

SOLUTIONS UPPER-INTERMEDIATE 2

UNIT 3:

COSTUMES AND CULTURES

3F

PEGAH BAHOJB GHASEMI

3E

Word Skills

American English

I can recognise differences between American and British English.

1 Write the American English equivalents of the words in bold.

1 Why don't you borrow my **mobile** to call your mum?

2 I'll have to buy a new pair of **trainers** soon; these are almost worn out. _____

3 Don't forget to take a **torch** when we go camping; it'll be dark at night. _____

4 Taking the **motorway** will make our journey quicker.

5 Would you like a **biscuit** with your tea? _____

6 If everyone's finished, I'll ask the waiter for the **bill**.

7 Her dog's very well trained and always walks on the **pavement**. _____


8 I'm too tired to walk up the stairs; let's take the **lift**.

2 Complete the text with American English words. The first letters are given.

This year, my parents decided not to go away in the summer, but to wait until the ¹F_____ to go on ²v_____ for a few days. They'd always wanted to have a city break, so they looked online for somewhere to stay and found accommodation near the center of Manhattan. The ³a_____ they rented was quite small, but the bedrooms were big and there was plenty of space in the ⁴c_____ for their clothes. There was also a small ⁵y_____ where they could eat breakfast outside. Of course the ⁶t_____ in New York is great for getting around; they could walk to most of the sights or take the ⁷s_____ for longer journeys across town.

3 Circle the American English spellings.

- 1 In some US states, you only need to be fourteen to hold a driver's **licence** / **license**.
- 2 In the **neighbourhood** / **neighborhood** of Beverly Hills, many homes are worth over \$10 million.
- 3 The world's first commercial flight took place in 1914; the **airplane** / **aeroplane** flew for 23 minutes.
- 4 New York's oldest **theater** / **theatre** is the Lyceum, which opened in 1903.
- 5 The **colors** / **colours** of the US flag are the same as Australia's and the UK's.
- 6 The international Erasmus **organization** / **organisation** has already helped over three million students study in different countries.

4  1.18 Listen to the different words being pronounced.
Write A (American) or B (British).

- 1 advertisement
- 2 brochure
- 3 garage
- 4 tomato
- 5 vitamins
- 6 yoghurt
- 7 zebra

VOCAB BOOST!

British English often keeps the spelling of words that have come from languages such as Latin, Greek, or French, while the American English equivalent often reflects how the words sound when spoken, e.g. *centre / center*, *dialogue / dialog*. Keep a note of equivalent spellings in a vocabulary notebook. You can practise any difference in pronunciation at the same time.

- 5 Read the *Vocab boost!* box. Label the columns *American* and *British*. Then complete the equivalent spellings. Add examples from exercise 3 and more of your own.

1 _____ English	2 _____ English
behaviour	3 _____
4 _____	cancelation
centimetre	5 _____
6 _____	liter
memorise	7 _____
8 _____	marvelous
9 _____	savory

6 Rewrite the American English sentences in British English using the correct vocabulary and spelling. Use a dictionary to help you.

