My Hometown - Bruce Springsteen

I waswith a
dime in my hand
into the
to pick up a paper for my
I'd sit on his lap in that big old Buick and
steer as we drove through town
He'd tousle my hair andson take a
around this is your
This is your hometown
In '65 tension was running high, at my
high school
There was a lot of fights between the
There was you could do
Two cars at a light on a, in
the back seat there was a
Words were passed, in a shotgun blast
had come, to my hometown
My hometown
Now Main Street's whitewashed
and vacant stores
seems like there ain't
wants to come down here no more
They'redown the textile mill
across the railroad tracks
Foreman says these jobs are going boys
and they ain't comingto your hometown
Your hometown
Last night me and Kate we laid in
talking about getting out
Packing up ourmaybe heading south
I'm 35, we got aof our own now
Last night I sat him up, behind the
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dime: 10 cents paper: newspaper my old man: my father sit on one's lap: sit on one's knees steer: drive tousle: rub one's hair high school: grades 9 to 12 a light: a traffic light a shotgun: a light gun for short range blast: exploion whitewash: paint in white (e.g. a house) (curtains and blinds are expensive, so they just whitewashed the window panes against the heat) vacant: empty ain't: are (is, am, has, have) not textile mill: factory railroad tracks: railway lines foreman: chief of other workmen heading south: going direction south

Comprehension Test:

This is read out twice:

- 1. What did Bruce have in his hand when he was running to pick up a paper for his father?
- 2. His father used to drive to the bus stop
- 3. In 1965 tension was running high.
- 4. When Bruce was eight years old, he used to sit on his father's lap and steer the car. Now...
- 5. The foreman says these jobs are going and they aren't coming back.
- 6. The family is talking about getting out.

Your name:

- 1. **O** a bus stop **O** a dime **O** a Buick
- 2. O You can buy newspapers at a bus stop.
 O The bus was not running anymore, so they must go by car.
 O There was a shotgun blast at the bus stop and the driver was killed.
- 3. O There were troubles between blacks and whites.O The windows were whitewashed.O A Buick is an old car.
- 4. O he doesn't remember it.O he does the same with his son.O he is happy that these troubled times are over.
- 5. O The foreman likes to look around the town.O The foreman has a shotgun. He is dangerous.O The foreman says there aren't any jobs in the town now.
- 6. **O** There was no railway in the town.
 - **O** Perhaps they will leave the town.
 - **O** They can't go because Bruce is a bad driver.