

***The Breadwinner* – Study Guide Chapters 1-5**

*Directions: Type all answers on separate paper. Title the assignment *The Breadwinner Ch 1-5 Study Guide*.*

Vocabulary

Directions: Write a definition for each term as it relates to the context of the book.

Chador (15)	Lavatory (28)	Nan (39)
Burqa (23)	Shalwar kameez (29)	Occupation (38)
Toshak (25)		

Questions

Directions: Write a brief but thorough answer to each question. Make sure that you not only tell the answer but also show (with specific details from the text) and explain (in your own words) as necessary for each question. All answers must be a minimum of 3 complete sentences!

1. Read the “Author’s Note” at the end of the book starting on page 147, and write a 3-4 sentence summary of the most important events in Afghanistan’s history since 1978.
2. Why does Father think it’s important for Mother to go outside, to write, and to stay in Afghanistan? Do you agree with Father or with Mother and why?
3. Parvana says, “Everybody leans on everybody in this family,” and Nooria responds “And who do I lean on?” (Ellis 48). While Nooria does not need to lean on anyone physically, how does she depend on her family members to help her survive?
4. In Chapter 5, we meet Mrs. Weera. What are some of the things she says to Parvana that encourage her when times are tough? What does this reveal about her character?
5. Create a 2-column chart. Describe what life was like 10 years ago and how life has changed for (1) Parvana’s father, (2) the women in the family, and (3) the family as a whole.

Family Life 10 Years Ago	Family Life Now
Parvana’s Father	Parvana’s Father
The Women	The Women
The Entire Family	The Entire Family

Optional Activity – Preparing for *The Breadwinner* Essay

In a few weeks, as you are finishing *The Breadwinner*, you will begin an essay arguing how the characters display *courage*. Don’t worry about the essay specifics for now; however, as you read, if you notice an example of courage, you may want to mark it in your book. If you do, it will be easier for you to find examples of courage when it is time to write your essay.