace ☐ Club ☐

True Love ☐ Personality ☐

You ☐ Fair Lady ☐

Jive ☐ Molo Songololo ☐

Drum ☐ Cosmopolitan ☐

Learn and Work in Progress ☐

Teach ☐ (WIP) ☐

Other:

.....

34. Do you get pocket money? If yes, what do you spend it on?

.....

.....

35. Do you belong to any of the following?

political youth organisation ☐

book club ☐

sports club ☐

church youth ☐



Your future

36. What would you like to be when you finish school?

.....

.....

37. How do you see yourself in the future? Tick one answer.

unemployed ☐

in a job you dream of ☐

working in a factory ☐

Thanks everyone for your help.
Please send your completed
questionnaire to:
Upbeat Questionnaire
P O Box 11350
Johannesburg
2000
Closing date: 23 September 1991



Life with no dad

Life's hard for a child when her father packs his bags and walks out. This happened to Susan Mahlohela. Read on and find out how this affected Susan and her family.

Susan is 16. She lives in Moroka, Soweto, with her mother, two sisters and a brother. Their father left them when Susan was still a baby. So Susan's mother had to go and work to buy her children food, clothing and send them to school.

Her elder sisters had to leave school to look for work so that they could help their mother. But they still have not found jobs. Their father does not come very often to bring them money or pay them a visit. This makes life difficult.

Susan wishes her father would come home to stay. 'I love my Dad and I am sure that if he was living with us, we would not have it so tough,' Susan says. 'On the few occasions that he visits us, he brings money, but my mother is always nasty to him. Maybe that's why he stays away for so long.'

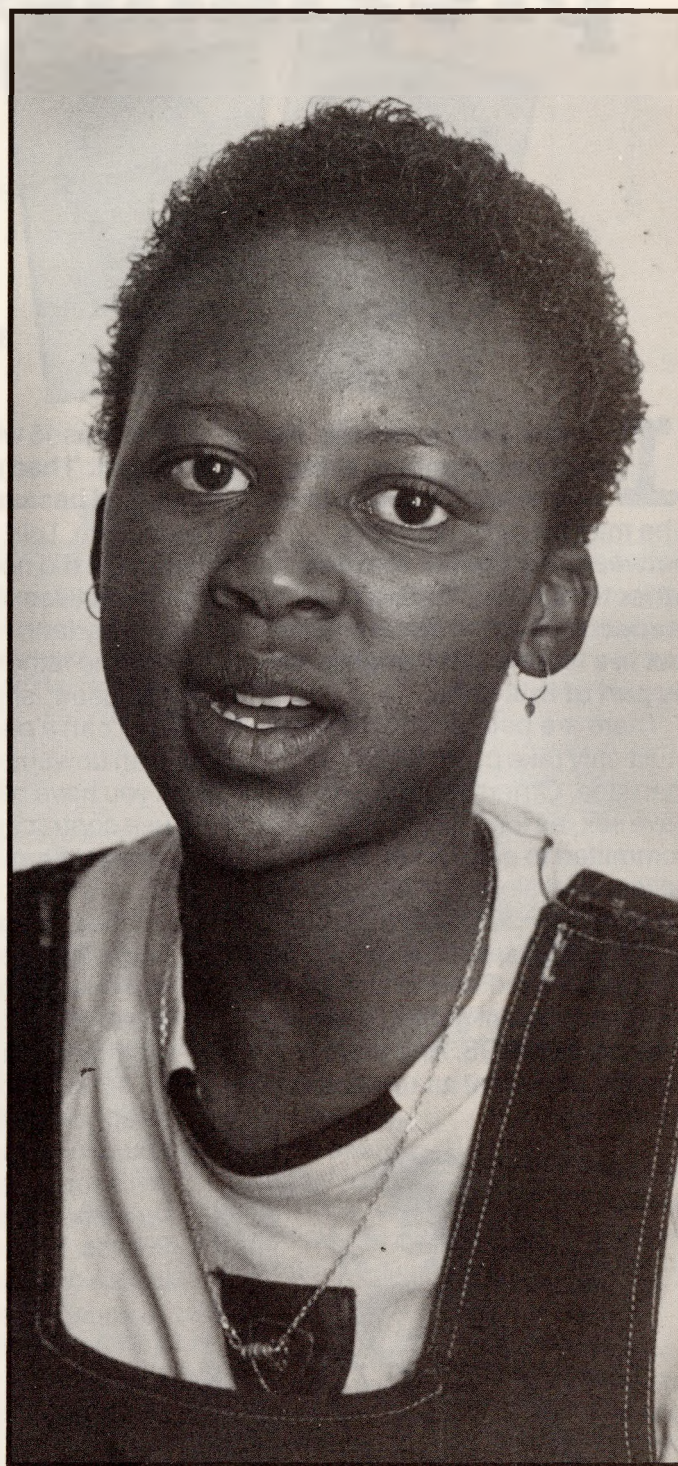
Although she has no idea why her father left home, Susan wants her father to come back. 'My mother works hard to support us but she cannot do it alone,'

Susan said. 'So she often complains and gets angry and this brings a lot of unhappiness to all of us.'

Susan says she loves her mother a lot and cannot forgive her father for making her mother so unhappy. Yet she loves him too and thinks he would be a proper Dad if he lived with them. 'I love him, yet he does not care for us. I don't think he loves us,' Susan says about her father.

Susan says she never gets to talk freely to her father when he visits them. 'My mother sees to it that we are not alone. Maybe she fears that I might talk to Dad about my problems and that he would ask me to live with him,' says Susan.

We asked Susan if she would like to live with her Dad. 'No, I would never leave my mother,' Susan replied. 'My mother has worked hard to care for us. I'd like to look after her now. After completing matric, I want to train as a Traffic Officer. Then I can go out to work to earn money and she can stay at home and rest.' ■



'My mother works hard to support us but she cannot do it alone,' says Susan Mahlohela.

GROWING UP

Unwanted pregnancies



Hi! from Buti and Nombeko!

I know John loves me. He takes me dancing every weekend,' Thandi told us. She may be right. But love between two people is about other things too, like trust, respect and commitment. And sex in a lasting relationship, can be part of this love.

There are people who think sex must only take place within marriage. Others say it is okay to have sex, as long as you are committed to each other. Some believe that sex is fun and should be enjoyed with different people.

But casual sex is dangerous and can be hurtful. There is a much bigger chance of getting a serious disease, like AIDS. And there is also the danger of an unwanted pregnancy.

Dora was 15 when she fell pregnant. 'I had sex with my boyfriend because I wanted to please him. I did not want a baby then, but I did not know about contraceptives. When I told him I was pregnant, he denied that he was the father. I was so afraid. I felt so used,' she told us.

What can a person do if they have an unwanted pregnancy?

- If you have had sex and didn't use contraception, go to your nearest Family Planning Clinic as soon as possible. There is a pill they can give you for 72 hours after sex. But you can't use this pill for contraception. It is dangerous to use this method often, so it is only for emergencies.
- Keep your baby
You can keep your baby. You will need love and support from the father, your family and friends. Remember the father is also responsible. If he refuses to accept the baby, you can get a blood test done to prove he is

the father. This test is done at the South African Institute for Medical Research or South African Blood Transfusion services.

- Adoption
If you fall pregnant and don't want the baby, you can give it up for adoption. You may love your baby but are not able to care for it properly. Adoption means that you give the baby to a family who want a child but can't have one of their own. They will care for the baby as if it is their own.

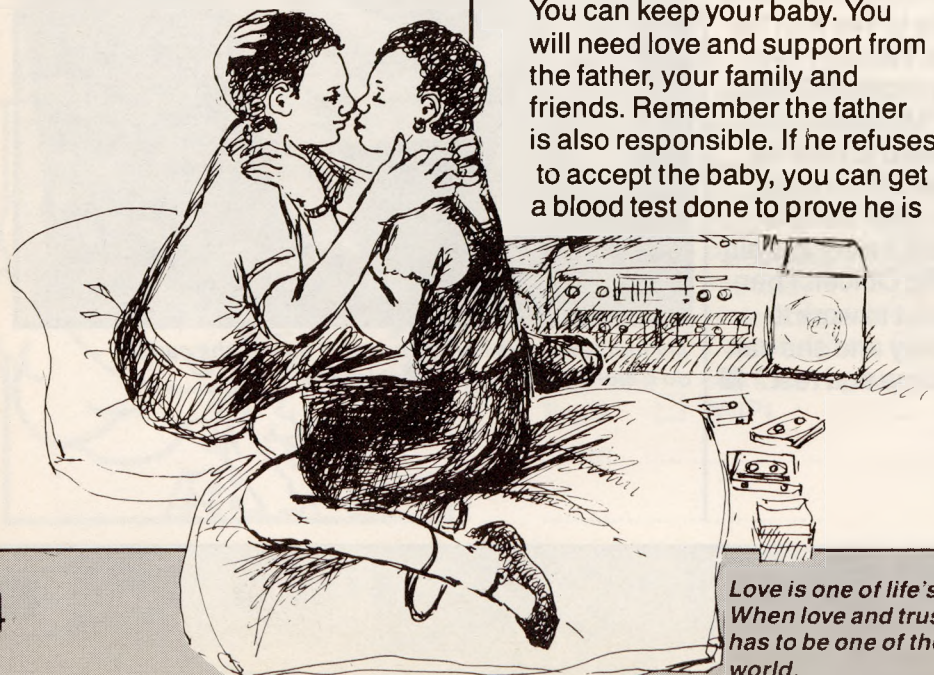
- Legal abortions
An abortion is an operation that ends pregnancy. A legal abortion is done in a hospital. A legal abortion is quite safe if it is done properly. In South Africa a woman can get a legal abortion for the following reasons.

- The pregnant woman is very ill. Her pregnancy could cause her to die.
- The woman has been raped.
- The pregnancy is the result of incest (sex between members of the same family).
- There is a risk that the unborn child will be badly handicapped.

In many countries any woman who wants an abortion can have one. But in this country it is against the law for doctors to do abortions. Many women have unwanted pregnancies. And so they turn to backstreet or illegal abortions.

Backstreet abortions

Illegal abortions can be very dangerous. They are also expensive. Some backstreet abortionists use dangerous instruments. They push them through the woman's vagina into the womb to make the womb bleed. This can damage the womb and cause infection. Sometimes women need operations afterwards to save their lives.



Love is one of life's great adventures. When love and trust come together, it has to be one of the best feelings in the world.

There are also women who take drugs from herbalists to cause an abortion. These medicines mostly do not work and can make the woman very ill.

At least 200 000 women have illegal abortions in South Africa every year. And as many as 20 000 women die because of these abortions.

Where to go if you are pregnant

It is very difficult when you discover that you are pregnant and you didn't plan it. It is even harder if you are young and alone. Find someone to talk to like a nurse or social worker. Turn to page 23 for a list of places where you can get help. ■



Unwanted pregnancies can mean the end of schooling.

Ayesha's story

'I come from a religious Muslim family. When I was 18, I met a guy who I liked at the ice rink. We were just good friends. But he was white. So I never told my mother about him. When my family found out about us, they put me in a rehabilitation school.

'Dave wrote to me and our relationship grew. I was released from the school when I was 20. Dave and I experimented with sex. Soon afterwards I discovered I was pregnant.

'I didn't tell Dave about it. I was scared he would leave me. But I told my friend, Liz. She said I was young and intelligent and had my whole life ahead of me. And she had a friend who knew an abortionist.

'So I had an abortion. I was terribly afraid. It was the most painful experience of my life. Sometimes I still blame myself. Other times I feel there was nothing else I could have done.

'After the abortion, I left Durban and went to live in Cape Town. There I met Harry. Not long after I started seeing him, I fell pregnant again.

'I wanted my baby. But Harry had lied to me, he was married already. My parents disowned me and I had no money, no job, no home.

'I knew I could not have another abortion. So I gave the baby up for adoption. It was very hard, being pregnant for nine months and then

not having a baby to love and hold. But I take comfort that my baby has a secure home, which I couldn't give her.

'Today I still cry about my pregnancies. I don't know what the answer to unwanted pregnancies is. I think women must be very careful to avoid getting pregnant.'

Point of View

Here is a letter from Mark Renaud, a religion teacher in Cape Town. This is his view on sex education.

Dear Upbeat,
An awareness of human sexuality is of vital importance to our youngsters. But it must be balanced by the positive aspect of love, commitment, marriage and the dignity of human life.

Sexuality is a gift from God. It should be respected. Sex involves commitment and the Church believes it must be part of marriage. The sexual act is an intimate union between two people, symbolising the lasting commitment of marriage. All life is sacred. Life begins with conception. Abortion is tampering with human life.

The church holds up an ideal for people. We all fall short of this ideal but within our own lives, we must strive to attain it.
Mark Renaud



Write your own story

Part 4

Upbeat would like you to write stories for us. But many readers don't know how to. So last year we ran a workshop with high school students in Cape Town on how to write a news story. Now we're running this workshop as a series in the magazine so that everyone can learn how to write good, clear stories.

Imagine opening Upbeat and reading the following sentence: 'on nigt of 8 March 1991, a 1000 wmen mrched throug the streets of johneesburg.'

