The Breadwinner
Lesson 2: Characters in the book.

Aim: To identify the characteristics of the key characters in the book.

Learning outcomes:
All pupils will be able to describe at least one character clearly.
Most pupils will be able to describe all the key characters clearly
Some pupils will be able explain the differences between characters

Resources:
PPT
Book set 'The Breadwinner'
Large sheets of paper + felt pens

Activities:
Starter:
Introduce the book and point out when it was set – during the Taliban government in Afghanistan.

Main Activities:
1. Read the book chapters 1 – 3.
2. Identify the key characters (Parvana, Nooria, Maryam, Ali, Mum, Dad)
3. Pupils to decide how these characters are linked together and to fit their names onto the relationship tree. Pupils can add the relationship to the lines linking people together.
4. Explain how a gingerbread person works – pupils to write characteristics of the person inside and outside the outline – personality traits on the inside and physical characteristics on the inside. Pupils work in groups to complete a gingerbread person on one character. You could give this out in secret so that the rest of the class could guess who it represented later.
5. If time – ask pupils to use the gingerbread people to write a short description of the lead characters.
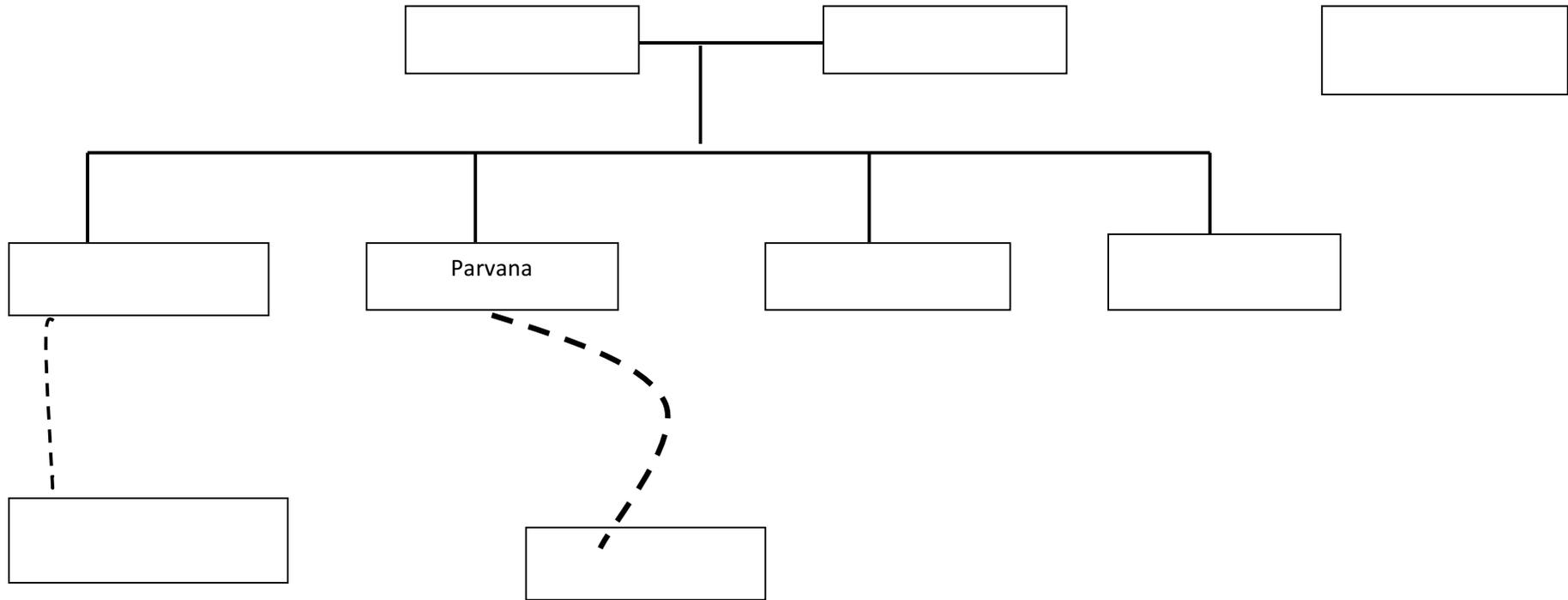
Plenary:
Who do pupils believe in the most?
How has the author made the characters interesting?
How has the author made the characters believable?

Parvana's people

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[                    ]————[                    ]          [                    ]


[                ]        [ Parvana ]        [                ]        [                ]


[                ]        [                ]
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1. Add as many character names as you can to the diagram – you will not be able to fill all the boxes at this point.
2. Show the relationship between people by writing on the lines that link them together.
3. Who is the most important person in this relationships map? Explain your answer.