1 It's an offense to smoke on the subway.

2 I bought this awesome purse for my friend's birthday.

3 It seems tonight's movie has been canceled.

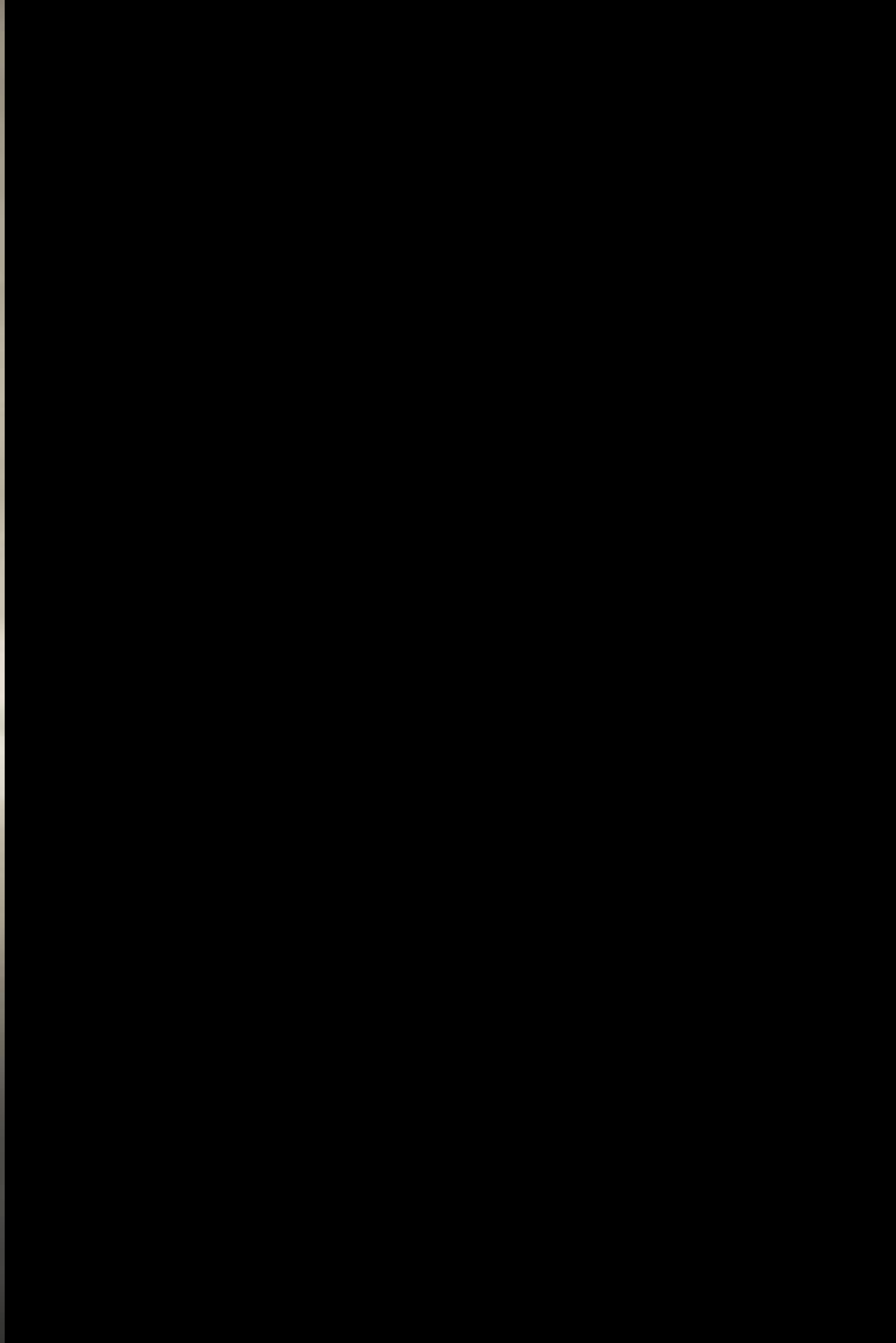
4 Can you get me a liter of water from the faucet, please?

