

Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

When soldiers invaded Ousmane's village, his life changed forever. This is a true story of one man's capture and escape.

Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Tell the student that Ousmane is from Mauritania, in West Africa. Together, find West Africa in an atlas or on a globe. Explain that in countries troubled with war some people leave in search of a better life and become refugees in their new country. (A refugee is a person who cannot return to their home country because it is not safe for them.)

Show the student "As told to John Beaglehole" on the cover. Discuss whether the author has met Ousmane, how Ousmane might feel about having his story told, why he hasn't written it himself, and how his life might have changed by going to the United States. Ask the student as they read the book to think about how Ousmane may have come into contact with the author.

Conferencing

Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
 - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
 - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
 - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
 - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

Comprehension questions

1. When does Ousmane celebrate his birthday?
2. What was Ousmane's life like before his village was invaded?
3. What do you consider to be the biggest challenge that Ousmane faced?
4. How might things have turned out if Ousmane and his brother had left the village instead of staying there for the night?
5. Would it be important for Ousmane and the author to have a good relationship? Why?

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. The date he arrived in the United States.
2. Answers will vary but may include that he worked on a farm.
3. Answers will vary but may include: staying alive; escaping from the army camp; crossing the Senegal River; finding a passage to the United States.
4. Answers will vary.
5. Answers will vary.

Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

Purpose

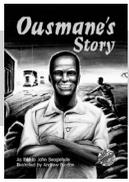
Presenting information visually and orally

Introduce the concept and practice

Using a graphic organizer to sequence events requires the student to isolate the main events in a story, which will give them a better understanding of text structure.

When the student is familiar with the text, discuss the scene setting on pages 2 and 3, then ask them to orally retell the main events. Ask what happened when Ousmane and his brother were in the fields, what happened after that, and how the story ends. Use a graphic organizer to present the student's ideas. Write each event in a box, with arrows connecting the boxes. Ask the student to identify the initiating event, subsequent main events throughout the story, and the final outcome. The student can retell the story to the class or a small group, using the graphic organizer as a guide.





Name: Date:

Introduction: When soldiers invaded Ousmane's village, his life changed forever. This is a true story of one man's capture and escape.

Errors
M S

Ousmane is from Mauritania, in Africa. He's unsure of his _____ age because no one _____ a record of his _____. He doesn't have a _____ certificate, but he chose _____ special date for his _____, and he celebrates on _____ day every year. Ousmane _____ up in a small _____ village on the Senegal River. Ousmane's _____ had farmed in _____ region for many generations, _____ grain and herding goats. _____ was no school in _____ area. As soon as _____ was old enough, he _____ care of the goats, _____ them out to graze _____ the fields and watching _____ make sure they didn't _____. Mauritania was a troubled _____ to live. Of _____ two main tribes in _____ country, one tribe dominated _____ military and the government. _____ goal was to rule Mauritania.

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)

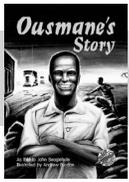
Words Entered	Score	Level
More than 11 correct		Independent
10 or 11 correct		Instructional
Fewer than 10 correct		Frustration

Errors

M = Meaning (makes sense) ____ S = Syntax (sounds right) ____

Heard Seen Unseen

Comments:



Ousmane is from Mauritania, in Africa. He's unsure of his exact age as no one made a record of his birth, but he chose a date for his birthday, and he celebrates on that day every year. Ousmane grew up in a small farming village on the Senegal River. At that time, Mauritania was a troubled place to live. There were two main tribes in the country.

The goal of one of the tribes was to rule Mauritania. The other tribe – the tribe that Ousmane came from – mostly worked in agriculture. One day, when he was about twenty years old, Ousmane and his brother were working in the fields. They suddenly heard the villagers shouting and screaming.

