



# Reading4Normal Book Club

## Guidance Notes

### Nikesh Shukla *The Boxer*

We hope you find *The Boxer* engaging. The novel is set in Bristol and features seventeen-year-old amateur boxer, Sunny. It is a story about friendship, community, and discovering your own strength. The book features topics you might find difficult, including racism, violence, and far-right radicalisation, and asks some important questions about how to find your place in the world. The Reading4Normal Book Club is all about your responses to the novel, especially how it makes you feel about your own life.

As you read *The Boxer*, you might want to note down any examples of things that seem normal or ordinary to you:

- write down the page number
- add a short description of what's going on in your example
- add a sentence or two about how this example makes you feel and how it is similar or different to your life now

Here are some suggestions from the book to get you started:

pp. 24-55: Lying in bed

pp. 45-46: Going to the gym

pp. 75-76: Mum cooking breakfast

pp. 188-89: Meeting in town

There are no right or wrong ways to complete this activity, so just have some fun with your responses. You can also write about other bits of the novel that interest you if you would like – how you feel about the characters, the storyline, or the style.