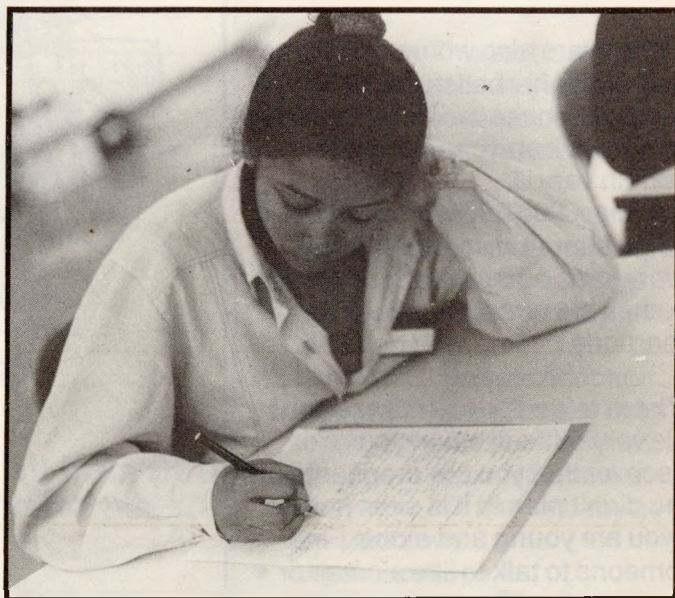
It's impossible to read this sentence because there are too many mistakes! When we write a story, we check it carefully before it is printed in Upbeat. Checking stories is called *editing*. It's very important to edit your stories because a story with mistakes is difficult to read.

Editing is difficult in the beginning. Ask an English teacher or someone whose English is better than yours to help you. But the more editing you do, the easier it becomes. Here are some tips on how to edit your story.

Checking for mistakes

Look at the article called 'Sharpeville Day'. Read it carefully. There are many mistakes. Correct the mistakes by asking the following questions:

- Can you understand what the article is about? What's the main idea?
- Are the events in the story ordered in a clear way? If not, change things around.
- Are there any parts that are boring and not relevant? Cut them out.
- Are there any important facts that are missing? Add them in.
- Are there facts that are wrong? Correct them.
- Does each paragraph have one main idea?



Maritza, a student from Windermere High School, checks her story for mistakes.

- Are there too many difficult words? Change them to words that are easier to understand.
- Are there sentences that are too long? Make them shorter
- by breaking a long sentence into two or more sentences.
- Are there any spelling, punctuation or grammar mistakes? Correct them. ■

Article for Editing

Sharpeville Day

In th morning of 21 march 1960, millions of people gathered outside the polise station in the eastern transvaal township of sharpeville. Sharpeville is a very old and big township with lots of schools. They were told the polise might announce changes in the pass law

The 2 March is Sharpeville day. On this day we remember what happened in 1960, when hundreds of people in townships all over S.A. march on to polise stations and burning there passes. It's very tiring for old people to march.

The polise inside the polise station panicked and called in reinforcements. By lunch time, 300 policemen had arriving in the township

This is the last story in this series. Please let us know if you found it useful. Practise what you've learnt by writing for our School beat page.

UPBEAT

The youth magazine for all

Book supplement 1991

Here it is, a list of new books for you to love and hate, to escape with, to learn from and to share with your younger brothers and sisters. Read what South African writers think. Enter our short story competition. But most of all, use this book supplement to start reading as much as you can.

To start, Upbeat asked Ahmed Essop, a well-known South African writer why he likes reading.

'Reading is about delight and enjoyment,' Ahmed said. 'If we read we find out about people and what

happens to them. We find out about other countries. By reading we make our world bigger. No longer do we only know about our neighbours and school-mates. We can find out about people in Russia and South America. We can learn how the minds of gangsters and saints work without ever meeting one.

'Reading helps us to develop a sense of what is good and evil. Books feed our imaginations. Just think how dull life would be with nothing to dream about. Reading teaches us to think for ourselves and not let others think for us.

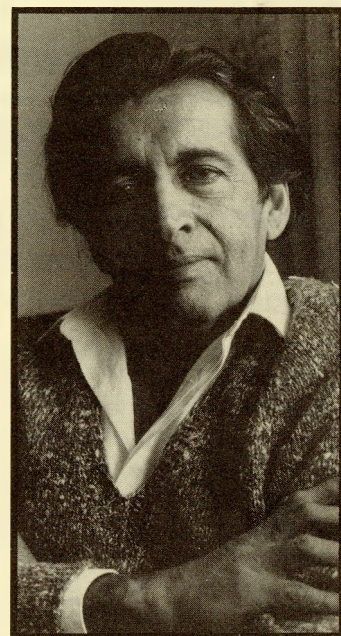
'People say that

television does the same things but I disagree. I think television does our thinking for us. It stops us from imagining what places and people look like. Most television is American. But books, well, you can read books from anywhere.

'But more than anything, I want to say that reading is fun.'

Have you read Ahmed Essop's latest collection of short stories? Try it. It is called, *Noorjehan and other stories*. It's a wonderful read!

Publisher: Ravan Press
Price: R19,95 + GST:
R2,59



Ahmed Essop

Wake up singing by Jane Rosenthal

Publisher: Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R17,50 + GST: R2,27

'If you sing the song the way it was written

And you march along to the beat of the drum,

Someday soon you're going to wake up singing,

Battle is over but the war goes on.'

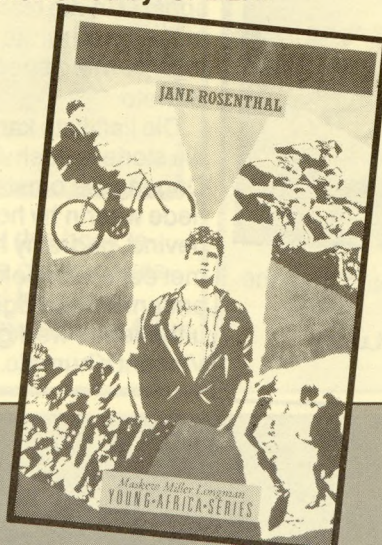
(song sung by Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee)

The name of this book is taken from this song. It is a simple and honest story about a young, white, high school student, Nick, and his awakening to the problems of black students. Through his unusual girlfriend, Em, Nick is drawn into a world which he did not know existed – boycotts, community service, young men who refuse to go to the army, detentions, stayaways, protest vigils, and hiding school students from the

security police. At the same time, Nick is involved in a battle of his own – against the strict teacher, 'Bossies' and his father.

The book is written in clear and simple English and is quick and easy to read. It was the winner of the 1990 Maskew Miller Longman Young Africa Competition.

Reviewed by: UPBEAT



The Tiger Cubs by Michael Spur

Publisher: Shuter and Shooter
Price: R9,90 + GST R1,29

The Tiger Cubs is an interesting and action-packed story. It is about two worlds, the world of crime and darkness represented by the Bulldozers, a gang and the world of light and life represented by Ali Zuma and the Tiger Cubs, a soccer team. The book is about the fighting between the two groups. Ironman, a member of the Bulldozers and the Tiger Cubs, is the link between the two. Our fingers were crossed all the way through the book, waiting for the Bulldozers to get Ali Zuma. Ali is a bit too good to be true. His only weakness is quarrelling with his sister, Nombuso. *The Tiger Cubs* is very difficult to put down once you have started reading it.

Reviewed by: Upbeat

Chrissie by Georgiana Melrose

Publisher: Macmillan
Price: R11,95 + GST: R1,55
Chrissie is a girl who lives in London. She is about 16. She has just left school but she can't get work. Her mother is driving her crazy. She does not understand that Chrissie needs privacy. Chrissie's solution is to disappear.....

This is like a modern fairytale, about the ups and downs of the modern world. It is a wonderful story for children of today with discos, parties and

modern fashion. It is very well written and enjoyable.
Reviewed by: Jessica Conradie (11)



The Donkey Kids by F Leslie

Publisher: Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R17,50 + GST: R2,27

This is about Manie and his little sister, Trina. When their Oupa dies, they are left to look after themselves in the harsh world. Their only home is a wooden donkey cart, pulled by their donkey. I really liked Manie because he cared for his little sister. I did not like the doctor who looked after their Oupa. The book had something special to say about how hard life is for children with no parents. The English is just right. I



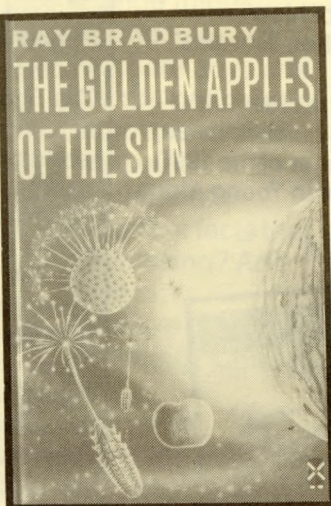
think it is a good book for higher primary pupils.
Reviewed by: Gladwin Moremong (16)

The Golden Apples of the Sun by Ray Bradbury

Publisher: Heinemann
Price: R20,95 + GST: R2,72

This is a collection of short stories. At first I could not believe what I was reading because they are all science fiction. They are very scary but exciting. The English is simple and the stories are just the right length. But

I think it is a book for Senior Science students. They will understand the Science



and perhaps learn from the stories.
Reviewed by: Lucky Maseko (17)

The Friends by Rosa Guy

Publisher: Puffin Plus
Price: R13,99 + GST: R1,82
Phyllisia is a very plain looking 14-year-old girl. She lives with her sister, Ruby, and her parents in Harlem, a big slum for black people in New York. But Phyllisia was born in the West Indies and 'dis girl she speak sort ov funny, muhn'. The way she speaks and her cleverness make her different from the other children in her class. She is hated by the other children who call her 'monkey-chaser' and beat her up. Phyllisia becomes friendly with Edith when Edith saves her from being

trampled to death in a riot. But Edith has holes in her socks, ill-fitting, old clothes and uncombed hair.

Rosa Guy takes us down the tense, bustling streets of Harlem and into the overcrowded schools. She takes us to the apartments of people so poor all they have is a memory of their last meal. But most of all Rosa Guy makes us look closely at ourselves and how we treat other people. *The Friends* is a moving story. Do yourself a favour and read it.

Reviewed by: Chris van Wyk, writer

Die Steenkool Ster deur Johan Volschenk

Publisher: Tafelberg
Price: R16,95 + GST: R2,20

Die storie handel oor n seun wat na n bus ongeluk sy geheue verloor het, en hom dan op n steenkoolwerf in Soweto bevind, waar hy en ander seuns vreeslik deur die werfeienaar uitgebuit word. Die verhaal begin in Winterveld waar Joshua en sy ma woon. Daarna is daar n baie kort toneel speel af in die Natal streek maar die oorgrote meerderheid speel af in Soweto.

Die lieflikste karakter in die storie is Joshua. Ongeag die omstandighede waarin hy hom bevind, gedra hy hom altyd met eer en respek, ondanks sy geldgierige en uitbuitende werkgever, Vincent Khumalo. Die

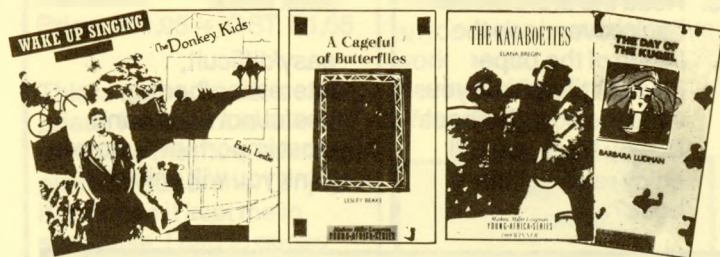
boodskap wat hierdie storie by ons wil tuisbring is dat eerlikheid en opregtigheid altyd betaal in die lewe, en met hierdie boodskap stem ek saam. 'Die Steenkool Ster' is liulekker leesstof vir seuns en dogters tussen 12-17 jaar en is maklik om te volg.

Reviewed by: Loretta Jacobus



Advertisement

GET YOUR STORY PUBLISHED



The Maskew Miller Longman Young Africa Award has elicited fiction of outstanding quality. Two novels have won the Percy Fitzpatrick award and one has just won the R50 000 M-Net literary award. Overseas rights have been sold for three novels. Aimed at young readers between 12 and 15 years, our award-winning novels offer compelling reading. There is a much felt need for worthwhile literature in this age group which makes our winning novels a valuable asset to any library.



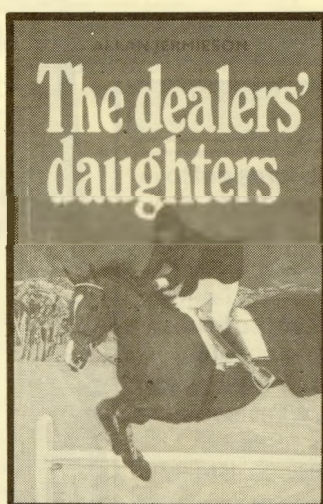
**Maskew Miller
Longman**

Entry forms are available from:
MML YOUNG AFRICA AWARD SECRETARY
Maskew Miller Longman (Pty) Ltd,
P.O. Box 396, Cape Town 8000

The Dealer's Daughters by Allan Jermieson

Publisher: Tafelberg
Price: R19,95 + GST:
R2,59

This is a well-written book about five girls in Cape Town. Each one comes from a different background. They spend their Christmas holiday together. During this time they learn to understand themselves and each other. Camilla was the most interesting of the girls. She had much musical talent. The point the writer is trying to make, is that even when people come from different backgrounds, they can always find something they share and be best friends. I would



recommend this book to any teenage girl who likes books about friendship.
Reviewed by: Aniesa Ally (14)

SOME NON-FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

The Enviro-Visions Series by Lynn Hurry

Publisher: Shuter & Shooter
Price: R2,95 + GST: R0,38
This series consists of 4 books.

- *Backyard Wildlife* – an introduction to garden ecology
- *National Parks* – a wildlife game and colouring book
- *Encounter with Sea life* – activities book with colouring guide

- *The Kruger National Park*

These books present information about the environment clearly and simply.

They all have fun activities for children; either puzzles, games or colouring-in. They are very useful for Science teachers, doing environmental studies and students with a particular interest in Science and nature.

