

**7th Grade Summer Reading**  
***The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis**

This summer you'll be reading *The Breadwinner*, an example of historical fiction set in modern Afghanistan. Be sure to follow all directions carefully to be prepared for class discussion and follow-up activities when we return to school in August. We suggest you use a pronged folder with loose-leaf paper or a single-subject notebook for your journal. Feel free to recycle a folder or partially-used notebook from this past year. To prepare yourself for understanding vocabulary related to cultural aspects of Afghanistan, it's important to complete the pre-reading assignment before beginning the book.

**STEP 1 - PRE-READING ASSIGNMENT**

Locate the glossary at the end of *The Breadwinner* and read information provided for all of the listed terms. Next use Google Drive or another means of research to find a picture of the items listed below. Your assignment is to draw a simple picture of each item (labeled clearly) in your journal.

***burqa, chador, karachi cart, landmine, naan bread, pattu, shalwar kameez, toshak***

**STEP 2 - RESPONSES**

After completing each chapter, write a brief summary of key events and then add a personal reaction. The summary and personal response should **EACH** be a minimum of three sentences but should each not exceed five.

**STEP 3 - CHARACTER TRAIT DOCUMENTATION**

For the following character analysis, you can choose a form of documentation (chart, web, list, etc.). Below you will see characters from *The Breadwinner*. Identify the following four items for each of the people listed.

- Character's relationship to Parvana
  - At least 2 character traits
  - Evidence from the text to support each trait identified
  - A direct quote you feel strongly reflects the level of determination of the character
- \*Use a bookmark or Post-It-Note to document possible quotes when you see them.

Characters: ***Parvana, Nooria, Mother, Father, Mrs. Weera, Shauzia***

**STEP 4 - THEME RECOGNITION**

After finishing *The Breadwinner*, reflect on a theme presented in the book. Remember the term "theme" refers to a universal message that the author wants to express through his/her writing (author's message/moral of the story). Use examples from the story to support your choice of theme and how these examples can be applied to the real world.