# Learner Resource 4.2

# Spotlight on: SETTING

### Setting: Extract 7

They drove under stars on a winding route that crossed and re-crossed the river. Farm hamlets lay black in sleep; pine copses shaped the skyline. And always, against the drone of the van’s engine as it laboured through the gears, came the roar of the Maipo,1 amplified by the walls of the canyon.

Suddenly the road ahead of them was blocked. At the entrance to a village that narrowed the route to no more than the width of two cars, two vehicles stood in a motionless tailback. Beyond was a crowd of people, almost silent, as though they had gathered for a funeral procession.

*Talking in Whispers* – James Watson

 A river in Chile, where this story is set.

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