

Reader and Activity Book

Manzi and the Polluted River

Part I



Water  Wise



RAND WATER

Manzi's Water Wise Mission

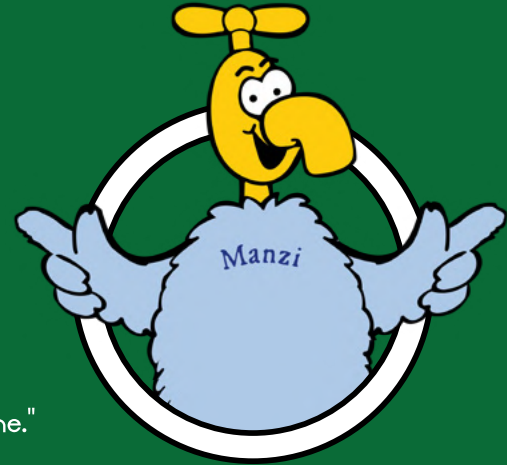
With a head shaped like a tap,
His body is round and blue.
He has feet like a duck.
Now who do you think is this cool dude?



His magical name is Manzi,
And he wants you all to know
That we must look after our water
if we wish to see ourselves grow.

His mission is to teach us
Six things that must be done
To become Water Wise children,
And for us to be number one.

Now let's start with number one.
Let's all put up our thumb
And say together now,
"Respect Water, Respect Life for everyone."



Let's move to number two
And put out our pointer finger.
Shout out loud, "Don't Waste Water!"
There is no more time to linger!

Lesson number three
Comes from the middle man.
Don't Pollute Water!
For this we must make a plan.

On to number four.
Ring finger we must use.
Pay for Water!
This we cannot abuse.

Number five is next.
Raise it without delay,
To take Environmental Action
So that we can all live another day.

Now take all those fingers
And hold the Earth tightly in the palm of your hand.
Conserve Water, Conserve the Environment
For the future of our land.



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For more information on being Water Wise please contact 0860 10 10 60
or visit www.randwater.co.za and click on Water Wise.

It was a sunny day and Manzi decided to visit his favourite park. As he sat near a Wild Olive Tree, Manzi looked around sadly. All over the park, he saw litter which people had thrown on the ground. Manzi spotted a little bird hopping around looking for food. Suddenly, he saw the bird eating plastic.

"That can't be good!" thought Manzi.
"Why don't people really understand how unkind **pollution** is for planet Earth?"

Manzi picked up as much litter as he could, threw it into the dustbin, and went home with a very sad heart.



NEW WORDS

Pollution: Anything on the ground, in the air, or in the water that makes our Earth dirty and unhealthy.

Afrikaans: Besoedeling

Sotho: Tshilafatso

Zulu: Ukungcoliseka

1. Why was Manzi sad?
2. What was the bird eating?
3. What did Manzi do before he left the park?



As soon as Manzi got home, he packed his bag. He was going on a **journey**, from where a river starts to where it ends. Manzi wanted to see if all people were unkind to planet Earth. He also wanted to see what he could do to help. He began walking. Manzi walked and walked until he came to a mountain top. Up high in the mountains, where it rains a lot, Manzi found the river's source, which is the place where the river starts.

It is called a spring. A spring is the place where water flows out of the ground. Manzi took a drink of water from the spring. "Wow," he thought, "up here the water is so fresh and clean!" He looked around and noticed that there were no people anywhere. "That is why the river is so clean," he thought, sadly.

Manzi ate his sandwich, had another sip of fresh water, and began to follow the river down the mountain side.

NEW WORDS

Journey: To travel from one place to another, especially when there is a long distance between the places.

