



Fishtank Plus Feature Sample

Student Handouts

9th Grade English Language Arts
Unit 2 - You Laugh But It's True: Humor and Institutional
Racism in *Born a Crime*
Lesson 3

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Today's Materials:

- Book: [*Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*](#) by Trevor Noah — pp. 3–17 , Chapter 1: "Run"

Objective: Analyze how Noah develops the setting, establishes the tone, and introduces the characters in the first chapter of *Born a Crime*.

1. What does the story of the encounter with the minibus driver reveal about the setting of Noah's memoir? Provide specific evidence and carefully explain your thinking.

2. What is Noah's tone in this first chapter? What is the impact of his tone on the reader? Provide specific examples to support your answer and carefully explain your thinking.

3. How does Trevor and his mother's conversation about Jesus characterize both of them? Provide specific evidence from these pages to support your answer.

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Discussion & Writing Prompt

How does the incident with the minibus contribute to our understanding of Noah's relationship with his mother? Identify at least two things this moment reveals about their relationship, using evidence from pages 15–17 to support your answer.

9th Grade
Unit 2: You Laugh But It's True: Humor and Institutional Racism in
Born a Crime
Lesson 3 Homework

Name: _____

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Why did Trevor's mother run away to Johannesburg?

Who is Robert? What does Trevor's mother ask of him?

What does Trevor's mother say about Trevor when he is born?

How is Trevor's story different from that of other mixed South Africans?
