**A Long Walk to Water**

A **theme** of a book is the message or the lesson that the author is trying to convey. It is different from the plot, which are the events that happen in the book.

A theme has the following characteristics:

* It is a message or lesson about life that is broadly applicable. It is true for situations beyond the story.
* It is a statement. For example, *love conquers all* could be a theme.
* Different books or movies can have similar themes. For example, the theme of *survival* is found in both House on Mango Street and Long Walk to Water even though the two books have very different plots.

**Theme of Survival**: What factors made survival possible for Nya and Salva in A Long Walk to Water? Fill out the **Survival Anchor Chart** for both Nya and Salva as you read A Long Walk to Water.

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| **Challenges** | **Survival Factors** (with pg. # from book) |
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