5 There's a strange odor from the car – I hope the gas isn't leaking.

6 Sorry, I hadn't realized you were waiting in the line.



**WHAT'S YOUR
FAVOURITE
NOVEL? WHY?
WHERE IS THE
SETTING OF IT?**

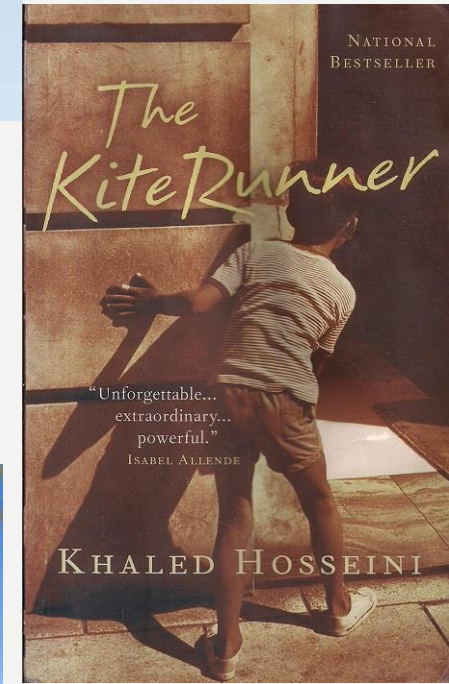
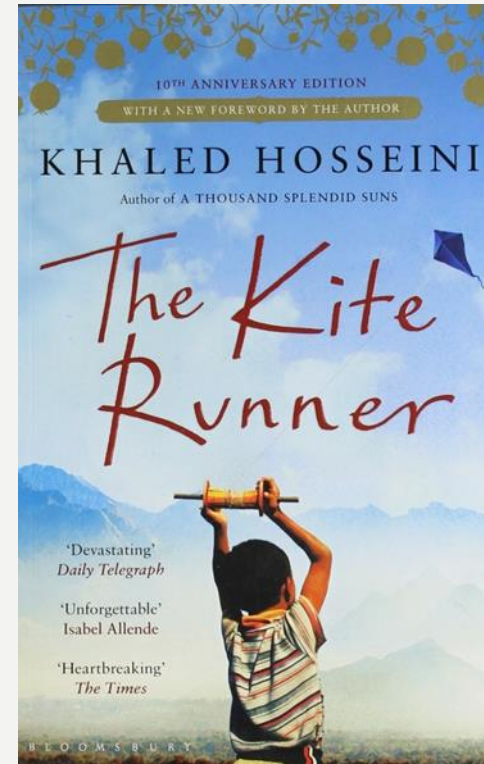
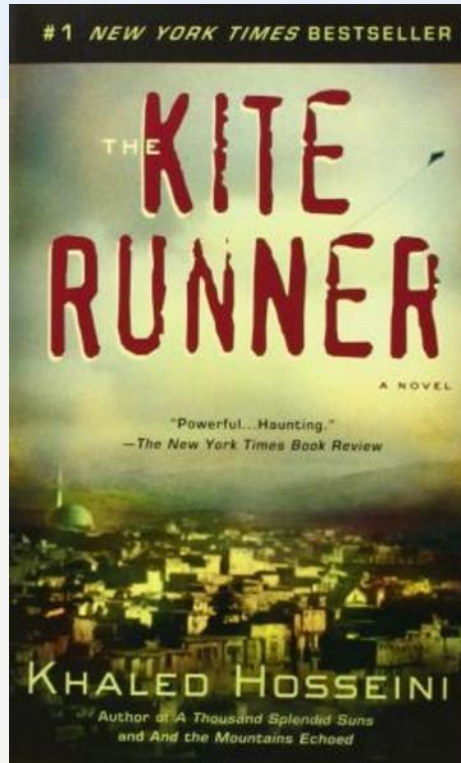
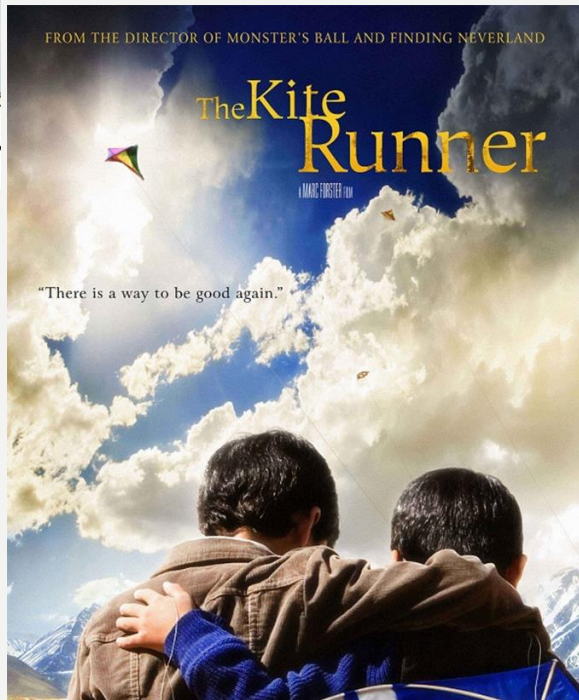


