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ALIYA TO THE INFINITE CITY

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CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER RESOURCES

Created by Emily Weston



chickenhousebooks.com

Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What impact does the opening line have on the reader? • How does Aliya feel about her grandfather? • Thinking about the titles of the books, what do you think Aliya's grandfather might be doing in his study? • Do you agree that politeness is a form of magic? • Why is Mr Kamel unkind to Aliya? • Would you want to enter the study if you were in Aliya's position? Explain why. 	<p>Imagine you are the girl who was on a magic carpet as it flew around the world and write a diary entry.</p> <p>Create a character description of Mr Kamel based on what you have learnt so far. What kind of personality might he have?</p>	<p>Look at an atlas and identify where the 'Mediterranean' is. What countries surround the sea?</p> <p>What religion has the Quran as their holy text? Look at the five pillars of this faith to understand more about the religion Aliya and Geddo share.</p>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you think Aliya feels when she reads the letter? • Should Aliya rub the diamond? • Why will the magic not bring back her parents? • What would you ask a magic necklace to help you with? • Does Geddo know about the necklace? Why do you think this? 		<p>Have a go at writing using calligraphy. How do the different letters look? Create a bookmark with your name on it using this writing style.</p>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has Aliya's life changed? • Are you pleased Geddo has returned? • Is Mr Kamel what you expect a genie to be like? • Is Geddo treating Aliya how you expected him to? • Explain how the end of the chapter makes the reader want to read on. 		



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4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did you expect an old lady to come through the window? • What does the word ‘vulgar’ mean? • What does it tell you about the family if they have their own portal? • Why did Geddo claim Aliya had died? Do you think there is ever a good reason to do this? • Do you believe what Geddo is saying? Explain why. • Should Aliya be afraid? 	<p>Create a persuasive TV advert script for a time-travel portal. What language do you need to use to convince someone to buy it? You could even turn it into a real advert by filming it!</p>	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you trust Gigi? • What is a synonym for ‘befuddled’? • Do you think Aliya is excited for her new future? • What is your first impression of Esmat? • If you were Aliya, what three items would you want to take with you? 		<p>Gigi does not like what Aliya is wearing! Look at how clothing has changed over time. What different fashions have there been? Why do they change? As a class, create a ‘fashion timeline’.</p>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why can bacteria or food not go to different times? • Why does Aliya start saying words and phrases like ‘bee’s knees’, ‘codswallop’ and ‘chinwag’? • Can you remember the secret word for stopping a carpet? • Do you think Aliya should feel ‘terrified’ or ‘fantastically excited’? 	<p>Research British idioms – what are they? What do they mean? Make a glossary of idioms which you could illustrate to help someone understand what they mean. This can be done in groups or as a class.</p>	<p>Design your own flying carpet – what colours would you use? What images would be on it? Use a weaving technique with paper to create your own ‘carpet’.</p>



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7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is Aliya nervous that the matron is a 'ghoul'? • What does the word 'ghoul' make you think of? • Do you agree that ghouls are uncivilized? • Will Aliya and Karima get on? Why do you think this? • What sort of knowledge might a time-traveller share? • Do you think we should be able to change the past? 		<p>Karima's parents run a bakery. Bake your own bread that you could share with Aliya.</p>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is there so much security at the hostel? • Why is Aliya hiding the necklace? • Why is the matron so suspicious of Aliya? • Are the stories Sawsan is telling true? • Why does Aliya not think Geddo is a hero? • Do you think Aliya will pass her tests? 	<p>Create your own menacing medicine recipe! You could use existing plants, or make up your own. What do you want your recipe to do? Remember, menacing is about healing people.</p>	<p>Create some botanical drawings of plants. What parts of the plants do you need to include? Think about how botanical drawings are used and ensure yours are detailed enough!</p>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think Aliya should mind her uniform being different? • What do you imagine the future to be like? • Why do people visit the past if they can't 'interfere' with it? • Is it strange for everyone to know more about Geddo than Aliya does? • Would you give up if you were Aliya? 	<p>Write a setting description on what your vision of the future is. What do you think the world would look like? What do you think the climate might be like?</p>	



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10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it mean if you're a 'ray of sunshine'? • If you had a flying carpet, where would you want to visit? • How did Mustafa save everyone? • Why does Aliya think she is 'lacking' compared to everyone else? 		
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think the letter is about? • How does the author of the letter know what Aliya is doing? • Do you think Aliya already knows the person writing the letters? 	Imagine you are writing a reply to the letter Aliya received. What questions would you want to know the answers to? What would you want them to know about your old or new life?	
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which lesson do you think Aliya would enjoy the most? • Why was Aliya not affected by the Fortuna grain? • What was surprising for the other students? • If you were Dorian, would you prefer to destroy the key or choose exile? • Does Aliya want to be like her mother? 		Research hieroglyphics and then use them to write a secret sentence for your partner to decipher.
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think Aliya will learn more with Gigi? • Why does Gigi think it is important Aliya succeeds? • Has Aliya begun to see Karima as her friend? How do you know? 		