Reviewed by: Upbeat

Countdown – An exciting new newspaper for young readers

Countdown is a new newspaper for all students doing Mathematics. There is something of interest for everyone – primary school students, high school students and adults who did not go to school. *Countdown* is written in simple English. It covers school Maths but it also tells us the history of Maths, how Maths was

used for centuries in African patterns and in skills like building. Every month *Countdown* will have competitions with prizes. At the moment *Countdown* is given out in farm schools only. But if you want a copy, write to:

Countdown
P O Box 404
Lanseria
1748

BOOKS TO SING ABOUT

Over the last year two new books have come out with songs for South African children. They are:

- *Songs sung by South African children* by Grassroots Educare Trust

Price: R33,35 including GST and post. Order from: Grassroots Trust, P O Box 38055, Gatesville 7764

- *Sing, Africa*, compiled by Patricia Schonstein and published by African Sun Press. Price: R15,95 + GST: R2,08

Both books have delightful songs and pictures. They both have music for those who can read it. *Sing, Africa* contains poems as well. *Songs by South African children* comes with a cassette tape of the songs in the book. The tape is a pleasure to listen to and an easy way to learn & teach the songs.

How to find a good read

Some books you just can't put down. They hold you spellbound from the first page to the last. Other books put you instantly to sleep. How do you know if a book is for you? Here are some tips to help you choose.

1. Look at the title and author of the book. What do you think the book is about?
2. How many pages are there? How long do you think it will take you to read this book? Still interested?

3. Read the blurb on the back cover or on the inside of the paper cover. A blurb tells you what the book is about. Do you think you will enjoy reading this book?

4. Turn to any page and read a paragraph. Don't read the last page. You'll spoil the fun! Do you think that for you the book looks:

easy/difficult,
interesting/boring,
useful/not useful and
most important – do you
think you will enjoy it?

Cry Amandla by G Rowan

Publisher: The College Press
Price: R9,50 + GST: R1,24

It is 1986. Nelson Mandela has been in prison for 25 years. A group of South Africans think of a daring plan to free this famous leader. They kidnap the white State President and then exchange him for Mandela. Sounds exciting, doesn't it?

Well, *Cry Amandla* is the most boring book I have ever read. The writer of this silly novel for teenagers doesn't know how to write.

When Mandela is released, there are no flags, no toyitoying crowds, no freedom songs. He just gets on the plane and flies off to London.

But the book is not just boring. The writer hasn't done his research well. So the book is filled with wrong information and spelling mistakes. The book doesn't succeed in telling us how cruel apartheid really is. And it makes those fighting against this cruel system look silly. After reading *Cry Amandla* the only cry I could utter was 'Rubbish'.

Reviewed by: Chris van Wyk, writer

To my children's children by Sindiwe Magona

Publishers: David Philip
Price: R24,90 + GST:
R3,24

To My Children's Children is the story of Sindiwe Magona's first 24 years. The book makes wonderful reading, about growing up, first in the Transkei and later in a squatter camp on the Cape Flats. Sindiwe becomes the first person in her family to qualify as a teacher, bringing much pride to them. This glory does not last long. Unmarried Sindiwe falls pregnant and loses her job.

Little does Sindiwe know that she will never teach again. So, unable to survive on her husband's wages, Sindiwe is forced to become a domestic worker. Life gets harder and harder for Sindiwe. But she never gives up. She leaves you with a feeling of hope, not only for Sindiwe, but for our country as well.

All South Africans must read *To My Children's Children*. But the language is difficult. My advice to readers is, take the time and effort to read it. It is a very good book.

Reviewed by: Upbeat

Comics

The River of our Dreams by the Storyteller Group

Publishers: Storyteller Group
Price: R3,00 inclusive of GST and post

The story starts with the headmaster of the heroes of 99 Sharp Street. He wants to take his Std 6 class to the river of his childhood in the Natal Midlands. The children from Johannesburg are disappointed by

Mr Mabaso's river which turns out to be very dirty. But they soon settle into the local school. The students decide to form an Action Committee to clean up the river. The story will help pupils to understand more, not only about pollution, but other problems in life, such as racial prejudice. The pictures in the comics make you want to read it and the English is very simple.

Reviewed by: Hayley Reeve, Std 9, Riverlea Senior Secondary

The River of our Dreams comes together with a pack for schools, librarians and adult literacy teachers. Anyone interested in *The River of our Dreams* must contact the Storyteller Group, P O Box 617, Melville 2109



Mhudi – the comic by Sol Plaatje

Publishers: SACHED/Storyteller Group
Price: R10,00 inclusive of GST and post (order from the story teller group)

Sol Plaatje's classic story of one woman's determination to survive is beautifully told in this comic. The story is set 200 years ago during the Mfecane. To fight off the threat of Mzilikazi, Chief Moroka gets some voortrekkers to help him. During this time Mhudi falls in love with RaThaga whom she saves from a lion. Read this comic which is one of the few about a woman and her life in Africa. The language is simple to read and the drawings are striking, if sometimes a little harsh.

Reviewed by: Upbeat

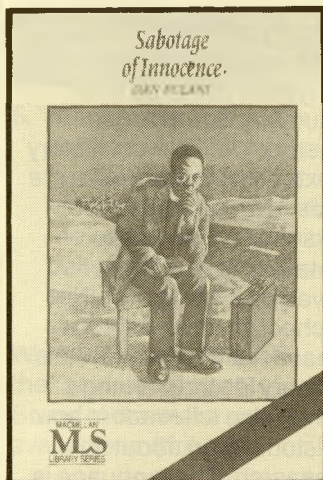
Sabotage of Innocence by D Fulani

Publisher: Macmillan
/Boleswa
Price: R11,95 + GST: R1,55

This is a story about a priest. He is sent to deliver a Bible to the most infamous place in Gaborone. I enjoyed it because it kept me in suspense. I had to guess how it would end. The people in the book behaved very mysteriously. My favourite character was the priest. I liked him because he had very little willpower and his weaknesses always got the better of him. The message of the book is that you must always question the way people behave. If you don't ask questions, you will end

up in dangerous situations. I recommend this book to anyone who loves detective work.

Reviewed by: Enver Wessels (13)



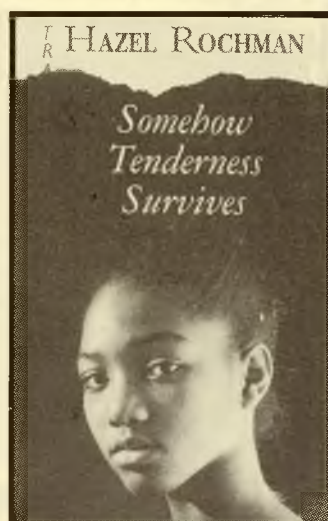
Somehow Tenderness Survives ed. Hazel Rochman

Publisher: Lions Tracks
Price: R14,99 + GST: R1,95

Somehow Tenderness Survives is a wonderful collection of short stories written by famous South African writers. All the stories are about young people in South Africa. The stories include Peter Abrahams's story of a young boy who is beaten for fighting young white boys who insult him; Nadine Gordimer's Thebedi and the murder of her baby by the white father of the child; Zoe Wicomb's wait for the train, taking her to a white school; Mark Mathabane's pass raid; Ernst Havemann's soldiers of the Namibian war; Gcina Mhlope's friendly toilet,

where she first started to write. All the stories are about apartheid and how they have affected young people in our country. Some of the stories are written in quite difficult language. But the stories are good to read. The stories are very different from the short stories you will read at school.

Reviewed by: Upbeat



The Honourable Prison by Lyll Becerra de Jenkins

Publisher: Virago Upstarts
Price: R23,99 + GST R3,12

The Honourable Prison is set in Central America. It is based on the author's own life. Seventeen-year-old Matra Maldonado's father criticises the General who governs their country. As a result the army place the whole Maldonado family under house arrest in a fort, away from their home. The book is about their lives and hardships at the fort. It is about Marta and her relationship with her mother, father and younger brother. Marta questions her father's political beliefs because of the problems the family face. The English in *The Honourable Prison* is difficult. But it is interesting to know about political problems in other countries, especially in Central America.

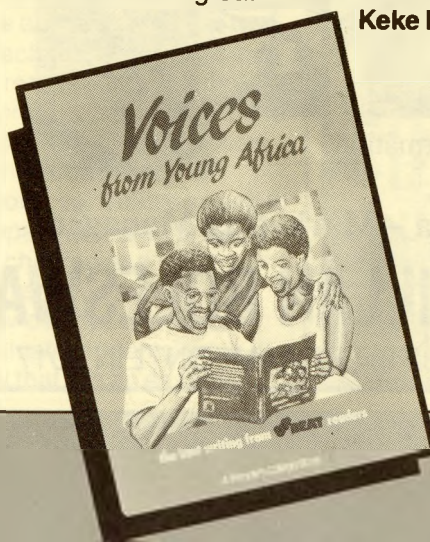
Reviewed by: Upbeat

Voices from Young Africa – the best writing from Upbeat readers

Publisher: SACHED/Macmillan
Boleswa. Price: R15,00 + GST: R1,95

This is a collection of writing. There are mainly poems but there are some short stories too. The book is divided into sections that follow our different stages of life, from the beginning, when we are born, through to what happens to people as they grow up. I think most young people will enjoy this book because it is written by young people. It is about the laughter, sorrow and joys young people experience. It will also help young people to deal with their problems. It will help them to realise that there are others that share their problems. I thought *Voices from Young Africa* was great.

Keke Mosieleng (16)



Factual

The Shuter's History Reference Library

There is a big shortage of good textbooks for students. Here are some non-fiction (factual) books that you can use in class.

History

Foundations of the New South Africa by John Pampallis

Publishers: Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R29,95 + GST: R3,89

This book starts with South African history before the discovery of minerals and goes through to the 1990s. It covers a lot of Std 9 and 10 history. It is a useful resource for teachers. After each chapter there are exercises which encourage students to work together.

But all the exercises take the same form. Little attention is paid to building skills needed by history students. I feel history students would struggle with the book. The language is difficult and there is no economic history in the book. This weakens its explanation of historical events. If students wish to read this book, they should try to read other histories of South Africa as well. *Foundations of a New South Africa* does not stand on its own.

Reviewed by: Rabia Dawjee, Education Support Programme

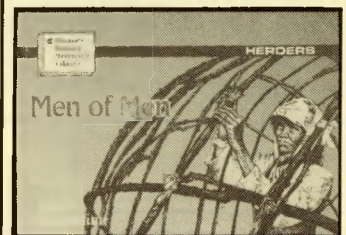
Price: R14,05 + GST R1,83 (each)

This series consists of five books covering the early history of South Africa. They are a MUST for anyone interested in or studying South African history. Unlike most history textbooks, these books are based on up-to-date research. They make interesting reading for everyone, from primary school children to history teachers. They show that history is about change. They also tell readers how historians go about research. The language is simple and the illustrations are clear. All the books are written by Candy

Malherbe. But in two books she is assisted by other writers. The series includes the following:



1. *These Small People* – is about the San hunter-gatherers of Southern Africa.



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Careers guidance The Future is yours by Marilyn Aitken

Publishers: The graal and C.I.E
Price: Unknown at time of publication.

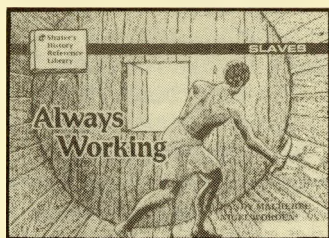


Choosing a career is a difficult task. This book helps us by presenting problems and ideas to think about when deciding on a career. It contains detailed information about 25 different careers. It tells you what the work entails, qualifications and training necessary but most importantly, how the jobs will contribute to building a South Africa free from racism. It contains information on bursaries and post-school studies. I think *The Future is Yours* is useful for students, teachers, parents and workers looking for new careers.

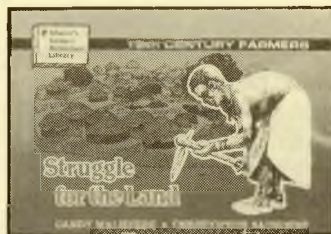
Reviewed by: Nazlee Dindar, Std 10, St Barnabas College

books

2. *Men of Men* – is the story of the Khoi.
3. *Always working* is about the slaves who were brought to South Africa from all over the world.



4. *Changing the land* is about farming. It starts with how farming developed 10 thousand years ago and how it changed with new methods.



5. *Struggle for the land* continues the story of farming. It looks at the nineteenth century and the competition for land between the European settlers and African societies.

We cannot recommend these books enough. Some of them are also available in Afrikaans.

Reviewed by: Upbeat and SACHED History Materials Development Team

Science

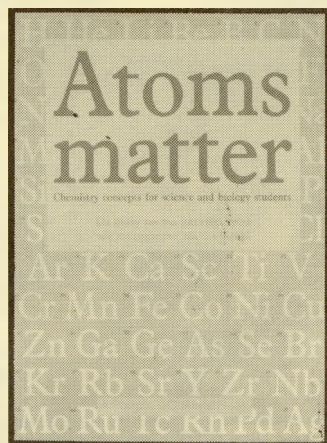
Atoms Matter by Liz Dilley and Marissa Rollnick

Publisher: SACHED/Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R29,95 + GST: R2,72

This book is for Std 8, 9, and 10 Chemistry and Biology students. It contains an exercise on how to use the book for both teachers and students. *Atoms Matter* is filled with clear illustrations that are easy to understand. Each chapter starts with a revision exercise of the previous chapter so you can check how much you understood. At the end of each chapter there is a summary to help students study. I think the book

succeeds in helping students understand and enjoy Chemistry. My copy is certainly well-thumbed.