Afrikaans: Reis

Sotho: Leeto

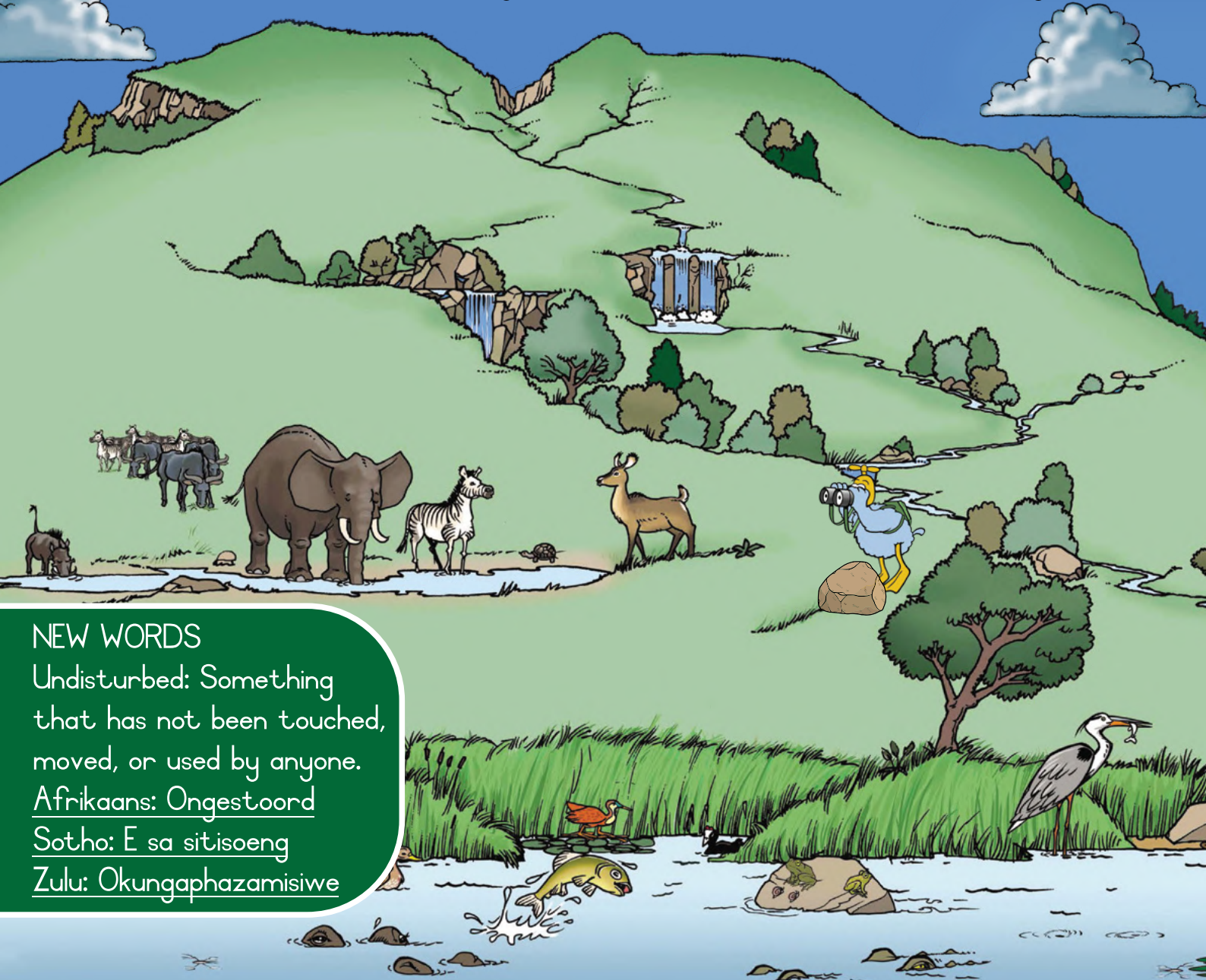
Zulu: Uhambo

1. Why did Manzi go on a journey?
2. What do we call the place where a river starts?
3. Why was the river clean at its source?

As he walked down the mountain, Manzi saw many animals drinking from a waterhole. He spotted a waterbuck, a zebra, an elephant, wildebeest, and even a warthog!

Finally, Manzi came to where the small river joined with the big river. Here he saw ducks, fish and frogs enjoying the clean river.

"There is no pollution here," thought Manzi with excitement. Manzi also noticed that the ground around the river was flat and **undisturbed**. "Nobody has touched this land," he thought.



NEW WORDS

Undisturbed: Something that has not been touched, moved, or used by anyone.

Afrikaans: Ongestoord

Sotho: E sa sitisoeng

Zulu: Okungaphazamisiwe

1. Name five animals, which live on land, that Manzi saw.
2. Name three animals, which live by water, that Manzi saw.
3. What did the land look like? Why?

Up on the slope, Manzi noticed a tree **plantation**.

"That's not right," thought Manzi.

"The trees are harming the land." Manzi knew that these trees had been brought to South Africa, from another country, and were being grown to make paper. These trees had not been planted in the right way. "That is why there is so much soil running off the plantation," he thought.

Every time it rains, the soil will run down the slope and straight into the river. This is called soil erosion.

Manzi stopped to think for a while.

"Where there are no people, the land is clean and beautiful. Oh, why don't people care?" he wondered.

