



Date: _____ Name: _____ Number: _____

Guided Reading Comprehension – Diamond Band 15 – Benjamin Zephaniah

Page 2 - 3: Of all the reasons given, which do you think provided the greatest motivation for Benjamin's parents?

Pages 4 – 7: The author describes being poor in his childhood. Find 5 bits of evidence from the text that prove this to be true.

Page 8: Circle the word that closest in meaning to 'disassociate'.

combine detach ajoin tangle

Page 12: The word '**motivation**' has been written in bold text. Using the book to help you, write the meaning of '**motivation**' below.

Pages 20 & 21: Read through the information about Jamaica on these two pages. Below, write a similarity and three differences between Jamaica and the U.K. in the table.

Similarities to the U.K.	Differences to the U.K.

Pages 22 – 23: Look at paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 on these pages. From the selection below, choose which statement best summarises the contents of the paragraph.

Paragraph 1

- ☐ Poetry when Benjamin was younger.
- ☐ Benjamin in church.
- ☐ Benjamin's first poem.

Paragraph 2

- ☐ The food Benjamin could cook.
- ☐ The poems his mother taught him.
- ☐ Benjamin's life at home.

Pages 26 - 27: The glossary doesn't feature an entry for '**stage fright**'. Imagine you have been asked to write one. Write it below.

Pages 32 – 33: What was Benjamin's main motivation to return to performing?

Pages 38 – 39: How does the spelling help when reading the poem in the style Benjamin intended it to be read?

Page 45: How does the variety in Benjamin's life suit his personality? Explain using a reason from the text.

Pages 54 – 55: How does the timeline on these pages support the reader?