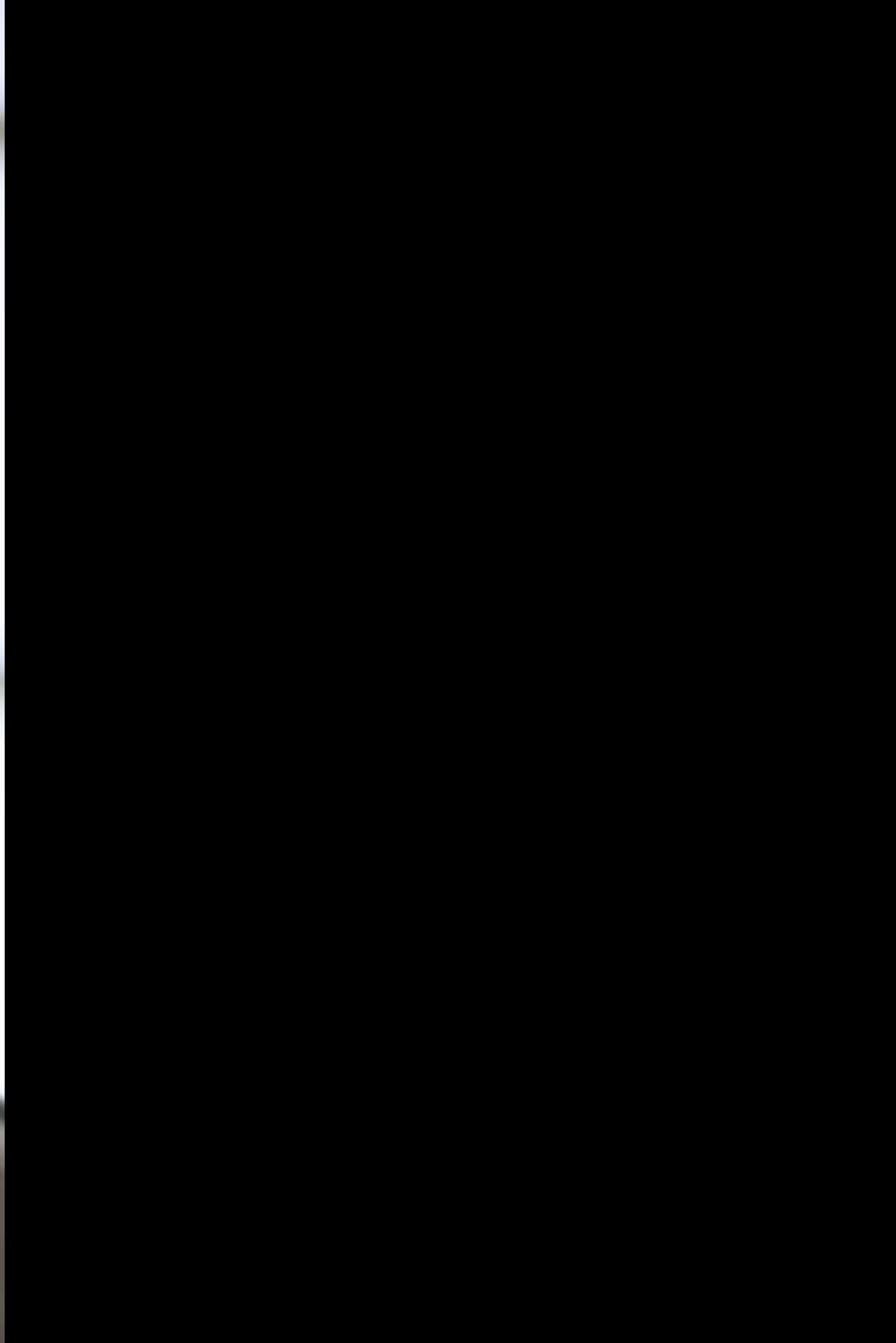


KHALED HOSSEINI

An Afghan-American
novelist

1 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Look at the different covers for the novel *The Kite Runner*. What do you think the story is about?







AMIR

Amir is the narrator of the story. He is sensitive and intelligent son of a well-to-do businessman in Kabul.





BABA

Baba, the father of the main character Amir, is a very large man.

