A BANNER BOLD

Week 4

Read pages 34-50.

In these few pages we start to see Rosa and her family settle into their life in Ballarat. There is a lot to learn and take on. I wonder how it must feel to move to a place that is so different from where you came from? She tells us all about her first time at school and where they live. In this section we get to learn what the men, the women and the children do with their time.

Rosa and her family speak English, but Rosa is discovering new words that are just associated with Australia and some that are particular to gold mining. Sometimes it can be a bit confusing for her. Do you remember that she thought her father was getting sick when she heard people say that Vati had caught 'gold fever!'

Can you explain what is meant by each of the words in the left-hand column. The middle column shows how the word was used in the book.

Golden Words

| Word | Sentence from book | Word Meaning |
|--|---|--------------|
| Boomers | Mr Jameson calls them 'boomers' (p. 29) | |
| Mates | Mama and I are to sleep under the dray, and Vati and his mates will sleep in the open (p.29). | |
| Swags | My father as well as his friends have swags on their back (p. 28). | |
| Wide awake hats | In front of the Town Hall we saw a number of people crowded around a man in a red shirt and a wide awake hat (26). | |
| Yarra-Yarra | Vati says it is called the Yarra- Yarra (p. 19). | |
| Damper | J. J. teaches Mama to make damper(p. 32) | |
| Gums | Vati tells me the people here call them gums (p.32) | |
| Eureka! | Mr Archimedes shouted Eureka when he got into his bath (p. 33) | |
| Southern Cross | The Southern Cross is going to be my special wishing sign (p. 10) | |
| Ballarat (meaning of the town's name?) | I wish they would not fight on our very first day in Ballarat (p.35). | |
| cradles | And you have to imagine that the ants are very very noisy ants, for there is a constant banging of the cradles (p.35). | |
| Yellow Fever | I fear that he is developing an acute case of Yellow Fever (p37). | |
| Nobblers | Afterwards the other three men sit around the campfire drinking nobblers(p. 32) | |