NEW WORDS

Plantation: A large farm where plants and trees are grown to be sold.

Afrikaans: Plantasie

Sotho: Masimo

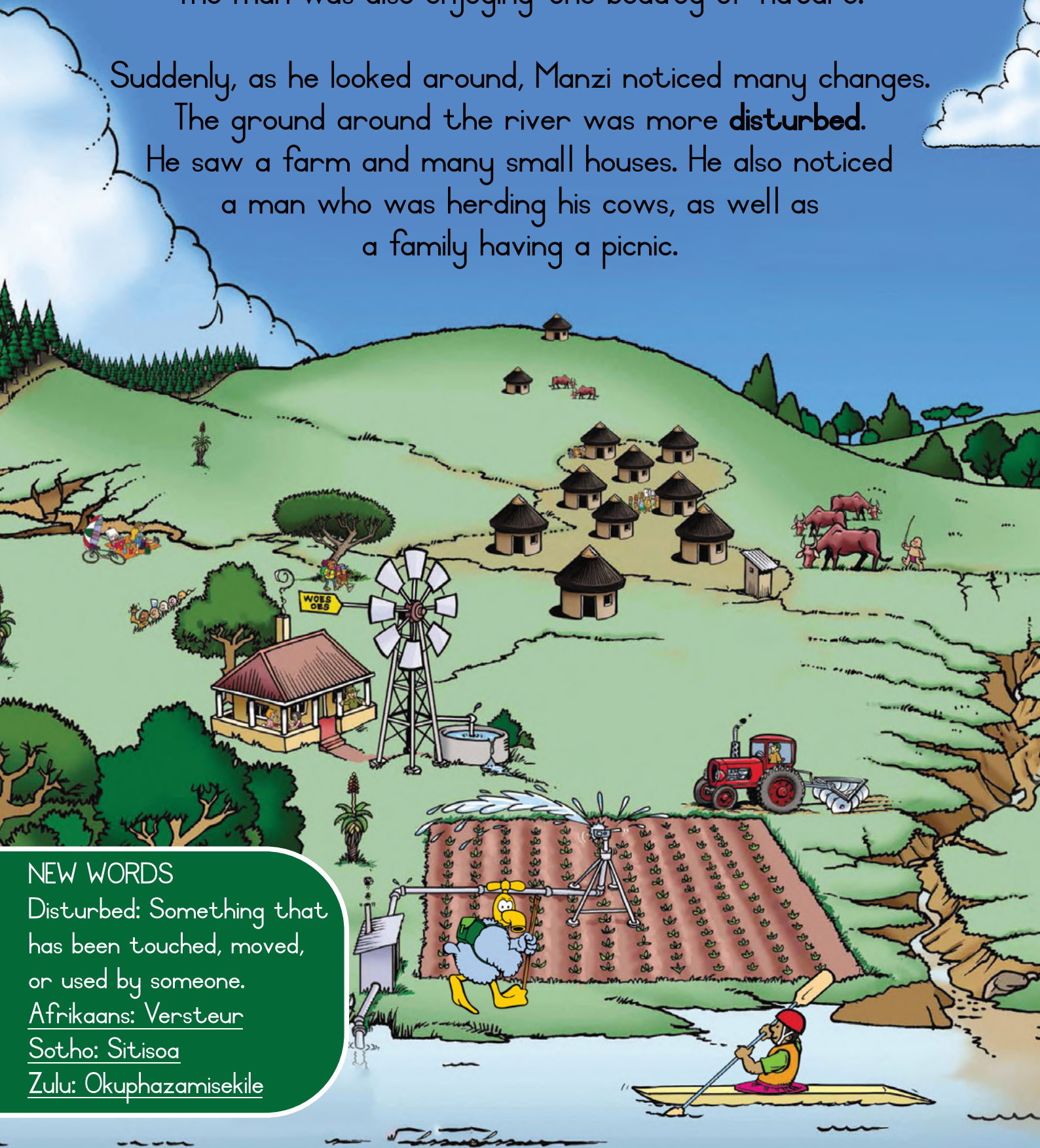
Zulu: Ipulazi



1. Why was there so much soil running off the plantation?
2. What made Manzi think that people don't care?

Manzi continued walking along the riverbank. Here he saw a man in his canoe, out for some exercise on the river. The man was also enjoying the beauty of nature.

Suddenly, as he looked around, Manzi noticed many changes. The ground around the river was more **disturbed**. He saw a farm and many small houses. He also noticed a man who was herding his cows, as well as a family having a picnic.