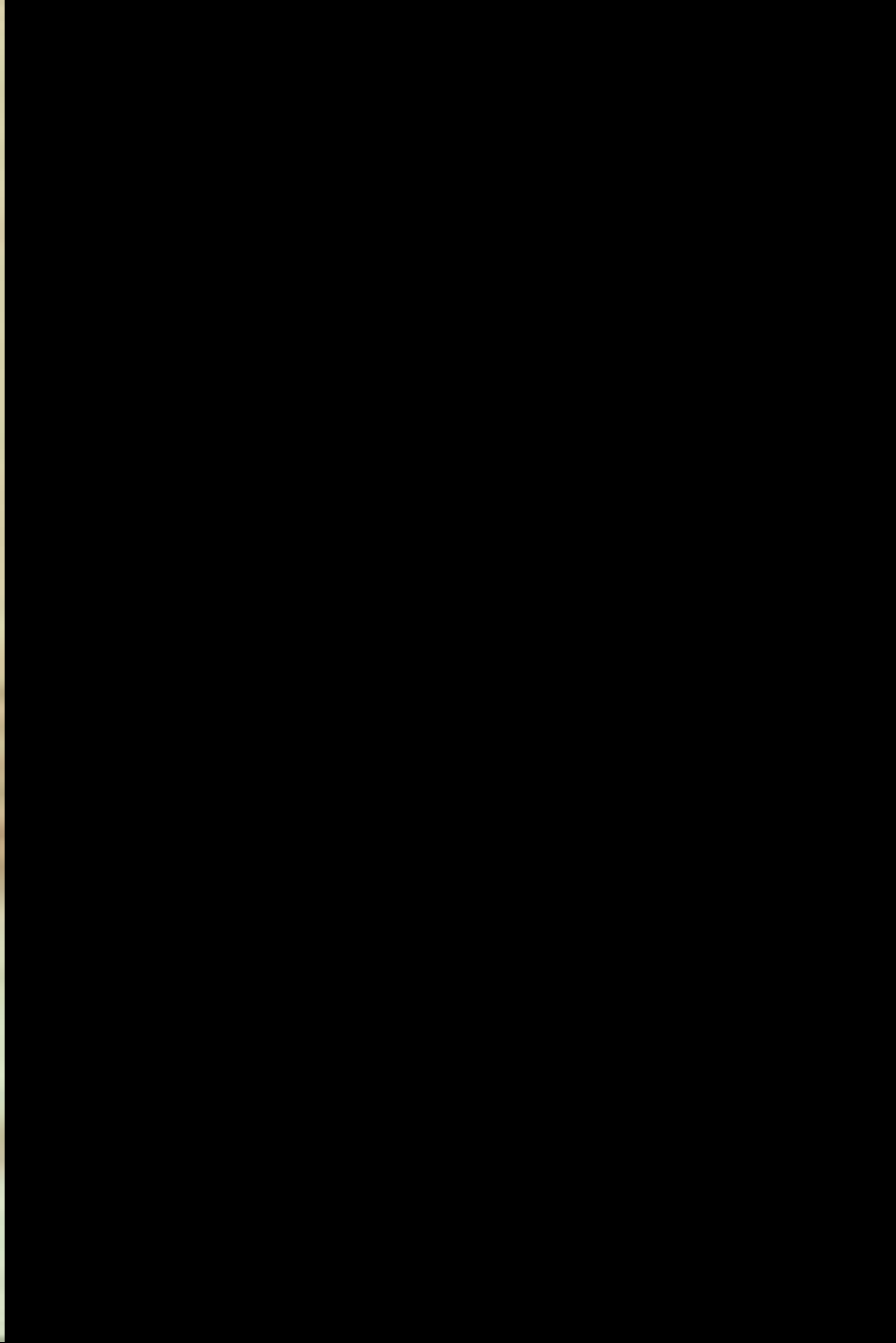




ALI

Ali is defined by his modesty more than anything, and he works diligently as Baba's servant.

Ali does not have an easy life. **Polio** affected him in his youth and severely damaged one of his legs to the point where it is now **crippled**.





HASSAN

Amir's best friend and half-brother as well as a servant of Baba's.

2 Read the extract from *The Kite Runner*. Which cover do you think matches the extract the best? Why?

THE KITE RUNNER

1.27

Ali and Baba grew up together as childhood playmates – at least until polio crippled Ali’s leg – just like Hassan and I grew up a generation later. Baba was always telling us about the mischief he and Ali used to cause, and Ali would shake his head and say, “But, Agha Sahib, tell them who was the architect of the mischief and who the poor laborer?” Baba would laugh and throw his arm around Ali. But in none of his stories did Baba ever refer to Ali as his friend.

The curious thing was, I never thought of Hassan and me as friends either. ¹ Never mind that we taught each other to ride a bicycle with no hands, or to build a fully functional homemade camera out of a cardboard box. Never mind that to me, the face of Afghanistan is that of a boy with a thin-boned frame, a shaved head, and low-set ears, a boy with a Chinese doll face perpetually lit by a harelipped smile.

