

MINUTES FROM THE MIRACLE CITY

by Omar Sabbagh

QUESTIONS

- The narration in the story is a close third person, looking at a whole set of different characters. Why did you think the author chose this voice and what did it enable him to do?
- How would you describe the prose style in the novella and what effect do you think that has on the reader?
- Throughout the book, the narrative quickly switches the character it focuses on. What techniques does the author use to do this? Do you know any other books with a similar structure? How do they compare/contrast?
- When describing the characters is the narrator objective or subjective? Do you sympathise with some of the characters more than with others?
- How does the author weave the image of Dubai into the narrative?
- The ending of the novella is open to interpretation. Is that the right time to end the story or would you have developed it further?
- Does the novella have a main character? How is he/she determined?

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WRITING EXERCISES

A) Write a passage of 1,000 words in which the narrative quickly switches between different perspectives.

OR

B) Write a passage of 1,000 words in which the protagonist is influenced by their surroundings.

NOTES