Reviewed by: Chi-wah Chan, Std 9, St Barnabas College



Geography

Looking at maps by Jo Collett

Publishers: The Read Organisation
Price: R12,00 inclusive of GST and postage. Order it from READ, P O Box 30994, Braamfontein 2017

This book is extremely useful for both students and teachers. It combines the theory of map reading with interesting and easy-to-follow examples, tasks and experiments which relate to everyday life. The

pictures and diagrams make the book alive and interesting. This book breaks away from how Geography is taught in schools. It covers a wide range of topics from 'What is a Map' to more difficult tasks such as reading a map showing population distribution. *Looking at Maps* is highly recommended for Std 6–8. It is also useful for Std 9 and 10 students who have forgotten the basics.
Reviewed by: Anthony Ruiters, Geography teacher

Basic Science Series

Publisher: Educum

Price: R18,00 + GST: R2,34 per set or R1,50 + GST: R0,20 each

This series is made up of 16 booklets on various science topics from 'Forces and measurements' to 'Space' and 'Man' and 'Life in the sea'. The books vary. Some of them are very good like the book on air. But others do not explain things properly. For example, the

book on magnetism explains how magnetism works but not why it works. All the books include simple experiments which students or teachers can do with very little science equipment. All in all, I think that they are useful for schools, especially for teachers who want to get students working in groups or researching topics on their own.

Reviewed by: Jane Arthur

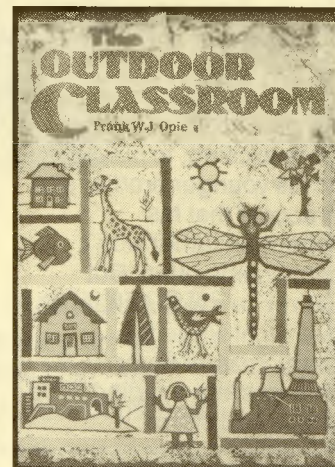
The Outdoor Classroom by Frank Opie

Publisher: Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R13,95 + GST: R1,81

This is a handy manual for Science teachers. It helps to make learning progressive and dynamic. The author's intention to 'reach the whole child' can be realised through the informative guidance in the book. It provides teachers with a broad range of resources. It can be used to prepare research projects for children and worksheets. It also provides tips on how to evaluate students' work. I feel that it is an essential

item for any Science teacher, particularly now that environmental issues are so important.

Reviewed by: Jayesh Bhana, Biology/Science teacher, St Barnabas College



Writers' favourite books

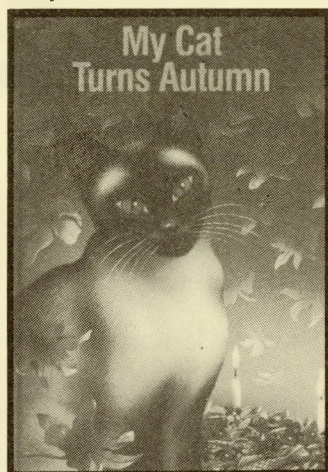
Upbeat spoke to some well known writers. We asked them to choose the teenage book which they have enjoyed the most this year.

Dianne Hofmeyr, author and winner of the Sanlam Gold Medal for Youth Literature, chose *My cat turns autumn* by Barrie Hough.
Publisher: Viking
Price: R21,99 + GST: R2,88

My Cat Turns Autumn is about growing up. It is written by someone who knows the difficulties of having only one parent, someone who knows how lonely it is to be different at school.

It is the story of Daniel

who can't get along with his actress mother. She is too busy to understand his



problems. Daniel's stutter is a symbol of the difficulty he has talking, to not only his mother, but other people as well. To escape his problems, Daniel plays games with difficult words which he cannot say out loud. But Daniel's real security comes from his very special love for his cat, Nefertiti.

It is easy to read, realistically told with flowing dialogue. The author's creative use of images ... 'the bus-stop was a bed of colourful umbrella toadstools on a rainy morning' adds to a polished story. Nothing in the book is totally resolved. Daniel's stutter doesn't miraculously disappear. Yet the reader is left with a feeling of hope that Daniel's special friendship with a girl and the birth of a kitten brings.

Chris van Wyk, author, poet and winner of the Maskew Miller Young Africa Award, chose *A red kite in a pale sky* by Dianne Hofmeyr.

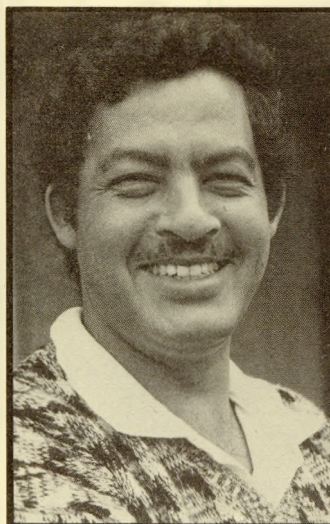
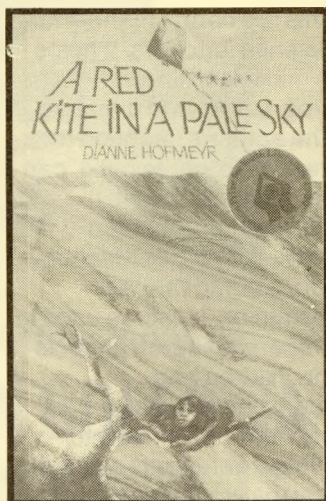
Publisher: Tafelberg
Price: R16,95 + GST: R2,20

Laurence Ross is a 13-year-old boy. He lives with his mother and brothers and sisters in a rickety shack on the banks of the Umhlatuzana River. They are poor but Laurence has a rich mind. He uses it to make school more exciting, to play tricks on his younger brother and to accept that his fisherman father won't come home often. But Laurence's world changes overnight when the Umhlatuzana River changes into a raging flood after a bad storm.

Laurence and his family are swept into tragedy.

My only problem with this book is that sometimes Laurence uses language that young boys do not use. It would be hard to find a better description than, '...a purple bruise was spreading across the sky, and the trees looped and knotted on the horizon like the stitches of Ouma's

knitting when one of the needles had fallen out.' And it would be hard to find a better book than *A Red Kite in a Pale Sky*. That is why it won the 1990 Sanlam Gold Prize for Youth Literature.



Chris van Wyk

Choosing books

Parents and Teachers!

Reading is vital for learning. Here are some tips to help you get your children hooked on books.

- Talk about books at home or in the class. Talk about the plot, the characters or the ideas. Take an interest in what your children read -- it builds their confidence.
- Read stories aloud. Reading aloud is enjoyable and a time for families to be together and to learn.
- Non-fiction or factual books are as important as fiction. Both give children new ideas.
- If your child finds a book boring or too difficult, don't force her to read it. A sense of failure stops children reading.
- Find books about topics that YOUR children like. Children love books that they identify with. Look for books that explore teenage problems and concerns. Use this book supplement to get started.
- Encourage children to choose books for themselves.
- If you have questions or are worried about your child's reading, speak to the school.
- Use your PTA or PTSA to talk about the kind of books you think your school must have. Start a campaign to fill the school library with books that students will want to read.

Poetry

Modern Poetry for Secondary School

ed. D Dawson

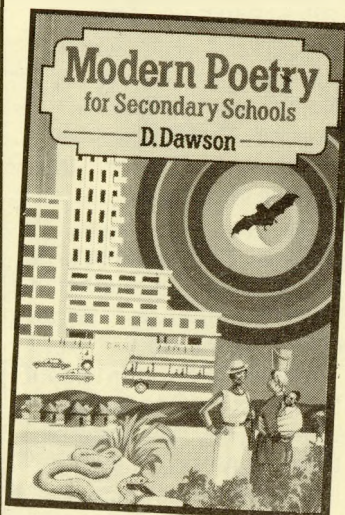
Publisher: Scholastic Books

Price: R10,50 + GST: R1,37

This book's cover tells us that the book is trying to bring together all the different things that make up our world – town and country, commerce and nature. There are poems written by Africans, Westerners and Easterners. Why, then, are there so few poems in this anthology by women? I was impressed by the anthology. I particularly liked the short explanations of each poem. I think they will help students who

struggle with poetry. Try to get hold of the book. I'm sure you'll find lots to enjoy in it.

Reviewed by: Elaine Mohammed,
teacher, St Barnabus

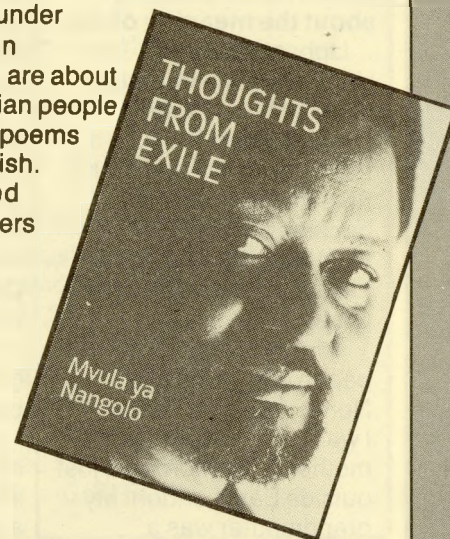


Thoughts from Exile by Mvula ya Nangolo.

Publishers: Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R7,95 + GST: R1,03

Mvula ya Nangolo is the first Namibian poet to publish his work in English. Nangolo is a journalist who spent 26 years in exile. In 1989 he returned home together with thousands of other Namibians. His poems tell us how Namibians suffered under German and South African oppression. Other poems are about the struggle of the Namibian people for independence. All the poems are written in simple English. The book is recommended to South Africans and others fighting for freedom.

Reviewed by:
Andries Oliphant,
Congress of South African Writers

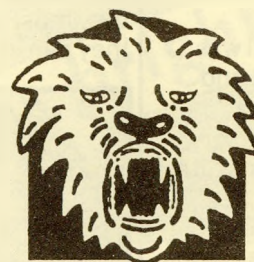


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A writer's life

Often people think writers are very serious people. They think writers have studied at university and that writers spend all day, pen in hand, thinking about the meaning of life.

Upbeat spoke to Nombulelo Makhuphula, the author of *Xhosa Fireside Tales*. We asked her to tell us a little about herself and how she became a writer. Nombulelo smashed our idea of what it takes to be a writer.

'My great love for stories began long, long ago,' Nombulelo said, 'when I was living with my grandmother in Tsholomnqa, just outside East London. My grandmother was a wonderful storyteller. She could make me cry or laugh or even go to sleep with her stories.'

'When I started school I loved reading and writing. I used to steal my older sister's books to read. In Std 5 I started to write my first short stories but they were very bad. I loved school but I am embarrassed to say that I never finished. I fell pregnant when I was in Std 8.'

'After my baby girl was born, I had to go out and work. I started work as a 'doffer' in a textile factory, taking cotton bobbins off a big machine. It was hard work and I worked night shift every third week. I was only 17. All I earned was R3.99 a week! Later I worked as a domestic worker. Then I got a job in an hotel. I never had time to read or write because I was always too tired. In 1983 I got married. I started to study again and I wrote a short piece called,

"Struggles and heartaches."

'Exciting things started to happen to me. A friend introduced me to Stella Stevens, an editor for the publishers, Seriti sa Sechaba. Stella encouraged me to write some folktales. I wrote down 10 of my grandmother's best stories. Stella chose five and published them as *Xhosa Fireside Tales*. I couldn't believe it. I wanted to climb to the top of the Carlton Centre to tell everyone about it. I was only sorry that my grandmother never saw the book.'

'I did not earn enough money from my writing. So in 1998 I started working as a promoter of hair products, something I still do today. I write stories at weekends and on my day off. And next year I want to study for my matric. I think it will help to build my confidence.'

'If children want to write, the first thing they must do is read, read and read some more. I also think students must stay at school as long as they can. And while they are there, they must write as much as they can.'



Nombulelo Makhuphula

BOOKS FOR YOUNGER READERS

Journey to Jo'burg by Beverley Naidoo

Publisher: Young Lions
Price: R12,99 + GST:
R1,69

Naledi and Tiro are worried. Their baby sister, Dineo, is very sick and their Mma is far away in Johannesburg. So they decided to go and fetch her although they have no money. *Journey to Jo'burg* is the story of how Tiro and Naledi learn about the world outside of their village. They learn how big their country is. They see how their mother's employer is rude to her. They see a pass raid and they learn about the students' struggles of 1976. Then they travel back to their village, with their mother. They all have one question in their minds. Will Dineo still be alive? Read *Journey to Jo'burg*. It is a sad story which will teach you about your country.

Reviewed by: Upbeat

Calabash – a cluster of stories ed J Goodgrace & S Makosana

Publisher: Maskew Miller Longman
Price: R8,95 + GST: R1,16

I found this collection of stories fascinating. All the stories are by South African writers so they were familiar to me. The stories are exciting and adventurous. The collection also has the bonus of a miniature dictionary if there are words you don't understand. I think many children will enjoy this book.

Reviewed by: Jacqueline Cabo (12)

Help! Help! I'm only a lung and other stories by Sikose Mjali

Publisher: Skotaville
Price: R5,95 + GST: R0,77

The first story in this book is about a young man who started smoking cigarettes and dagga at a very early age, causing damage to the lungs. Another story, *Have a heart, Listen to your heart* is about fat Nomsa who is a glutton. She doesn't know she is shortening her life by eating junk foods and sweets. The last story is about how nature works. It has something special to say about life and love. I enjoyed all these stories very much and all of them left me knowing more about how my body works.

Reviewed by: Shahdia Halim (12)

The Little Wise One by Phyllis Savory

Publisher: Tafelberg
Price: R29,95 + GST:
R3,89

This book takes us back to the firesides of Africa long ago. There grandmothers or aunts and uncles told stories of Hare and how he tricked everyone, Lion, Elephant, Hyena, Hippo, Leopard. Phyllis Savory has collected stories about Hare and his clever tricks from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Malawi, Transkei, Botswana and Swaziland. The stories tell us how leopard got his spots and why Hippo lives in the water. They even tell us how Hare once made a mistake and got a harelip. The illustrations are charming. This book is an absolute must for every African home and classroom.