Never mind any of those things. ² Neither is religion. In the end, I was a Pashtun and he was a Hazara, I was Sunni and he was Shi’a, and nothing was ever going to change that. Nothing.

But we were kids who had learned to crawl together, and no history, ethnicity, society, or religion was going to change that either. [...]

We saw our first western together, *Rio Bravo* with John Wayne, at the Cinema Park, across the street from my favorite bookstore. I remember begging Baba to take us to Iran so we could meet John Wayne. Baba burst out in gales of his

deep-throated laughter – a sound not unlike a truck engine revving up – and, when he could talk again, explained to us the concept of voice dubbing. ³ John Wayne didn’t really speak Farsi and he wasn’t Iranian! He was American, just like the friendly, longhaired men and women we always saw hanging around in Kabul, dressed in their tattered, brightly colored shirts. We saw *Rio Bravo* three times, but we saw our favorite, *The Magnificent Seven*, thirteen times. With each viewing, we cried at the end when the Mexican kids buried Charles Bronson – who, as it turned out, wasn’t Iranian either. [...]

During the school year, we had a daily routine. By the time I dragged myself out of bed and lumbered to the bathroom, Hassan had already washed up, prayed the morning *namaz* with Ali, and prepared my breakfast: hot black tea with three sugar cubes and a slice of toasted *naan* topped with my favorite sour cherry marmalade, all neatly placed on the dining table. While I ate and complained about homework, Hassan made my bed, polished my shoes, ironed my outfit for the day, packed my books and pencils. ⁴ Then, Baba and I drove off in his black Ford Mustang – a car that drew envious looks everywhere because it was the same car Steve McQueen had driven in *Bullitt*, a film that played in one theater for six months. Hassan stayed home and helped Ali with the day’s chores: hand-washing dirty clothes and hanging them to dry in the yard, sweeping the floors, buying fresh naan from the bazaar, marinating meat for dinner, watering the lawn.

