When Rain Clouds Gather
Chapter One Exercises.

1. Our first description of Makhaya reveals a lot about his character. Head states:

He is ‘too easily ______________________________________ of living.’

‘The inner part of him was a __________________________ discord.’

The outside however was a sense of ‘calm ____________________ containment.’

2. Give three examples that show that Makhaya is on edge in the first two pages (1-2)
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 

3. ‘That tribal name is the wrong one for me. It is for one who stays home, yet they gave it to me and I ________________________________’

4. ‘It’s only education that ______________________________________’

5. ‘You are running away from tribalism. But __________________________’

6. At this stage of the book, why do you think Makhaya would be concerned with ‘tribalism’?

7. ‘I want to feel what it is like to live in a free country and maybe ____________________’

8. What does this quote suggest to us about the ideas / themes of the story?

9. What do we learn about Makhaya from the episode with the old woman and the girl?
10. The belief is described as ‘a clinging, ancestral, tribal belief ____________________________
______________________________________________________________ child’

11. What was his simple reason for leaving South Africa?

12. In the morning we have a description of the sunrise and how the light moved and reflected off
the land. Why is this symbolic? Does this give us any clues as to whether Makhaya will find peace
in Botswana? Explain your answer.

13. ‘He simply and silently decided ________________________________
______________________________________________________________ journey?’

14. From the clues in page 14 and the ‘Botswana History’ handout – name the year the novel is set?

**Homework**

15. Who is Kwame Nkrumah? Why would he be important in this context.

16. What ‘road’ is Makhaya seeking? Why?

17. How does the old man describe South Africa? How does he describe Botswana?

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<th>South Africa</th>
<th>Botswana</th>
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18. The last word in chapter one is ‘light’. Why might this be important? (bearing in mind Q. 12)