Reviewed by: Chris van Wyk, writer

Top ten for Upbeat readers

This list was prepared by Jenny Milward of the Johannesburg Public Library. You can find all these books in all the Jo'burg libraries. Join now and start reading.

1. **The Strollers** by Lesley Beake
A story about Johnny and the streetkids in Cape Town. They learn there is more to freedom than they thought.
2. **Serena's Story** by Lesley Beake
Serena's mother, Thandi Modiba, disappears. Serena runs to Johannesburg where she meets many people and experiences many new things.
3. **Homeward bound** by Lawrence Bransby
Jason is in matric. He writes in his diary about his life. Jason meets a black boy, Sol, and begins to realise how racist his white, middle class society is.
4. **Nobody's family is going to change** by Louise Fitzhugh
Emma is black and she is smart. She wants to be the best lawyer in the country. This is a good story about a black American teenager.
5. **New guy around the block** by Rosa Guy
This is also about black America. Imam is depressed when he arrives in Harlem. He meets some friends and becomes involved in a burglary mystery. This exciting thriller is about life in an inner city where violence and prejudice thrive.
6. **Sweet whispers, Brother Rush** by Virginia Rush
Tree is a black teenager in a dusty, mid-western American town. Tree looks after her retarded, older brother, Dabney. She also has to cope with a ghost, Brother Rush, who tells her some very upsetting truths about her family's past.
7. **Go well, stay well** by Toeckey Jones
Becky lives in Soweto and Candy lives in Johannesburg, a few miles apart, yet their homes are in different worlds. In another country they would have an easy friendship but this is South Africa, 1976.
8. **Chain of fire** by Beverley Naidoo
Naledi and Tiro live in the village of Bophelong with their little sister, Dineo and their grandmother. When the village is threatened with removal, Naledi organises a protest march. But the protesters are met by police with dogs, whips and rifles....
9. **Malunde, the street children of Hillbrow** by Jill Swart
This book contains the drawings and words of Hillbrow's street children. It is about their fears, their courage and their day-to-day life.
10. **The Just Seventeen South African teenager's advice book**
This guide, written for South African teenagers, covers topics covering relationships to problems with AIDS and pregnancy.

Something different for children – try Phambili Book's choice of children's books for little ones. (3 – 7)

The Summer Holidays by Sergei Grebennikov

The adventures of a schoolboy on holiday in Russia. He writes to his friends, all aged 12. He tells them about his adventures on a farm.
(R17,50 + GST: R2,28)

Ngunga's Adventures – Pepetela
The story of a young boy, playing a part in his people's struggle in Angola.
(R10,60 + GST: R1,37)

The Adventures of Dennis by Victor Dragunsky
A funny book about a boy called Dennis – a famous Russian character. (R17,65 + GST: R2,29)

The Eagle by Lafit Mahkmudov
A story from Uzbekistan in the Soviet Union. It is for younger readers.
(R10,10 + GST: R1,31)

Danko's burning heart by Maxim Gorkey
This is the story of Danko, who gives up his heart to lead his people out of darkness. (R5,60 + GST: R0,73)

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It's bigger

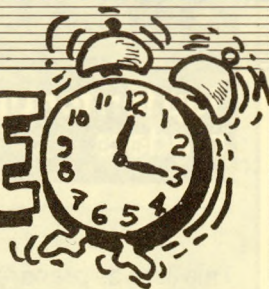
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It's brighter

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COMPETITION TIME



Write a short story and win a prize for yourself and your school.

If you are over 14 years

Write a short story of 1 500 words. It can be about anything – the story of your life, a fiction story, a true story or a folk tale. But make it original.

If you are under 14 years

Write a short story of about 800 words. Write about 'The world around me'. Your story must be your own work. Try to make it funny, or sad, or very true. Make it different from any other story you know.

NOTE: Any work that is copied will be immediately disqualified. The Upbeat staff will decide on the prize winners and their decision will be final.

For the winners in both age groups

1ST PRIZE R100
2ND PRIZE R50
3RD PRIZE R25

Please attach this form to your story and fill in all the information we need.

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Phone number where we can contact you

Name of story No. of words

There will also be packs of books for the winners and ten runners-up in both age groups. For the three high schools and the three primary schools that send the most entries, there will also be exciting book packs worth more than R300. Upbeat will also organise for a well-known South African writer to speak at these schools.

Closing date: Monday 30 September 1991

Send your story to:
Upbeat Short Story Competition
P O Box 11350
Johannesburg
2000

Winners will be announced at a big party on 21 October.

Winners' names and photographs will be in Upbeat No 1 1992.

How to write a short story

Here are some tips on how to write a short story.

1. Think about the story you want to tell. Your story must have a beginning, a middle and an end.
2. Decide who is telling the story. Is it the first person (I) or are you going to write it as told by an unknown person?
3. It is very important to begin in a way that grips your readers and makes them want to read more.
4. A short story is short. So make your writing to the point. You must say exactly what you want to say in a quick and accurate way. You must also try to keep the pace more or less the same throughout the story. Each event must lead on to the next.

5. All events in your story must follow a logical order.
6. Use dialogue or direct speech if you want to write what someone said. It liven up stories.
7. Try to think of an original way to write. Try to use unusual ways of describing things. Avoid cliches or well-known ways of saying things.
8. The ending is not only the end of the story. What finally happens is often why you wanted to tell the story. A good ending often comes as a surprise.

Now put on your thinking cap, pick up your pen and write the best story ever.

These tips were put together for you by short story prize winner and journalist, Maureen Isaacson.

Good luck!

Upbeat wants to thank the following publishers for donating books to the prize book packs:
David Philip; Grassroots Educare Trust; Harper Collins; Heinemann; MacMillan Boleswa; Maskew Miller Longman; Tafelberg; Pan Macmillan; Penguin Group; Educum Books; Random Century; Shuter & Shooter; Skotaville; The Story Teller Group; The Read Education Trust.

Find a friend use a library

Where can you sink into his arms, awaiting his kiss? Or fly over the desert, looking for the men who have just robbed you of your camels?

Where can you find out about energy, how to ice cakes, or how people in Siberia live? Where can you get answers to all the questions you are too embarrassed to ask anyone? It is in your closest library, of course.

So don't think libraries are boring places, only for those who study hard and do nothing else. If you take the time to look, libraries have something for everyone. If you love fashion, fixing cars, physics or soccer, you are sure to find books on the subject you like most.

Often people are frightened of libraries because they don't know how they work. They think the librarians look strict and unfriendly. But most librarians love books and want people to use their libraries. If you are not sure

- how to use the library
- what books to read
- where to find the books you want, ask the librarians. They are always happy to help you.

But if you don't want to ask the librarian, here are some tips on how to use a library.

A friendly librarian shows a student how to find a book.

Finding books in the library

Somewhere in the library you will see a wooden box with small drawers in it. This is the catalogue. The catalogue is a list of all the books in the library on cards. The cards tell you:

- the author or writer's name
- the title of the book
- the number of pages
- the publisher
- the date the book was published
- which shelf in the library you will find the book.

The catalogue cards are arranged in different orders as the catalogue is divided into three parts. The author/title catalogue, the subject catalogue and the classified catalogue.

If you only know the author's name or the name of the book

If you know the writer or author of the book, look in the author/title catalogue. In this catalogue, the cards are arranged in alphabetical order, according to the author's surname and the title. So there are two cards for each book, one filed under the author's name and one filed under the name of the book.

Let's say you are looking for the book, *My Darling, My Hamburger* by Paul Zindel, you will find it under Z for Zindel and under M for *My Darling, My Hamburger*.

The catalogue will then tell you on which shelf in the library you will find the book. If the book is a story or fiction book, look for

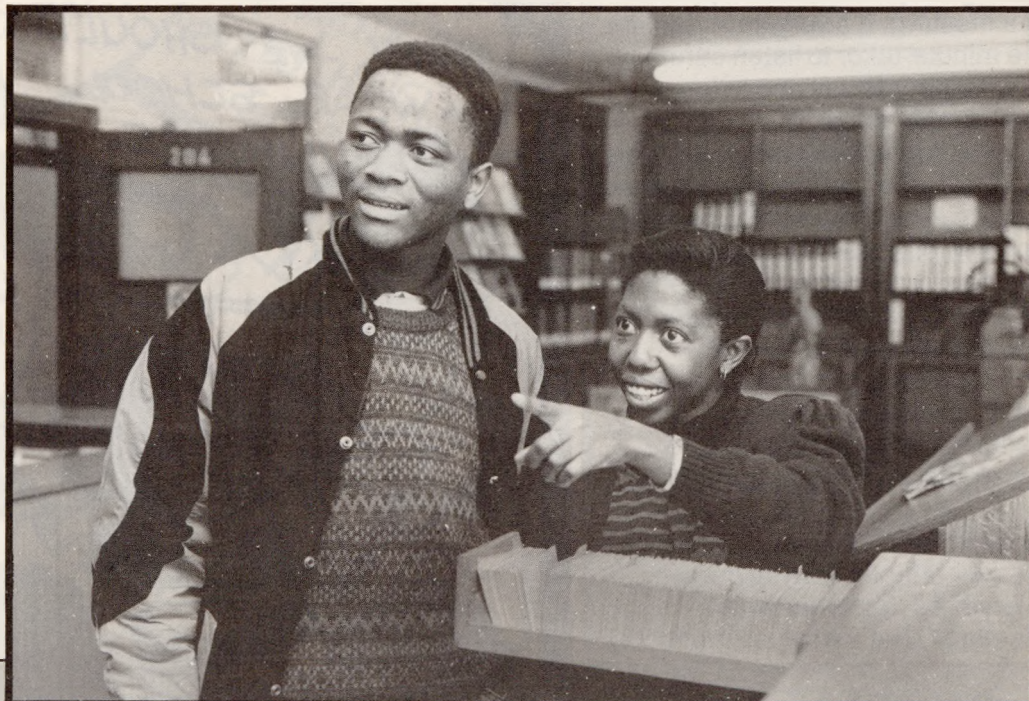
the fiction section. You will find all the fiction books together. They are arranged on the shelves in alphabetical order.

If you cannot find the book you want, try to find another book by the same author. Or tell the librarian what kind of book it is. Maybe she knows of another book you will enjoy. If you are not sure where to start when choosing a book, look at the book supplement in this issue.

In the next Upbeat we will tell you how to find non-fiction or reference books. ■

Here are some old favourites. See if your library has any books by these people.

Mildred D. Taylor
Cynthia Voigt
Lesley Beake
Toeckey Jones
S.E. Hinton
Chris van Wyk



STARTING AN SRC

Taking minutes

This is Part Five in our series on how to start and build an SRC in your school. In this issue we look at how to keep a record of what you discuss in meetings.

'The first time I had to take minutes was at a soccer club meeting. I thought I had to write down everything people said. It was impossible. Before I had written down what one person said, two others had spoken. I lost track of what was happening. I felt like asking people to slow down, but I didn't. It was so embarrassing.'

– Hans, a high school student

It's important to keep a record of your meetings. Otherwise you won't remember what happened. The minutes of a meeting tell you what was discussed and what decisions were made. They say who is responsible for doing different tasks.

The person who takes minutes is usually the secretary. If you do not have a secretary, choose someone to take minutes before the meeting begins.

Taking minutes is the same as writing a report of what happened at a meeting. It's very important for the minute-taker to listen carefully to what people say and to know how to take notes.

Listening doesn't mean that you just hear what people say. You also need to understand it. So you have to follow discussions carefully. If you don't understand what people say, ask them to repeat their point. You are also free to ask the chairperson questions, if you are not sure what to write down. It's better to ask questions than to keep quiet and get things wrong.

How to take notes

It's very difficult to write down everything that is said in a meeting. That's why you must only

write down the most important information, in your own words. But that means that you must CHOOSE what is important. A good chairperson who summarises the main points at the end of each discussion is a great help to the minute-taker. Minutes must show the important points such as:

- the name, date and place of the meeting
- the names of the people at the meeting
- the names of the people who sent apologies for not attending the meeting. These names are written under the heading 'Apologies'.
- the exact words of important decisions that were taken
- and the names of the people who must do the tasks
- the main points of discussion

- the time, date and venue of the next meeting.

Remember, the minutes show WHAT everyone must do, WHO does it and WHEN it must be done by. It's a good idea to have a column on the right hand side of the minutes. Write down the names of the people who must do tasks and when they must do them. This reminds people what they must do.

Sometimes it is hard to decide what the main points of a discussion are. Ask yourself these questions:

- What is the aim of the discussion?
- What information is important from what is said?
- What are the key words of each discussion? (Key words sum up the main points.)



Activity

Here is an activity to try in your class or with the SRC. It will help you with minute taking.

Imagine you have been elected by the school to do something about the shortage of textbooks. Your first task is to look at how to solve this problem. Ask one of the students to be the chairperson. The chairperson introduces the discussion. She asks each person how they think this problem can be solved. Each person takes notes of the discussion that follows.

Let everyone talk for 30 minutes. Then everyone finds a partner and compares their notes. They must check how many of their points are the same and how many are different.

The chairperson writes up all the common points. Then she checks to see whether people think the points really say what happened in the discussion.

Chairing your first meeting!

Mandisa Shiceka is a matric student. Four years ago, when she was in Std 7, she was elected chairperson of the SRC at Lethare Senior Secondary in Jabulani. 'I'll never forget that day,' Mandisa told Upbeat. 'I had to chair a meeting between the SRC and the staff. And I had never chaired a meeting before!

'The meeting was a disaster. The students said I allowed the principal to speak too much. The principal said that I took sides and that a chairperson shouldn't take sides. 'I didn't know what to do. And to make things worse, the students walked out of the meeting!'

Today Mandisa feels confident about chairing meetings. 'Immediately after the first terrible meeting, I went to see our old SRC chairperson. He told me about chairing meetings. And with practice, it became easier,' Mandisa said.

