

LOST SPRING

PERIOD 1

1. What is Sahib looking for in the garbage dumps? Where is he and where has he come from?
2. "But promises like mine abound in every corner of his bleak world." What promise does the author recall? In what context was it made? Was it fulfilled?
3. Describe the irony in Saheb-e-Alam's name.
4. How the author relates the story of Udipi with the contemporary barefoot rag-pickers?
5. What explanation does the author offer for the children not wearing footwear?
6. Is Saheb happy working at the tea-stall? Explain

PERIOD 2

1. Who is Mukesh? What is his dream? Why does it look like "a mirage amidst the dust?"
2. What contrast do you notice between the colours of the bangles and the atmosphere of the place where these bangles are made?
3. How do you regard Mukesh's father's life and achievement?
4. "Savita is a symbol of innocence and efficiency." Comment.
5. What do the bangles symbolise? When, according to the author, will Savita know "the sanctity of the bangles she helps to make?" How is the Indian bride dressed?
6. What could be some of the reasons for the migration of people from villages to cities?
7. Mention the hazards of working in the glass bangle industry.

PERIOD 3

1. What forces conspire to keep the workers in the bangle industry of Firozabad in poverty?
2. Which two distinct worlds does the author notice among the bangle-making industry?
3. Give a thumb-nail sketch of the "frail young women" in the chapter 'Lost Spring'.