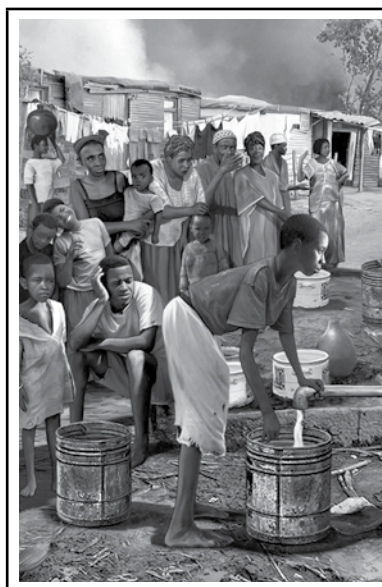
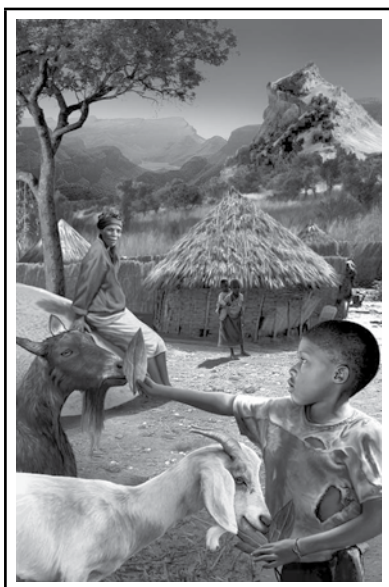


Down Second Avenue

Ezekiel Mphahlele

A Before Reading

- 1 What do you know about South Africa in the first part of the 20th century? Think about politics and the lives of black and white people.
- 2 What are the differences between growing up in the country and in the city? Do you learn different things in each?
- 3 What can you see in the pictures from the story? What differences can you see in the way of life in each?



B While Reading

- 4 Ezekiel moved from the country to the city and had different experiences in each. Read Chapters 1–4 to make a note under the headings.

| Place | Activities | Food | The surroundings and animals |
|------------|------------|------|------------------------------|
| Maupaneng | | | |
| Marabastad | | | |

5 Ezekiel describes some crimes and injustices. As you read, match the people to the events.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Boeta Lem | a. killed a white policeman. |
| 2. Aunt Dora | b. killed a boy in Prospect Township. |
| 3. A policeman | c. had a fight with Abdool for cheating. |
| 4. Dinku Dikae | d. stole money from a rich old man. |
| 5. Ezekiel | e. was dismissed from a teaching job. |

C After Reading

6 Education was important to Ezekiel, and he writes about his memories of schools. He says his first day at Adams College 'was like entering a new world'.

- What are your memories of your first day at primary school, secondary school or university? What was your feeling? What did it look like and smell like? Who did you meet?



- 7 Ezekiel wrote a lot about his experiences up until he left South Africa. Write a paragraph about either:
- (i) your childhood memories
 - (ii) your memories of school

I remember . . .

8 Find the following ten words from the story in the wordsearch:

raid wasp aquit dung cane punish ancestors strikes squalor slum

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | A | I | D | Q | W | A | S | P | A |
| V | Q | N | L | M | U | N | Y | U | V |
| D | U | N | G | X | V | C | A | N | E |
| H | I | N | J | A | Z | E | I | I | H |
| S | T | R | I | K | E | S | X | S | Q |
| G | K | S | L | F | J | T | K | H | I |
| D | U | I | X | Y | E | O | L | A | O |
| S | Q | U | A | L | O | R | E | E | T |
| S | A | I | C | H | H | S | L | U | M |
| R | F | T | I | K | G | T | O | C | Z |