'But I wouldn't like to see other chairpersons go through what I did on my first day as SRC chairperson,' she said. 'All members of the SRC executive must learn how to chair meetings. Then the new SRC chairperson won't struggle like I did.

'So many students have the potential to be good leaders,' Mandisa said. 'But because they don't know how to chair a meeting or how to work together democratically, they don't get elected on to the SRC. Mostly students elect those who talk a lot.'

Is your school SRC working well? Do you have any problems? Upbeat wants to help students share ideas so that we can build strong SRCs in our schools. So write to us and tell us about the SRC at *your* school!

Name of your school

Do you have an SRC?

If not, why not?

What information do you need to make your SRC work better?

You could win a prize too. There will be a lucky draw. 10 readers will win a copy of *Viva SRCs*.

So hurry and send your replies to:
Upbeat SRCs page
P O Box 11350
Johannesburg
2000

Closing date: 23 September 1991



How to stop fights

Many teenagers have to look after their younger brothers and sisters. Here are some tips on how to care for little ones.

Many of us are scared of the violence we see around us. We feel helpless, because there is very little we can do to control or stop it. But we can learn to settle arguments or differences with other people without fighting. You can start at home with your own brothers and sisters.

Your baby brother and sister are fighting. 'He took my ball,' she screams and hits him. 'I had it first!' your brother shouts and hits her on the head with the ball.

Your brother and sister are doing what most people do. Most people handle trouble by attacking the person they disagree with. Others ignore the problem or run away. But there are better ways to stop disagreements. You can sort out fights by talking (negotiating) rather than fighting.

So what must you do to stop fighting? You must act as a mediator. First listen to both sides of the story. Ask your sister to tell you what's wrong. Don't interrupt while she's speaking. 'He's playing with my ball and I want to play with it,' she says. Then ask your brother the same question. 'I had the ball first. She was busy reading a book,' he says.

You must listen and point out things they can both agree on. Help your brother and sister see how they can solve this problem themselves. Don't offer answers.

You must help kids talk rather than fight about their disagreements. Ask them, 'How can we solve this problem? You both want to play with the ball. But there's only one ball.' Let them come up with possible answers like, 'We could take turns to play with the ball or get another toy to play with. Or we could play together.'

In Soweto a group of pre-school teachers have put together a workshop to show parents how to deal with fighting. They use a 'listening chair' and a 'talking chair' when children fight. The two children sit in the chairs.

The child in the talking chair says what the problem is and the one in the listening chair listens. Then they change places. Children learn to talk and listen, rather than fight.

Help for parents and teachers:

For more information about dealing with conflict contact: Bronwen Eckstein, (011) 787-1358. The Committee on violence and its effects on children, (011) 836-7008.

If you want someone to run workshops for parents, phone Vera Henstock from the Jiswa Nursery School at (011) 836-9196.



Produced with the South African Association for Early Childhood Educare (SAAECE). If you'd like more information about young children's needs, write to: SAAECE, Box 672, Pretoria 0001.

TRANSVAAL

1249 Block K, Soshanguve 0152

Dear Upbeat,

I am looking for a penpal from anywhere except Soshanguve. I am 15 years old.

I love music best. My favourite stars are George Michael, Madonna and Rebecca Malope. I promise to reply to all letters written in N. Sotho or English.

Nelly Reshoketswe Makenda

1537 Block A, Mabopane 0100

Dear Upbeat,

I am a girl of 16 doing Std 10 at Mabopane High School. I want to correspond with boys of 16–22. My hobbies are tennis, reading and outdoor life. I promise to reply to all letters written in English or Tswana.

Penelope Obakeng Masongane

NATAL

As-Salaam Educational Institute, P O Braemar 4202

Dear Upbeat,

I am a boy of 17 doing Std 8. I want to correspond with girls of 14–18 years from outside of South Africa. They must neither drink or smoke. Letters must be written in English. My hobbies are playing soccer, watching TV and listening to music.

Bheki Msomi

P O Box 738, Tongaat 4400

Dear Upbeat,

I am a 13-year-old girl. I want to correspond with boys and girls of 13–16. My hobbies are reading, modelling, having fun and listening to music. Letters must be written in English.

Lusanda Ngidi

P O Box 19144, Dormerton 4015

Dear Upbeat,

I am a 16-year-old boy who would like to correspond with boys and girls from the ages 13–19. My hobbies are listening to music, watching sports and playing video games.

Waheed Jacobs

ORANGE FREE STATE

Mohato High School, P O Box 5442, Phuthaditjhaba 9866

Dear Upbeat,

I am a boy of 19 doing Std 9. My hobbies are listening to music, playing table tennis and reading the newspaper. I am interested in corresponding with penfriends of 15–20, girls or boys. I promise to reply to all letters written in English or Sotho.

Joseph Modise Ramaubane

CAPE

C 154, Mbekweni, Paarl 7626

Dear Upbeat,

I am a girl of 14 in Std 6. I want to correspond with boys or girls of 14–16. I like music and watching TV. My favourite stars are Milli Vanilli, Phil Collins and Joan Armatrading. I will answer letters written in English, Afrikaans or Xhosa.

Ncumisa Smile

40 Overton Rd, Silverton, Athlone 7764

Dear Upbeat,

I am a girl of 16 doing Std 7. I want to correspond with boys and girls of 16–19. My hobbies are cross-country running, going to church and listening to pop music. Letters must be written in English.

Gaynor Stalmeester

6 Klashington Way, Portlands, Mitchell's Plain 7785

Dear Upbeat,

I am a 15-year-old-girl doing Std 7. I want to correspond with boys and girls of 15–19. My hobbies are cycling, dancing, music and playing soccer. I can answer letters in Afrikaans or English.

Shireen Ely

AFRICA

Safaristrasse 2, 1064, Box 725, Rundu, NAMIBIA

Dear Upbeat,

I am a boy of 19 doing Std 8 at Maria Mwengere Sec. School. I want to correspond with girls or boys of 15–19. My hobbies are dancing, listening to rasta and disco music. Letters may be written in English or Afrikaans.

Herman Murapo

Institute of Foreign Languages, 1260 Ahmed S.T. Ave, Maputo, MOZAMBIQUE

Dear Upbeat,

I am a 20-year-old Mozambican boy. I want to correspond with people of both sexes. My hobbies are reading, watching TV, joking with friends and playing ball games. I will reply to all English letters.

Betingo Hacren Tryquino

Bethel High School, Mount Moorosi 750, LESOTHO

Dear Upbeat,

I am a girl of 17 years, doing Form C. I want to correspond with boys and girls of my age and above. My hobbies are netball, volleyball, dancing and reading Upbeat. Please write letters in English, Sesotho or Xhosa.

Tsepiso Unicentia Phalali

PENFRIENDS

553 Mutsamayi St, St Mary's T/ship, P.O. Zengeza, Chitungwiza, Harare, ZIMBABWE

Dear Upbeat,

I am a boy aged 16. I would like to correspond with penpals of either sex outside of Zimbabwe. My hobbies are karate, modelling, listening to music and watching TV. Please write in English or Shona.

Wonder Nyamadzawo

04 BP 1727 Abidjan 04, COTE D'IVOIRE

Dear Upbeat,

I read about your country in Okapi. Apartheid is a pity but one day it will disappear. I wish to correspond with a young Christian boy or girl. I don't mind about colour.

Andoh Samuel Y

OVERSEAS

Mortfors, 57093 Figeholm, SWEDEN

Dear Upbeat,

I am a 12-year-old and I want a South African penfriend. I have a cat called Pelle and some chickens too.

Josefine Nelson

Robert-Bosch Oberschule, Klasse 10c, Vastanienallee 12-13, 1000 Berlin 19, GERMANY

Dear Upbeat,

We are a group of young people, living in West Berlin. We are in the 10th grade at school. We want to correspond with a group of young South Africans because we heard something about your country on TV. There are 18 of us, 9 girls and 9 boys.

Class 10c

Via Carducci 1, 39042, Bressanone, ITALY

Dear Upbeat,

I am an Italian boy of 9. I want penfriends in South Africa. I have seen on television that you have some trouble. My hobbies are football and collecting stamps.

Andrea Ugliano

Chavoseestrabe 94, Berlin 1040, GERMANY

Dear Upbeat,

I am 12 years old. I live in the Federal Republic. I want penfriends in South Africa. My hobby is ice-hockey.

Stev Fabian

QUIZ

Can you say NO?

Do you sometimes feel that everyone is against you – your parents, friends, teachers or the world in general? Don't worry, you're not alone. But this doesn't mean that you must allow everyone to step all over you. Try this quiz and find out how good you are at sticking up for yourself.

1. Your boyfriend wants to sleep with you. He says that all his friends are sleeping with their girlfriends. But you don't want to. Do you
 - a. tell your boyfriend that you're not ready for sex (3)
 - b. sleep with him because you're scared you'll lose him (1)
 - c. break up with him immediately (5).
2. When a friend is very late to meet you, do you
 - a. shout at him when he arrives and rush off (5)
 - b. tell him that it's not nice to wait (3)
 - c. feel cross but smile and tell him it doesn't matter (1).
3. You're standing in a queue at the shop and someone cuts in front of you. Do you
 - a. tell her that she must move to the back of the queue (3)
 - b. push her out of the queue (5)
 - c. mumble something about her being very rude (1).
4. You've lent a book to a classmate three months ago and she still has not returned it. Your sister wants to read the book. So you
 - a. tell your sister to wait (1)
 - b. ask your classmate to return the book (3)
 - c. shout at your classmate to return the book immediately (5).
5. You want to see a film. But your friends have already seen it. Do you:
 - a. go to see the film by yourself (3)
 - b. refuse to talk to your friends because they don't want to go with you (5)
 - c. sit at home and cry in front of the TV? (1)
6. A friend has just broken up with his girlfriend and is heartbroken. How do you respond to him?
 - a. You ignore him (5).
 - b. You only talk to him when you have to (1).
 - c. You express your feelings and support him (3).
7. Your best friend has been saying nasty things about you. So you
 - a. go to her and ask her why she's saying these things about you (3)
 - b. say nasty things about her (5)
 - c. sit in your room and cry (1).
8. When a teacher makes a mistake in the class, do you:
 - a. jump up and laugh loudly (5)
 - b. tell him politely that he's made a mistake (3)
 - c. giggle about it with a friend (1).

Your score

30 – 40

You tell people when they do things you don't like. But you don't care about other people's feelings at all. You must stop and think about how your behaviour can hurt other people. Otherwise you may find yourself without any friends!

20 – 29

You know how to stand up for yourself, without hurting other people's feelings. You speak up when you don't like something and are not scared to express your feelings. Keep it up!

8 – 19

You must learn to speak up for yourself. Keeping quiet about things that make you unhappy won't solve the problem. It will only make you feel insecure and unhappy. Tell people when they do things that you don't like. This will make you feel better and people will learn to respect you more.

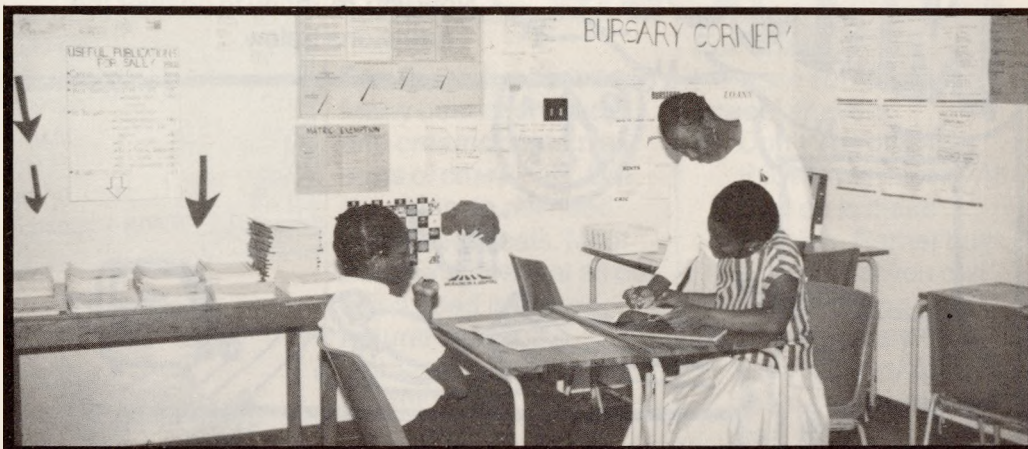


The Eshowe Career Centre

On the 19 March the Eshowe Career Centre opened its doors at the Eshowe College of Education. The Centre opened because there is a great need for young people to make realistic and informed decisions about their working lives.

The Centre has information on a broad range of topics. Here are a few:

- jobs and how to look for them
- institutions for further study
- matric exemptions
- bursaries
- coping with unemployment.



The Eshowe Career Centre – a great place to find help for your career plans.

The Centre also offers counselling for students and workshops for teachers. The Centre plans to talk to local

businessmen about jobs in the Eshowe area.

The Careers Centre is open at these times. If you live in or near Eshowe, go and see

what the Centre can offer you.

Tuesday: 3 — 5pm
Thursday: 3 — 5pm
Saturday: 10am — 1pm

COME TO A FILM FUN DAY

Upbeat and the Weekly Mail Film Festival are having a film fun day. And you are all invited to join us! There will be lots of great films to see. Come and learn how movies are made, meet film-makers and even speak to a film star. Don't miss this special day of fun and learning.

It is all happening on Saturday, August 31 1991, at the Alexandra Art Centre, 31 2nd Street, Marlboro (just next to Alexandra township). It starts at 10am and finishes at 3pm.

The whole day costs R1.00. But for Upbeat readers there's a special price. Take along your latest copy of Upbeat and you can get in for only 50c! There will be free lunch too.