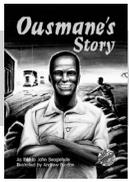
As Ousmane and his brother ran toward the village, they heard the crackle of fire as it burned the roofs of the houses. They saw soldiers with guns, herding the villagers into trucks. There was nothing Ousmane and his brother could do to help their people, so they hid and watched. The trucks drove away, taking their parents, other relatives, and all the villagers with them.

The soldiers had devastated the village. The brothers discussed the possibilities and decided to stay in the village. Late that night, a soldier forced Ousmane to get up and go with him. Ousmane looked around for his brother, but he couldn't see him anywhere. He has never seen him again. The soldier tied Ousmane's hands behind his back, and he was taken to an army camp.

He has never told anyone what happened to him at the army camp, but his body is covered in scars from his time there. Eventually, Ousmane escaped from the camp. He crossed the Senegal River and found a camp for refugees. The refugee camp was overcrowded, and water and food were scarce.

Ousmane decided to leave the refugee camp and to begin again in the United States. He found a ship that took him to Miami. He claimed refugee status. His claim was granted and he is now a citizen. Each year, he celebrates the day he became a citizen as well as celebrating his birthday. The day he chose to celebrate his birthday is the day he arrived in the United States.





Name: Date:

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

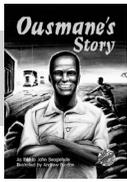
d	p	u	n	i	s	h	m	e	n	t	o	f	b	b	g
a	e	o	p	p	o	r	t	u	n	i	t	y	e	i	o
s	g	s	b	r	o	t	h	e	r	v	c	d	c	r	v
s	e	r	t	w	m	a	r	e	a	i	o	i	a	t	e
e	p	v	i	i	e	i	b	u	t	l	u	f	u	h	r
s	s	e	e	c	n	a	g	g	o	l	n	f	s	d	n
h	c	c	c	r	u	a	t	h	l	a	t	e	e	a	m
e	h	h	a	i	e	l	t	h	t	g	r	r	p	y	e
a	h	a	o	p	a	h	t	i	e	e	y	e	e	a	n
r	i	e	v	o	e	l	o	u	o	r	f	n	o	t	t
d	s	r	e	e	l	s	c	m	r	n	a	t	p	t	h
a	n	y	w	h	e	r	e	t	e	e	m	k	l	e	a
i	s	i	t	u	a	t	i	o	n	d	i	n	e	m	p
n	d	a	n	g	e	r	o	u	s	o	l	o	u	p	p
s	o	l	d	i	e	r	s	b	e	s	y	w	p	t	e
o	u	t	s	i	d	e	h	a	d	o	w	a	s	a	n

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| agriculture | dangerous | had | might | situation |
| anywhere | destination | happen | of | so |
| area | different | have | opportunity | soldiers |
| attempt | do | heard | outside | special |
| because | escape | his | people | up |
| birthday | family | home | punishment | village |
| brother | go | in | school | was |
| but | government | know | severe | weather |
| country | | | | |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what Ousmane does on the day he chose for his birthday.....





- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

START
 Your name is Ousmane.
 You are from Mauritania. You don't know when you were born.

1

2

3

19

20 You escape from the army camp. Spin again. If you spin an odd number, go on to 23.

21

22

4 Mauritania is a troubled place to live. Go back to 1.

18

END
 Each year you celebrate the day you became a citizen – as well as celebrating your birthday. The day you chose to celebrate your birthday is the day you arrived in the United States.

23

5

17

30

24 You cross the Senegal River and make your way to a refugee camp. Spin again. Go forward that number.

6

16 A soldier takes you to an army camp. Spin again. Go back that number.

29

25 You decide to leave the refugee camp and start again in the United States. Go forward 3 spaces.

7 You are working in the fields and you hear villagers shouting and screaming. Go back 4 spaces.

15

28

27 A ship takes you to Miami where you are granted refugee status. Go on to 30.

26

8

14

13 The soldiers have devastated your village. Name 2 numbers. If you spin one of them, go back to 9.

12

11

10 You hide and watch as soldiers herd your family into trucks and drive away. Miss a turn.

9



