



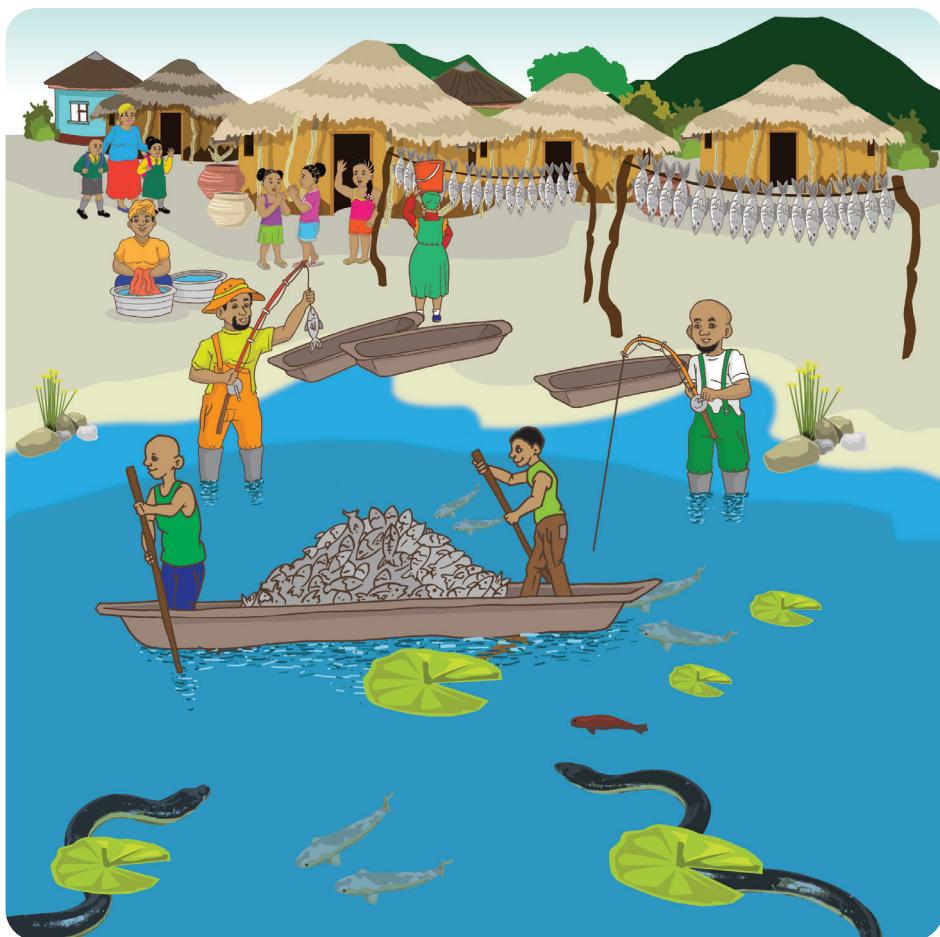
Umdobi wezinhlanzi

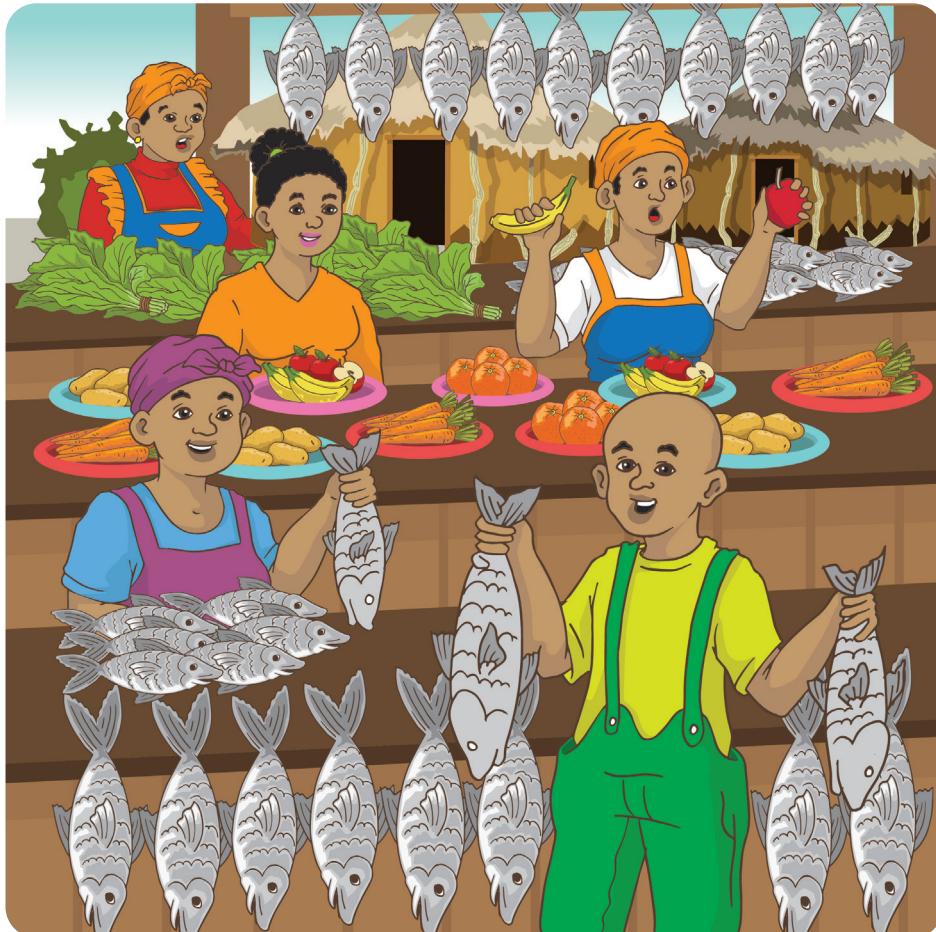


Elias Makhapa



Idamu iNkomazi laziwa kakhulu
ngezinyoka zasemanzini eziningi. Abadobi
bezinhlanzi babelithanda kakhulu lelidamu.
uNkazimulo wayengumfana waseNkanini.
Wayehlakaniphile efuna ukwazi kakhulu.
Wayefuna ukwazi yonke into.





UNkazimulo nomndeni wakhe babehlala
eduze nalelidamu elikhulu elibizwa ngokuthi
iNkomazi. Izakhamuzi eziningi zakulendawo
zaziphila ngokudoba. Abanye babetengisa
izinhlanzi emakethe, abanye badobel
ukudla. Indlala yayingaziwa kulendawo
yaseNkanini.



UNkazimulo naye wayefisa ukuba ngumdobi.
Wayehlala ecela ubaba wakhe ukuthi
amthengele izindobo.





Ngosuku ubaba wakhe amthengele ngalo udobo, wajabula kakhulu. Inkinga kwaba ngukuthi uyesaba ukuhamba yedwa ayodoba edamini. Wacela umngani wakhe uZonke ukuthi ahambe naye. UZonke akavumanga ukuhamba naye. Wacela uSipho kepha uSipho wathi wesaba izinyoka zasemanzini.



Uzokwenze njani? Uyafuna ukudoba ukuze asize ubaba wakhe ngokuthengisa izinhlanzi emakethe. Ufuna ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke. uNkazimulo waqinisela wahamba yedwa ukuyodoba izinhlanzi.

Ngemuva kwesikhashana, wabona inyoka yasemanzini iza ngakuye.