Teachers in the PWV area, get your school to organise a bus and take the whole class. This is an educational outing you can't afford to miss. If you don't know how to get there, or want more information, contact Liza or Gail at (011) 331 -3321.

Where to go if you are pregnant

It's hard when you have an unwanted pregnancy. Here are the addresses of places that will help you.

Birth Right:
Tel: (011) 836-9131
Life line: Tel: (011) 728 1347
Pregnancy Crises Service:
Tel: (011) 614-3149 / 618-1533
Johannesburg Child Welfare: Tel: (011) 331-0171
Othandweni Children's Home: Tel: (011) 984-4117/8
Baragwanath Hospital, Social Work Department: Tel: (011) 933-1100

Life line
Johannesburg: Tel: (011) 728-1347
Durban: Tel: (031) 23-2323

Grahamstown: Tel: (0461) 26-668
East London: Tel: (0431) 22-000

Termination of Pregnancy Clinics:

Johannesburg General Hospital: Tel: (011) 488-4911 Ext 2159/2656
Edendale Hospital: Tel: (011) 882-2400
Coronation Hospital: Tel: (011) 673-4200
(Ask for Dr Levin)
Baragwanath Hospital: Tel: (011) 933-1100
(Ask for Mrs Bishop)

PUZZLE

TEST YOUR MEMORY

It's 7.30 in the morning. Khotso is waiting at the bus stop. He is going to work. Look carefully at the picture of Khotso's flat for two minutes. He was having breakfast there a few minutes ago. Then cover the picture with a sheet of paper. Now you're ready to answer the questions below.



Answer these questions about the picture.

For example:

Did he clean the kitchen? No, he didn't.

Did he have breakfast? Yes, he did.

1. Did he have coffee with his breakfast?
2. Did he eat an egg?
3. Did he close the window?
4. Did he open his letters?
5. Did he read the morning newspaper?
6. Did he wash the breakfast things?
7. Did he take his umbrella to work?
8. Did he switch off the gas stove?

Answers:

1. No, he didn't. 2. Yes, he did. 3. No, he didn't. 4. Yes, he did. 5. Yes, he did. 6. No, he didn't. 7. No, he didn't. 8. Yes, he did.

GO GREEN WITH UP BEAT

CHANGE TO GREEN

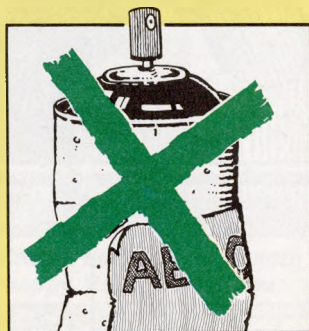
Rub your eyes and look around,
Litter lying on the ground,
Bottles, cans and polythene,
Take the tip and change to green.
Forests going up in smoke
Cities fit to make you choke,
Nowhere left to be that's clean
Take a breath and change to green.
Animals and plants have died,
People starve to death worldwide,
For the life that might have been
Take a stand and change to green.
There's so much that isn't right
It could get you well up tight,
So make a start and change the scene
The lights are flashing — change to green.

Everyone is talking about pollution and the environment. You even study pollution and ecology at school. But why? Scientists are saying that if things do not change, we will have no earth to live on. They say that poisons, factories and bad farming are killing our world.

People who fight pollution call themselves 'green'. Join the Upbeat Green Campaign. Look out for our 'Go Green' sign in every Upbeat for tips on how to be green. Here are our first tips for you.

For everyone — avoid aerosols

Many things come in aerosol cans — deodorant, hairspray, furniture polish, stuff to take dirt off clothes and insect sprays. Most sprays contain chemicals that damage the environment. Some contain CFCs — 'chloro-



fluoro-carbons'. CFCs destroy the thin ozone layer which surrounds the earth. The ozone layer stops the sun's rays from giving us cancer.

Other aerosols contain 'hydrocarbons' which are highly flammable. This means they catch fire very easily. These are dangerous and the hydrocarbons add to the pollutants in the air. So, even if a can says it is environment friendly, leave it on the shelf. Rather find a similar product that comes with a pump spray. With deodorants, you can get roll-ons.



For 'beauty queens'

Many beauty products and creams contain all sorts of chemicals. But our skins do not need these chemicals. Most doctors agree that all our skins need is a good, natural cream like Vaseline or aqueous cream. These creams are cheap too. If your

skin is light, use a skin cream with a sun block. Some people say we must avoid products which are tested on animals. These always have a 'Beauty without Cruelty' sign on them.

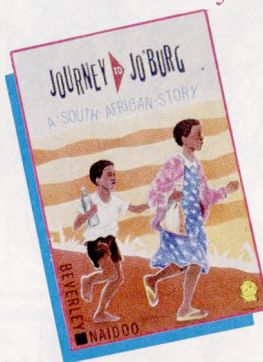
For shavers

Here are some tips for 'green' shavers

- Don't use plastic throwaway razors. All they do is make rubbish. Rather buy a razor that you can use for a long time.
- Shaving foam in a tube is better than foam in an aerosol can. ■

Advertisement

Two South African stories from HarperCollins Publishers South Africa



Journey to Joburg — R12,99

A South African story of love, commitment and the flowering of the human spirit in the face of the realities of Apartheid. Now unbanned, this is the story of two children's search for their mother in Joburg.



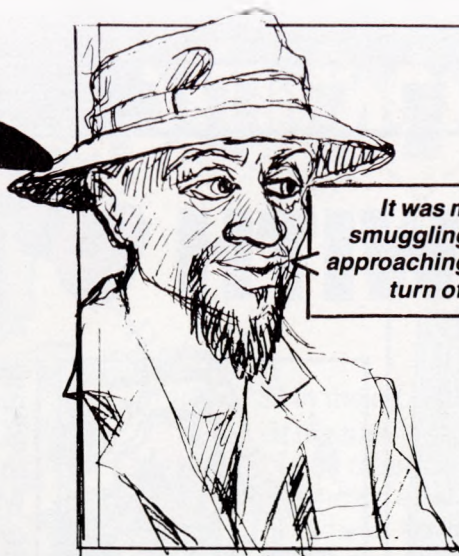
Chain of fire — R14,99

Chain of Fire is the sequel to Journey to Joburg. Short listed for the 1989 Smarties Prize, this powerful novel is about forced removals. The Weekly Mail said 'This extraordinarily powerful and gripping novel should be compulsory reading in South African white high schools'.

TAXI DRIVER

PART 6.

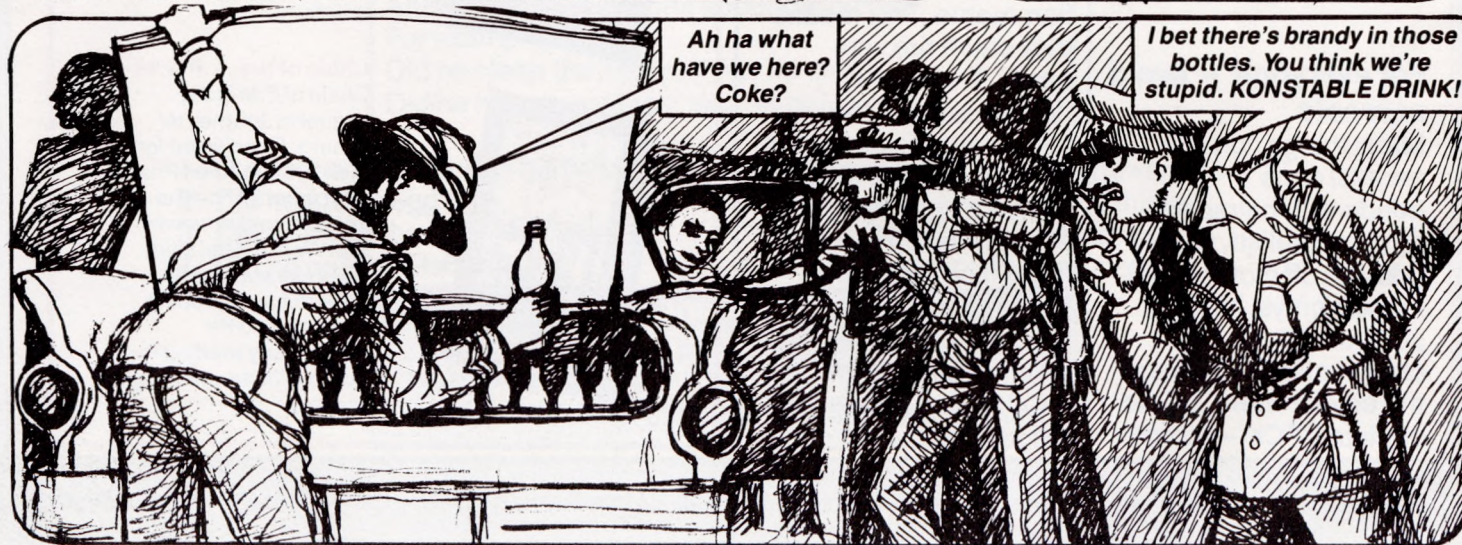
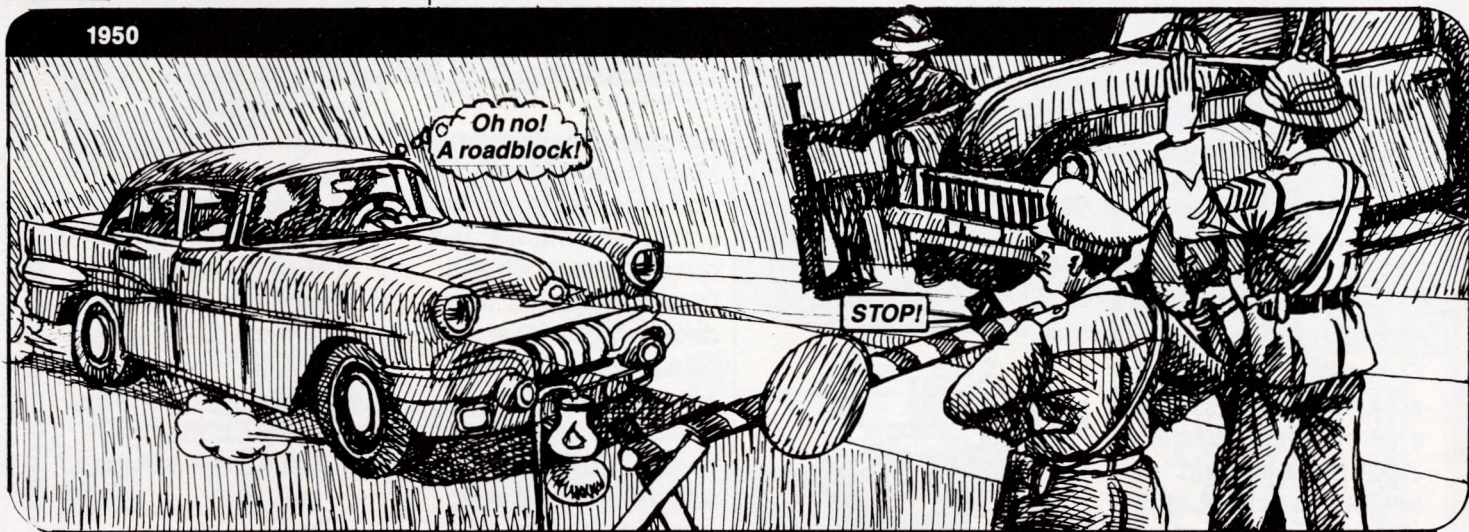
In a village in Sekhukhuneland. Old man Kabu tells Menta and Phillip his life story.

