

# He Knows Too Much

Alan Maley

## Before reading

1. Read the back cover blurb. What do you know about India? Do you know any other books or films set there?
2. Look at the list of characters on page 4. Who do you think the main characters are? What do you think happens to them?
3. Look at the glossary on pages 110–112. Find any words you know.
4. If you have the cassette, listen to Chapter 1.

## Check your reading

### CHAPTER 1

1. Put these events in the right order.
  - a Molly and Vish helped Dick to settle in to life in India.
  - b Dick spoke to his boss Keith Lennox about Vish's behaviour.
  - c Dick became general manager of Trakton's factory in Madras.
  - d Dick promoted someone on Molly's recommendation.
  - e Dick worked for Trakton in Nigeria.
  - f Dick spoke to Vish about his behaviour towards colleagues.
2. Choose ten words from the chapter which are important.

### CHAPTER 2

1. How much do you know about Dick? Make a list.
2. Complete the summary.

Dick was worried about the way ..... were given to other companies for building ..... Many of these companies were ..... by friends of Vish. Dick thought that Vish agreed to give the ..... a contract because they gave him money. But at first Dick couldn't ..... this. Then a company called Haridas Enterprises ..... that Vish had asked them to give him more money. They ..... and Vish gave the work to another company instead, who had ..... to pay him the extra money.

### CHAPTER 3

1. Match the beginnings and endings.
 

1 Dick's friends told him	a when he arrived at their house.
2 Dick warned Vish	b that he take early retirement.
3 Barbara welcomed Dick	c to ignore the anonymous letters.
4 Keith suggested to Dick	d not to exploit staff outside working hours.
2. Who do you prefer – Keith or Barbara Lennox? Why?
3. What do you think Dick will decide to do next?

### CHAPTER 4

1. Who did what? Dick or Sally?
  - a got up late every morning
  - b often went to the pub
  - c got a part-time job
  - d argued with Simon and Angie
  - e spent a lot of time out of the house

- f came home late in the evening
- g suggested they separate
- h left the house in Cambridge

### CHAPTER 5

1. True or false?
  - a Dick had been living in Hove for about six months.
  - b Dick found it difficult to sleep at night.
  - c Dick wrote a book about his life.
  - d Dick often received letters.
  - e Ramu knew that Dick and Sally had separated.
  - f Dick was pleased to get Ramu's letter.
2. What do you think Dick is going to do now?

### CHAPTER 6

1. Put these events in the right order.
  - a Dick arranged to meet Ramu and Suresh.
  - b Molly visited the UK.
  - c Dick decided to return to India.
  - d Molly and Vish got married.
  - e Nagarajan left Trakton.
  - f Sally and Dick agreed to a divorce.
  - g Dick flew to Madras.

### CHAPTER 7

1. Make a list of what you have learnt about India so far. Compare it with what you knew about India before you started reading.
2. Look at pages 42 and 48. Why do you think the Nandi Hills become important in Dick's life? What is going to happen?
3. What does Dick find out about Molly and Vish from Nagarajan?
4. Look at page 47. What other questions do you think Dick wants to ask Lakshmi?

### CHAPTER 8

1. True or false?
  - a Dick tells Percy that he's writing a book about India.
  - b Percy is suspicious of Dick.
  - c Percy has forgotten a lot about his life in India.
  - d Dick already knew that Molly had had a child.
  - e Percy keeps trying to change the subject.

### CHAPTER 9

1. Look at the words in italics. Who is *I*, *you*, *he*, *she*?
  - a *He* had told Dick just enough but no more.
  - b *He* would certainly remember John Verghese.
  - c *He* wondered how *she* was coping with her father.
  - d 'Splendid to see *you* again.'
  - e '*I* can't stand any more of this ridiculous talk.'
  - f '*He* went into a bank in London.'

Dick   Sir Percy   Lakshmi   John Verghese   Jacko
2. Who do you think John's father is?

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## CHAPTER 10

1. Who said what?

- a 'You want to speak to my father I think?'
- b 'I am so happy to speak to you.'
- c 'You have touched a raw nerve.'
- d 'I've got used to living on my own.'
- e 'I'm not capable of giving anyone a baby.'

Dick Lakshmi Ramu Ned

## CHAPTER 11

1. True or false?

- a John believes that his real parents are dead.
- b Keith wanted John to marry his daughter Jane.
- c Keith paid for John's education.
- d Keith did not know about Vish's corruption.
- e Keith and Molly used to be lovers.

## CHAPTER 12

1. Who ...

- a advised Dick to be careful?
- b drove Dick from Bangalore to Devanahalli?
- c opened the door to Dick?
- d went to a nephew's wedding?
- e suggested going out for a drive?
- f noticed that they were being followed by another car?
- g said prayers for Dick and Lakshmi?
- h sat near Dick and Lakshmi in the restaurant?
- i treated Lakshmi badly when she was married?
- j attacked Dick?

## CHAPTER 13

1. Who wants to stop Dick?

2. Who says what? Lakshmi or Dick? Who do you agree with?

- a 'Why should they get away with all the terrible things they've been doing for so many years?'
- b 'I don't think it's right to take revenge. People are punished for their actions by what they become.'

## CHAPTER 14

1. Put the events in the right order.

- a Dick was driven away and left at the roadside.
- b Dick telephoned Vish to arrange a meeting.
- c Dick was tied up and threatened by Molly and Vish.
- d Dick got a lift from a hotel tourist bus.
- e Ramu suggested that he and Dick become business partners.
- f Dick tried to phone Lakshmi.
- g Dick was taken to Molly and Vish's new house.
- h Vish sent a car and driver to collect Dick.

## CHAPTER 15

1. Match the beginnings and endings.

- |                       |                                          |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 Barbara didn't      | a find out what Barbara knew about John. |
| 2 Dick didn't         | b let Barbara know his true feelings.    |
| 3 Dick tried to       | c like to hear Lakshmi talked about.     |
| 4 Barbara wanted      | d understand why Keith didn't want Jane  |
| 5 Dick didn't want to | and John to get married.                 |
|                       | e John and Jane to get married.          |

2. Look at the last line on page 95. What is Dick going to do?

## CHAPTER 16

1. What three things does Dick want Keith Lennox to do?

2. What do you think Lennox will decide to do?

## CHAPTER 17

1. Who said what?

- a 'I want to be with you.'
- b 'We should leave judgement to God.'
- c 'I won't give in to blackmail.'
- d 'I wrote to you about our business deal.'
- e 'My life has fallen to pieces.'

Ramu Dick Keith Barbara Lakshmi

2. Do you think Dick did the right thing?

## After reading

Choose some of these activities.

1. Now that you have read the book, do you think *He Knows Too Much* is a good title? Make up an alternative.
2. Which character do you like the most? Why?
3. Look at pages 33 and 34. Write Dick's reply to Ramu.
4. Look at page 68. Make up the phone conversation between Dick and John Verghese.
5. Look at page 107. Make up the phone conversation between Dick and Lakshmi.
6. Write a newspaper report about Lennox's trial.
7. Write a new postscript. Change what happens.
8. Write a letter of advice to Lakshmi about her new life with Dick.
9. Make your own activities for other students to do. e.g. Write some True/False questions.
10. Here is the blurb from another book at this level.

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