NEW WORDS

Disturbed: Something that has been touched, moved, or used by someone.

Afrikaans: Versteur

Sotho: Sitisoa

Zulu: Okuphazamisekile

1. What changes did Manzi see as he walked along the riverbank?
2. Name two people that Manzi saw. What were they each doing?

Manzi put on his **oxygen tank** and **swimming goggles** and climbed into the river. The water was so icy cold that it made him shiver. Manzi was shocked to see an old rusty car, a pipe and a leaking oil drum under the water.

"That can't be good for the animals who live in the river," he thought, as he climbed out of the water.

As he looked at the nearby town, what he saw made his heart sore. All around him was pollution in so many forms. "People have really lost respect for nature!" he thought.

NEW WORDS

Oxygen tank: A metal tank, filled with oxygen, that helps you to breathe underwater.

Afrikaans: Suurstof tenk

Sotho: Tanka ea moya

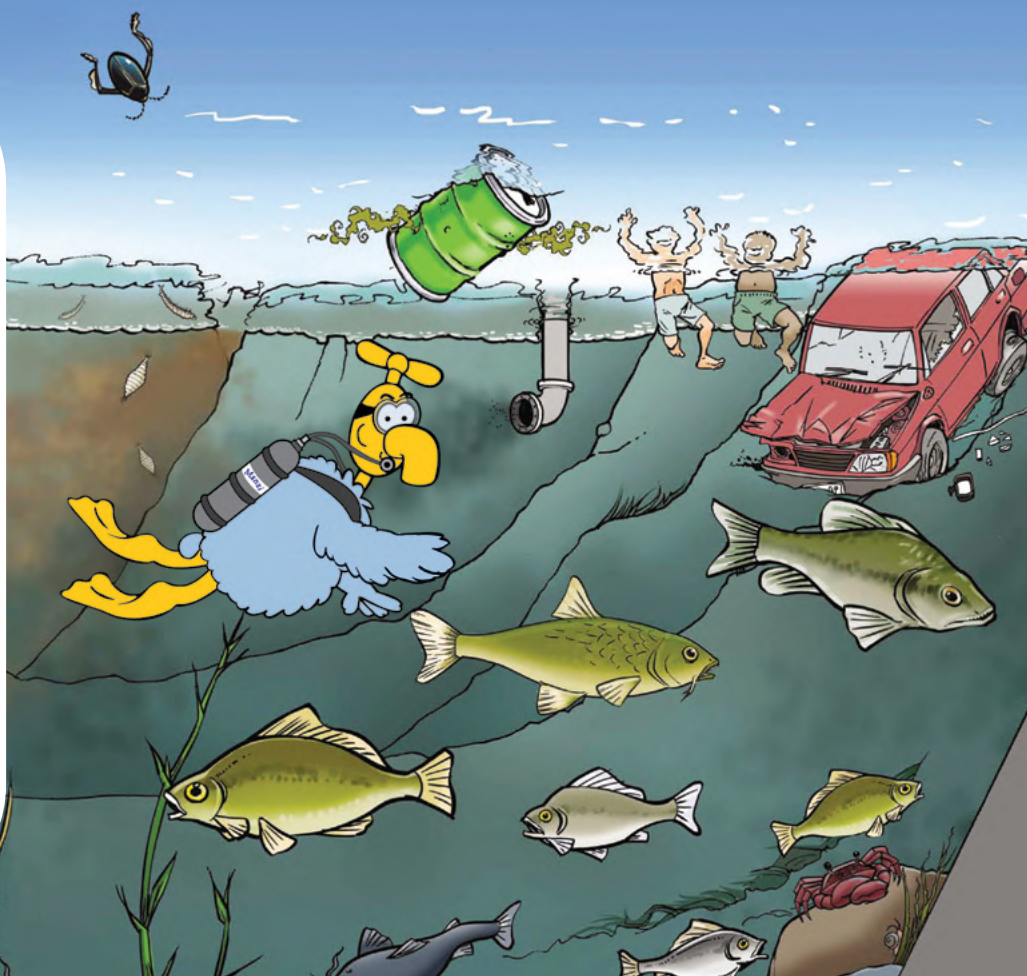
Zulu: Ithangi lomoya

Swimming Goggles: Special glasses that help you to see underwater and stop water getting into your eyes.

Afrikaans: Swembriil

Sotho: Likhalse tsa ho sesa

Zulu: Izibuko zasemanzini



1. Why was Manzi shocked?

2. What did Manzi see when he looked at the nearby town?