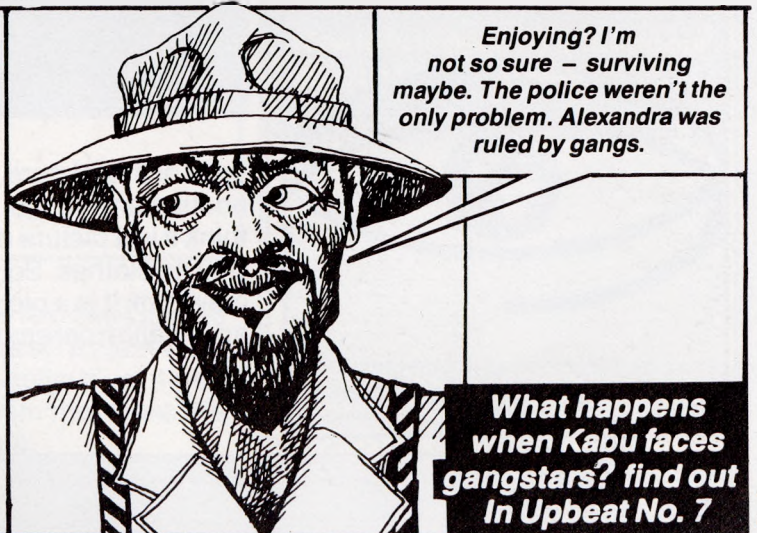
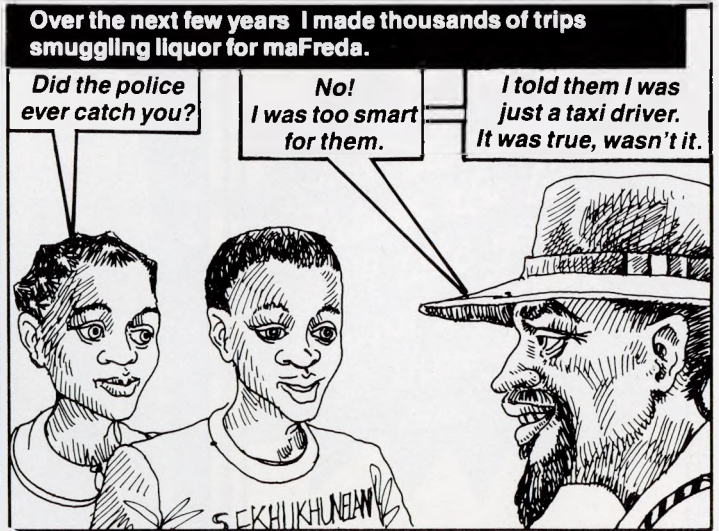
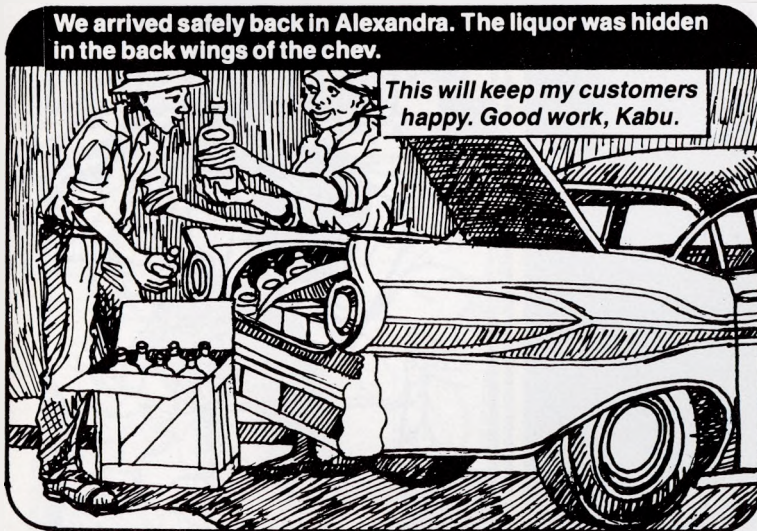
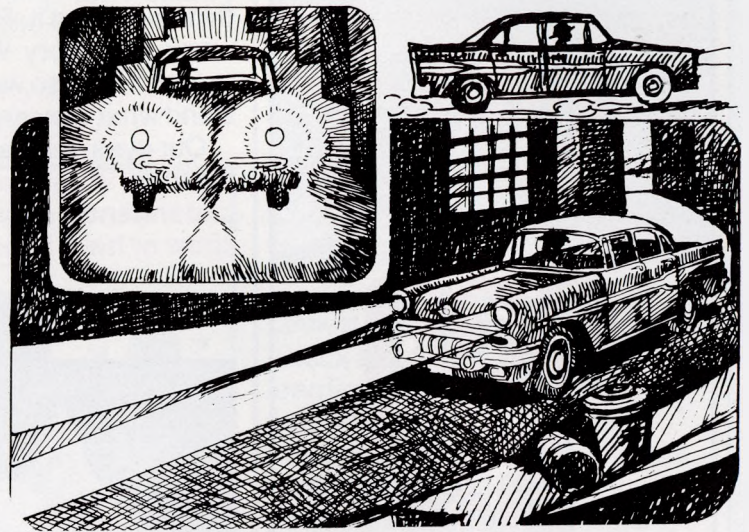


It was my first trip smuggling liquor. I was approaching the Alexandra turn off when ...



1950





The eye can lie

By Harriet Gavshon



Our lives are surrounded by pictures. We see them on television, in magazines, at movies and even on the sides of buses and taxis.

Every day we look at these pictures, often without even thinking about it. Pictures like words tell a story. We must learn to read them, so we can understand what they are saying.

Our eyes don't always tell us the truth. **What we see and understand depends on what we know or have been taught.**



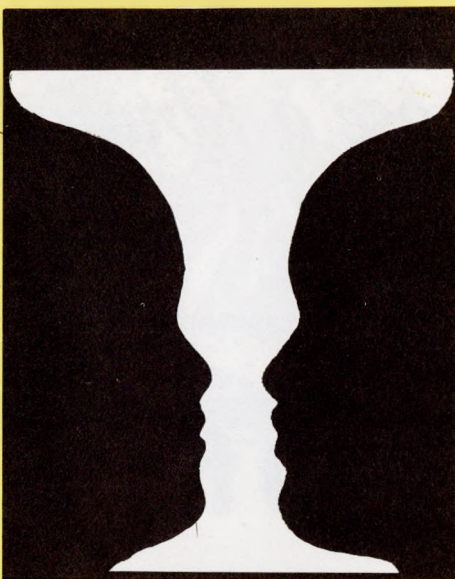
Look at this picture. It could be about many things. You might think it is a picture of a poor child with no clothes. Someone else, may think it is a picture of a child at an initiation ceremony.

We don't always see the same things that our friends do. That is because when we look at something, we bring our own ideas and values to what is in front of us. The eye is never innocent!



Colourbash productions

**We see what we expect to see.
Try these games!**



Look at this picture. Do you see a white vase? Do you see two people looking at each other? Well it could be both. If we hadn't told you there were two pictures, you probably wouldn't have seen them.

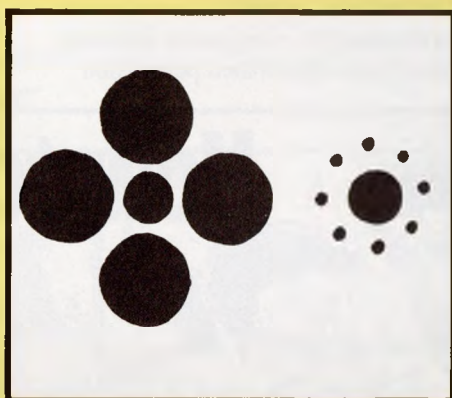


Now look at this picture. Do you see a picture of a young woman looking away from you? Or do you see a picture of an old lady? She's got her chin turned down onto her fur coat. Try to see both pictures.

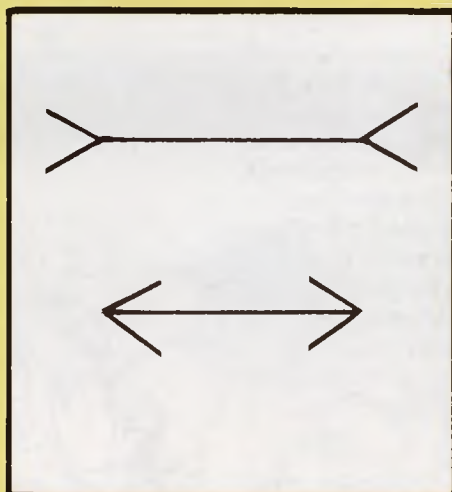
Keep looking, the second picture will appear suddenly. Sometimes it helps to half close your eyes.

Imagine we hadn't told you that the picture could be read in two ways. You would have been happy to see only one thing. You wouldn't expect to see anything else.

Pictures look different depending on what surrounds them.

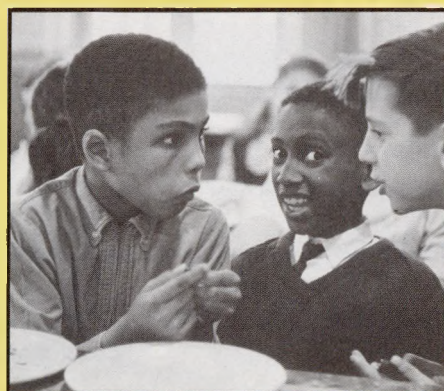


Look at this picture. The two circles in the middle are actually the same size. But the one on the left looks smaller because it is surrounded by big dots. The one on the right looks bigger because it is surrounded by small dots.



In this picture the two lines are the same length. Measure them with a ruler if you don't believe us! It's the arrows next to them that make the lines look different.

Apartheid and pictures



Look at this picture. Did you say, 'Black and white children are learning together'. Or did you just say, 'This is a picture of young children learning'. Apartheid has made us aware of the colour of people's skins. We must learn to forget colour, even when we look at pictures. ■

*Next attraction-
Pictures also lie!
We'll take you
behind a camera
to show you
how.*

Now turn to page 23 and find out about a Film Fun Day.

Acknowledgement: Some ideas and pictures from *Principles of Visual Perception* by Carolyn M Bloomer, The Herbert Press, Great Britain, 1990.

WILLIE WORDWORM

v = verb
adj = adjective
adv = adverb
n = noun

Home again in Mogopa

chronology (n) – arranging past events in the order in which they happened

treaty (n) – a written agreement between two countries or parties

to seize (v) – to grab

to defeat (v) – to beat

to propose (v) – to put forward a plan or idea

reservoir (n) – a dam that is used to store water

rumour (n) – gossip

to trespass (v) – to go on to someone else's land without their permission

*Find a friend
use a library*

strict (adj) – firm

publisher (n) – a person or company that prints books

How to stop fights



mediator (n) – someone who tries to settle a fight between two people

to interrupt (v) – to start talking so that someone cannot continue with what they were saying

TALKSHOP

to destabilise (v) – to weaken

to resign (v) – to quit or leave

suspension (n) – stopping or delaying something for a while

warrior (n) – a soldier or fighter

counter-revolutionary (adj) – working against political change

to distract (v) – to take your attention away from what you're doing or thinking

repressive (adj) – controlling the way people live by force

compromise (n) – when you reach an agreement with another group, accepting something less than you wanted



Mmabatho Moali

trophy (n) – a prize that is given to the winner of a competition

insult (n) – something rude or hurtful

grudge (n) – a feeling of unfriendliness or dislike for someone

self-discipline (n) – to be able to control yourself and to make yourself work hard



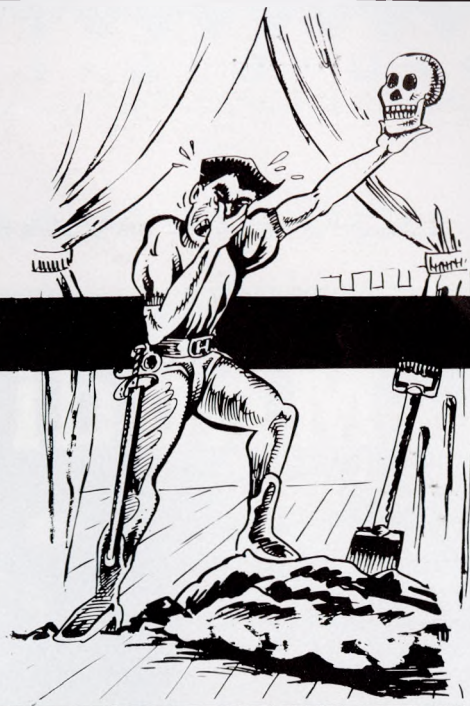
The magic blower- Hugh Masekela

gramophone (n) – an old record player

to entertain (v) – to do things which other people enjoy and find interesting

to disgrace (v) – to behave in a bad way

to expel (v) – to throw out



Taking minutes

potential (n) – the ability to do something well



pollution (n) – the dirt in the air and water that makes the world dangerous for people and animals

GO GREEN WITH UPBEAT

Answer to activity on page 16.

Second paragraph { **Sharpeville Day** ^M In the morning of 21 March 1960, millions of people gathered outside the police station in the eastern-transvaal township of Sharpeville. Sharpeville is a very old and big township with lots of schools. They were told the police might announce changes in the pass law. ^{unnecessary information} }

First paragraph { The 21 March is Sharpeville day. On this day we remember what happened in 1960, when hundreds of people in townships all over S.A. march on to police stations and burning their passes. It's very tiring for old people to march. }

Third paragraph { The police inside the police station panicked and called in reinforcements. By lunch time, 300 policemen had arrived in the township. }

The correct answer.

SHARPEVILLE DAY

The 21 March is Sharpeville day. On this day we remember what happened in 1960, when hundreds of people in townships all over SA marched to police stations and burned their passes.

In the morning of 21 March 1960, hundreds of people gathered outside the police station in Sharpeville. They were told the police might announce changes in the pass law.

The police inside the police station panicked and called in reinforcements. By lunch time, 300 policemen had arrived in the township.

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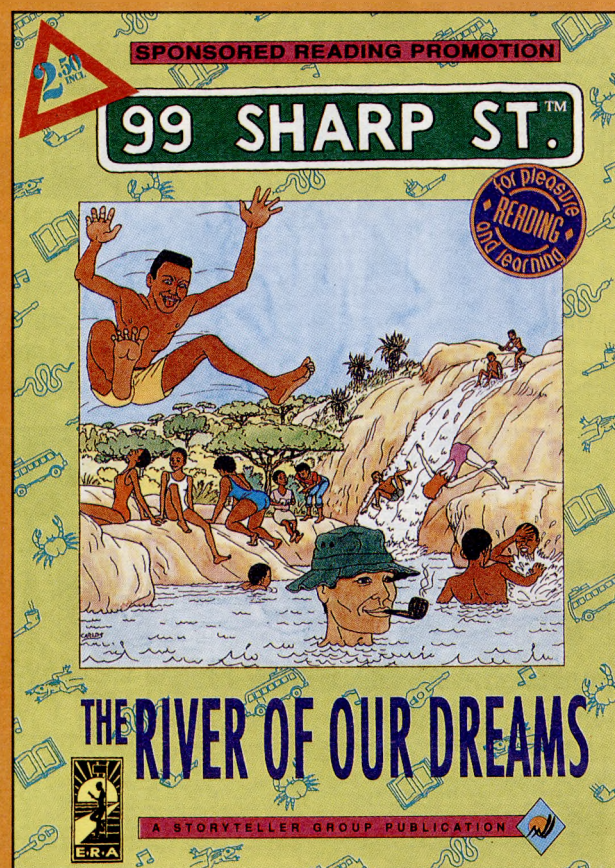
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SHARP SHARP!



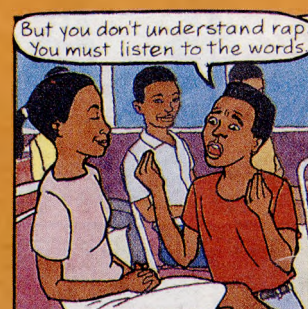
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