**Questions about *Mysterious Traveller* Answers**

*Read page 7*

What puzzles Issa about the camel? why the camel has stayed kneeling even though this means staying covered in sand and dust

What two different ways does Issa try to calm the camel? speaks softly/encourages it to smell his hand

*Read page 9*

Why do you think that the camel was reluctant to leave the wall of the rock? protecting the baby from the storm/Issa

How do you think Issa felt when he found the baby? What words tell you? very surprised ‘his heart stumbled’

*Read page 10*

What clues are there about the baby’s background? wrapped in fine cotton/wearing gold jewellery

Who do you think Issa is talking to when he looks at the sky? to God

*Read pages 11 and 12*

Why did Issa not return Mariama to her family? no indication of who she is, fabric suggested that she is from a very distant place, no modern technology for contacting anyone about her, Issa believes she has been sent by God and is a child of the desert

What skills does she learn which are useful for a guide? (Name 3)

stars for navigation, knowing paths through the hills, predicting the weather, using wind patterns and stones for tracking

*Read page 13*

What signs does Mariama spot which tells her that Issa is going blind? he asks for lamps to be lit when they are already, he can’t see his coffee bowl, he fumbles with the gate

Why is this particularly a problem for Issa? he is a guide/relies on sight for his job

*Read pages 15 and 16*

What does Issa believe God’s plan was for him? Did he always think this way? Explain your answer.

at first, he thought that she was a burden, then as a gift of love, now to be his eyes

How do Issa and Mariama work together to guide travellers?

Mariama describes what she can see, Issa uses his memory to use her description to navigate

*Now think about your reading as a whole*

What mysteries have been solved so far? What mysteries are still to be solved? What do you think will happen next? We know what was in the woven basket Jin-Jin was carrying, we know what he was hiding and that the baby is rescued. We don’t know what happened to the other riders, who was chasing them, where they were from or going to. We don’t know who Mariama was or what happened to her family.

Any reasonable prediction which relates to the story so far.