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14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the curse of the black snake real? Does Aliya miss being with her friends? Why does Aliya stay where 'the lights illuminated the road' while going to the library? Why do you need a permit to read a book about locksmiths? 		Visit your school or local library and learn how the sections are organized. Why do you think it is important for this to be done?
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was Aliya right to ask the necklace to help her attract metals? How do you predict the assessment will go for Aliya? Does Karima know that Aliya is already bending the rules? Why are italics used in the final sentence? 		
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is there discrimination against the mythical creatures? How does Mrs Dickens show her support for Aliya? Why is the assessment called the 'Brain Freeze'? What does Miss Prim's name tell you about her personality? Are you surprised Miss Prim helped Geddo? 	Write this section of the story from Miss Prim's point of view. Think about what she knows is going to happen - how might you show this? How much will you reveal to the reader?	
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have you still 'passed' a test if you cheated to do so? Is Zil 'good' or 'bad'? Do you think someone can be both? How can you tell Gigi is happy Aliya passed her assessment? 		Put these in order on a timeline: the Ayyubids, the Fatimids, the Ottomans and Mamluks, and Cleopatra.



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18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does Aliya feel angry? • What is the 'invisible veil' between Aliya and the others? • Does Victoria have a good relationship with her father? • Why is Aliya worried about Geddo? 		<p>Design a celebration feast for Aliya. Research Egyptian foods and include them in your menu, alongside some traditional British foods Mrs Dickens might have cooked.</p>
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think Professor Nigm will help Aliya? • Why was he expecting Aliya? • What does 'taciturn' mean? • Why are hope and faith important to hold on to? • Why has Professor Nigm taken Aliya to the Smithy? • What do you think holds Aliya back from being a reliable locksmith? 	<p>Create a job advert for a locksmith. What skills and requirements will they need? What information will you need to tell them about the job?</p>	<p>Create artwork inspired by memories in a bottle. Inside the bottle shape, which fills a sheet of A4 paper, you are going to draw a scene of a favourite memory. What colours would that memory inspire?</p>
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does Victoria want to make Aliya feel about her assessment? • Is Esmat helping Aliya to succeed? • Was Aliya right to open the door? • How have Aliya's feelings about the necklace changed since she got it? • Why does she no longer want to use the necklace to cheat? 		



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21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Inferno help Aliya on her task? • Why did Aliya decide to use her necklace? • How is Zil influencing Aliya? • Did the end of the chapter surprise you? • Do you think Aliya will help Dorian and steal the key? 	<p>Create a wanted poster for Dorian, using the descriptions from the book to write a detailed character description.</p>	
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did Aliya's mother really work with Dorian? • If you were in Aliya's position, would you help Dorian? • Is Dorian trustworthy? • What book is Dorian referencing when he says it is 'very Dumbledore'? • Should magic be used? 	<p>Write a balanced argument: should Aliya help Dorian? Think about the fact that a balanced argument means there should be reasons for and against.</p>	
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After hearing about the initiation door, should Aliya be worried? • Will Inferno forgive Aliya? • Who do you predict the poisoner to be? • Why is Mrs Dickens still helping Aliya? • Should Aliya have told the truth to Inspector Prickly? 	<p>Write a police report that Inspector Prickly might have made after his discoveries at the hostel. What did he discover? Who are his main suspects?</p>	<p>Design your own key. Where in time (and the world!) would you want it to take you? Try and incorporate this into your design.</p>



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24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do Aliya and Mrs Dickens have in common? • Now we know more, do you think Geddo was protecting Aliya? • Will the information she has learnt change Aliya's mind about helping Dorian? 		
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should Karima be allowed to attend the initiation? • Why is Mustafa surprised when he opens the door? • What department do you think Victoria will be sent to? • Why does Aliya not want to accept that she is a locksmith? 	Write an invitation to the initiation ceremony. What information do you need to give?	
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are you glad Mrs Dickens drank from the punch? • Is Aliya right to listen to Mrs Dickens? • What would you do, if you were Aliya? 	Write a newspaper report about the poisonings at the initiation. What details need to be included? What might an eyewitness say?	
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should Karima trust Aliya? • Will Aliya manage to break the bars? • Will Karima succeed with Corpsy? • What will Karima think of Aliya's secret when she is told? 		Complete a science experiment using magnets. What materials are magnetic? Are they all metals?



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28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your first impression of Cheeks? • How did the macarons change Cheeks' mind about helping Aliya? • What is 'danger incarnate'? • How does the black snake connect to a previous part of the story? 		
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who might buy a basket of mismatched socks? • Why did the necklace attack Aliya, even though she was at the shop by midnight? • Is Aliya relieved she can remove the necklace? • Who is Cassandra? 	Create a persuasive speech from one of the ornaments to convince Aliya to take something from the Shop of Second Chances.	
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you predict will happen in this chapter based on the title? • Is Karima brave for trying the poison and the antidote? • Do you agree that Dorian wanted to humiliate the elders? 		Research medicine from the past - what different things have been used? Would we still use them now?
31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did Geddo look after Aliya? • Will he be accepted back into the time-travelling community? • Has Aliya forgiven him for how he treated her previously? • Is Gigi happy Geddo has returned? 		



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

32

- What does 'cavernous room' mean?
- Why was Professor Nigm not at the celebration?
- Should Professor Nigm be more worried about Dorian being in possession of the Darkling?
- What questions are you left with now the book has finished?

Write a book review!

Create new artwork for the front cover. What do you think will draw the reader in to read it?