1. Dazed

2. Polio

3. Cripple

4. Crawl

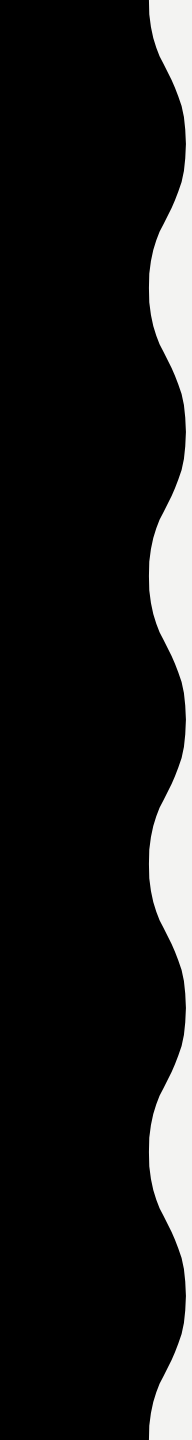
5. Burst out

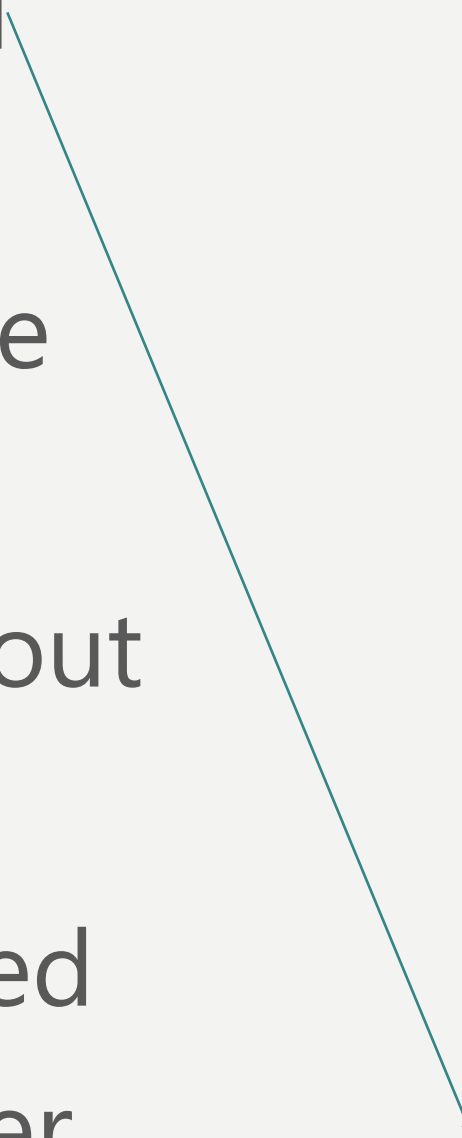
6. Gale

7. Tattered

8. Lumber

- a. to begin (doing something) suddenly
- b. disabling and life-threatening disease caused by the poliovirus. The virus spreads from person to person and can infect a person's spinal cord, causing paralysis (can't move parts of the body).
- c. an outburst of laughter.
- d. old and torn; in poor condition.
- e. ruin
- f. to move along on hands and knees or with your body stretched out along a surface.
- g. move in a slow, heavy, awkward way.
- h. unable to think or react properly; bewildered.

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- The diagram shows the following connections:
1. Dazed → h. unable to think or react properly; bewildered.
2. Polio → b. disabling and life-threatening disease caused by the poliovirus...
3. Cripple → d. old and torn; in poor condition.
4. Crawl → f. to move along on hands and knees...
5. Burst out → c. an outburst of laughter.
6. Gale → e. ruin.
7. Tattered → g. move in a slow, heavy, awkward way.
8. Lumber → a. to begin (doing something) suddenly.

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- The diagram shows the following connections: 1. Dazed connects to h. 2. Polio connects to b. 3. Cripple connects to d. 4. Crawl connects to f. 5. Burst out connects to c. 6. Gale connects to e. 7. Tattered connects to a. 8. Lumber connects to g.

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3 Read the text again. What is it about?

- 1 Afghan cinema
- 2 Growing up in Afghanistan
- 3 The different social classes in Afghanistan

Reading Strategy

- When you do a gapped sentences task, first read the text quickly to find out what it is about.
- Then read the text more carefully and think about what information is missing in each gap.
- Look at the parts of the text before and after each gap to find words or information that link it to one of the missing sentences.
- Pay attention to vocabulary and grammar structures which may also provide ideas.
- After you have matched a sentence to each gap, check that the remaining sentence doesn't match any of the gaps.

4 Read the **Reading Strategy**. Match the missing sentences (A–E) with the gaps (1–4). There is one extra sentence.

A Hassan and I were stunned. Dazed.

B I'd hear him singing to himself in the foyer as he ironed, singing old Hazara songs in his nasal voice.

C Not in the usual sense, anyhow.

D We had been close friends since childhood.

E Because history isn't easy to overcome.

5 Match 1–5 with A–E to make sentences about the extract.

- 1 The narrator and Hassan had a childhood that
- 2 The narrator doesn't think that he and Hassan
- 3 Certain cultural and social factors couldn't change the fact that the boys
- 4 Baba laughed a lot because the boys
- 5 In the last paragraph, we discover the narrator and Hassan

- ___ **A** had spent their childhood together.
- ___ **B** had a typical friendship.
- ___ **C** had different daily experiences.
- ___ **D** were confused about an actor's nationality.
- ___ **E** was similar to Ali and Baba's.

6 VOCABULARY Find five underlined compound adjectives in the text. Then complete the sentences with them.

Compound adjectives

- 1 Although she was tall, she was slim and _____ and didn't weigh much.
- 2 Try this _____ jam. It's much better than the ones you buy in shops.
- 3 Suddenly, we heard the _____ roar of a lion calling out to its mate.
- 4 The stranger had _____ eyes that were close together, giving him a menacing look.
- 5 After six months of travelling, the men were all _____ and bearded.

7 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Why is it often difficult to form friendships with people from different cultural or social backgrounds? Use the ideas below and add your own.

- different hobbies and interests
- other people's attitudes
- different views, opinions, or outlooks

As far as I'm concerned, ...

My view is ...

To my mind, ...

In my opinion, ...

8 INTERNET RESEARCH Find out about the author of *The Kite Runner*. What other books has he written? What are they about? How successful have the books been?

**ASSIGNMENT:
WORKBOOK 3F
SUMMARY**

DEADLINE: SATURDAY