

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Black like me

Author:

John Howard Griffin

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
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How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

What has your reading so far shown about fairness? Describe an example from Griffin's account and explain how it helps you understand racism, or unfair treatment because of race.

Example answer: I think fairness means treating people with equal respect. Griffin finds that people treat him differently when they believe he is Black. He is still the same person inside, but his darker skin changes how strangers respond to him. This helps me see that racism judges people by race instead of by who they are.

Chapter 7

Looking back over your reading so far, how does another person's behavior toward Griffin help you understand life in the segregated South? Describe the behavior and what it shows.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

So far, what have you learned about John Howard Griffin's plan to darken his skin and travel through the southern United States? Explain what he hopes to understand.

Example answer: I learned that Griffin is a white writer who darkens his skin so that strangers will see him as a Black man. He wants to learn about racism by experiencing how people treat him. I think he hopes to understand things he could miss by only watching or asking questions. His plan shows that he wants to learn about a serious problem.

From what you have read so far, do you think Griffin's firsthand experience is a useful way to learn about unfair treatment? Explain your opinion with a detail from the book.

Example answer: I think Griffin's experience is useful because he feels the effects of unfair treatment himself. After he darkens his skin, people respond to him differently even though his personality has not changed. That makes the unfairness clear to me. Still, I do not think a short trip can teach him everything about another person's whole life.

Chapter 1

So far, what have you learned about John Howard Griffin’s plan to darken his skin and travel through the southern United States? Explain what he hopes to understand.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

From what you have read so far, do you think Griffin’s firsthand experience is a useful way to learn about unfair treatment? Explain your opinion with a detail from the book.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Choose a word or phrase from your reading that helps explain segregation, which means keeping people apart because of race. What does it mean, and how does it help you understand the world Griffin describes?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Based on your reading so far, what is one word you would use to describe Griffin? Explain how one of his choices supports your answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

At this point in your reading, what do you predict Griffin will learn next about how Black people are treated in the South? Use a detail you have already read to explain your prediction.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

What has your reading so far shown about fairness? Describe an example from Griffin's account and explain how it helps you understand racism, or unfair treatment because of race.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