Wabutha izinto zakhe, wagijima ebuyela
ekhaya engenayo neyodwa inhlanzi. Ubaba
wakhe wabuza ukuthi kungani engabuyanga
nenhlanzi ngosuku lwakhe lokuqala.
UNkazimulo wayenamahloni okusho ukuthi
ubalekile ngoba ebone inyoka yasemanzini.
Wathi ayikho inhlanzi esondele ngasodobeni
lwakhe.



Ngakusasa uNkazimulo wavuka ekuseni kakhulu. Waya kubangani bakhe ukuyobacela ukuthi bahambe naye edamini. Abavumanga, bathi abafuni ukusondela kuleliya damu. Basaba izinyoka zasemanzini.





UNkazimulo usenkingeni. Uzohamba nobani?
Akasoze alokothe ahambe yedwa futhi.
Kepha inhliziyo yakhe ifisa ukudoba. Uzibona
engumdobi ophumelelayo kulendawo.



UMnumzane Ngomane ngumdobi ongumakadebona. Ngosuku olulandelayo, waqonda kuMnumzane Ngomane. Wacela ukuhamba naye ukuyodoba izinhlanzi. UMnumzane Ngomane wavuma. UNkazimulo wajabula wazimisela ukubamba izinhlanzi eziningi.





UMnumzane Ngomane wayelazi kakhulu idamu iNkomazi, njengentende yesandla sakhe. Wahamba noNkazimulo endaweni engenazo izinyoka zasemanzini. UNkazimulo wazizwa ejabulile ngalesi sinqumo.



Baphonsa izindobo zabo base bayalinda.
Udobo likaNkazimulo likhombisa
ukunyakaza. Kusho ukuthi udobo libambe
inhlanzi.





UMnumzane Ngomane watshela uNkazimulo ukuthi adonse udobo lwakhe ngokushesha.

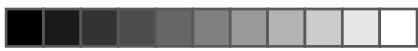
UNkazimulo wadonsa udobo waphuma nenhlanzi enkulu enhle. UMnumzane Ngomane wathatha inhlanzi isithombe maqede wayikala.



Udobo likaMnumzane Ngomane nalo
lakhombisa ukunyakaza. Wadonsa
waphuma nobhabuli.

Ngalelo langa, bonke baphindela ekhaya
bephethe izinhlanzi.





UNkazimulo wadabuka uma kuphela
izinsuku zokuphumula zikaMnumzane
Ngomane. Wakhumbula ukuthi uMnumzane
Ngomane ube usizo olungakanani kuye.
Wayengakajabuli ukuthi usezohamba yedwa
ukuya edamini.



Nakube wayeyedwa, wakhumbula konke
uMnumzane Ngomane ayemtshela khona.

Wayesekwazi ukubamba izinhlanzi zonke
izinsuku.



USipho noZonke bamncenga ukuba abaphe izinhlanzi. Manje sebeyafuna ukuhamba naye. Bafuna ukufunda kuye. UNkazimulo useyiqhawe labadobi ebanganini bakhe.



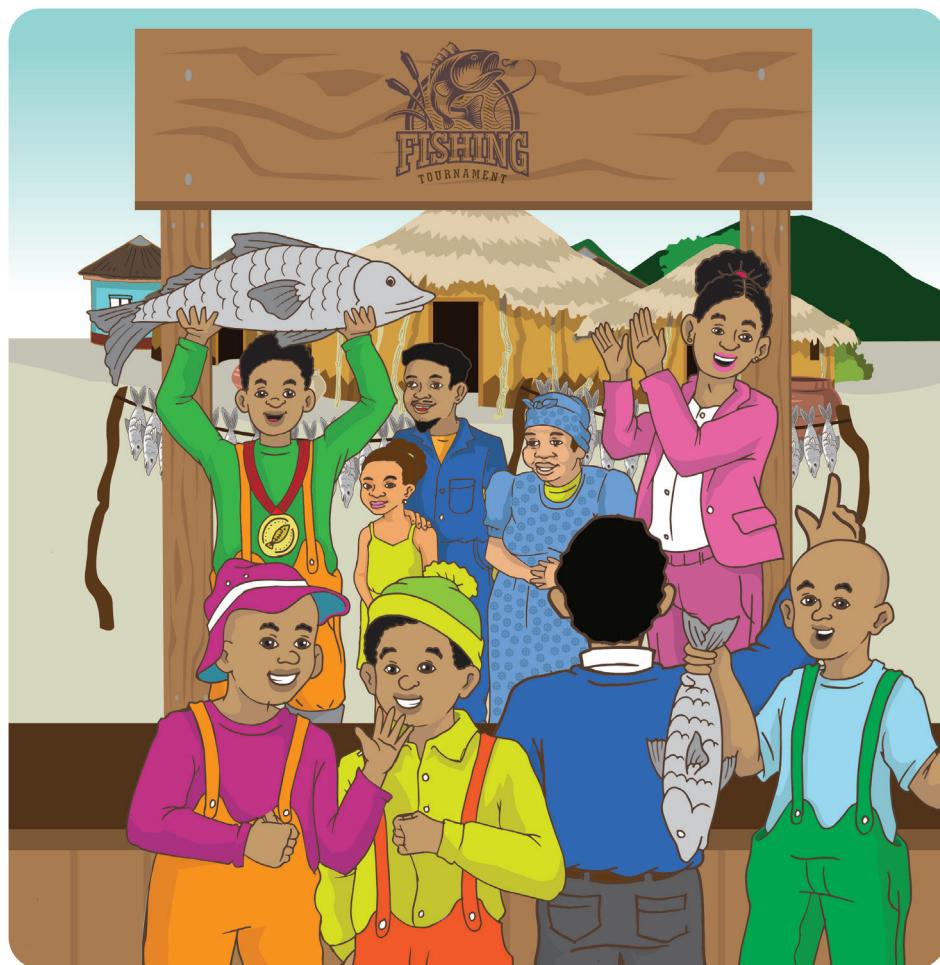


UNkazimulo waqala iqembu lokudoba.
Amalunga okuqala aleliqembu kwaba
nguZonke noSipho. UMnumzane Ngomane
naye wayengomunye wamalunga
aleliqembu.



Maduze, uNkazimulo uthathe igama lomdobi odumile endaweni.

Izolo bekungumncintiswano wonyaka edamini iNkomazi. Abadobi abavela kude naseduze bafika.





Iqembu likaNkazimulo Iwathola imali eyizinkulungwane eziyishlanu. Namuhla bathokozela ukunqoba ekhaya kubo kaNkazimulo.