

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:

Efren Divided

Author:

Ernesto Cisneros

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

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.

The title is Efrén Divided. What might the word “divided” mean for Efrén at this point in your reading?

Example answer: I think “divided” means Efrén feels pulled between different parts of his life. He is a student and a friend, but he also cares deeply about what his family needs. Worrying about home could make it hard to focus at school. To me, the title suggests that he cannot put all his attention in one place.

How to Answer (continued)

If you were Efrén's classmate at this point in the story, how would you try to be a good friend? Explain what you would do and what you would avoid doing.

Example answer: I would invite Efrén to sit with me and let him decide whether he wanted to talk. I would not ask personal questions about his family in front of other kids. He might need a friend without wanting to explain everything. I think listening and respecting his privacy would be more helpful than acting as if I could fix every problem.

How does the story so far connect Efrén's everyday life as a kid with worries about his family's safety? Explain why showing both sides matters.

Example answer: I notice that Efrén has school and friendships to think about, along with worries about his parents being undocumented. Those parts of his life do not stay separate just because he goes to school. I think showing both sides helps me see him as a whole person, not just someone with a problem. He deserves time to learn and enjoy being a kid, even when his family faces difficult things.

Chapter 1

So far, what problem seems most important to Efrén? Explain what you have learned about why it matters to him.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

What would you ask Ernesto Cisneros about the way he tells Efrén's story so far? Explain what made you curious and why the answer would matter to you.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

How does learning about Efrén’s family as individual people affect the way you think about undocumented families? Use a detail from your reading so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

What have Efrén’s words or actions shown you about how he cares for his family? Choose a detail from your reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Choose a Spanish word or phrase from your reading so far. What clues help you understand it, and what does it add to the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Choose a short line of dialogue from your reading. What does the way the character speaks reveal about that person or the relationship with the listener?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

Separate what Efrén knows from what he is still unsure about at this point. How does that difference help explain his behavior?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Based on what you know now, what choice might Efrén need to make next? Explain the clues behind your prediction.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

How do Efrén’s home and school shape his life so far? Explain how these places seem alike or different to him.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Which moment in your reading so far has affected you most strongly? Explain what you felt and how the author helped create that feeling.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

How does the story so far connect Efrén’s everyday life as a kid with worries about his family’s safety? Explain why showing both sides matters.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Which of Efrén’s choices so far do you agree or disagree with? Explain your thinking while considering what he knows at that moment.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What does Efrén’s family help you understand about belonging? Support your thinking with something you have read so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

What two different feelings might Efrén be having at the same time right now? Explain what in your reading supports each feeling.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

How might a challenge Efrén faces now affect one of his friendships? Make a prediction without assuming you know what will happen.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

What have you noticed about Efrén and David’s friendship so far? Explain what their words or actions suggest about their relationship.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

In your reading so far, how are the responsibilities of children and adults shown? Explain where Efrén fits into that picture.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Find a description that helps you picture Efrén’s world. Which words make the picture clear, and what feeling does the description create?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

Which small detail from your latest reading tells you something important about Efrén’s daily life? Explain why that detail deserves attention.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Find a word that helps show worry, hope, or another strong feeling in your reading. What does it mean in that part, and why is it a good choice?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Who might Efrén turn to for help with a problem he faces now? Explain why that person might be able to support him.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

If you were Efrén’s classmate at this point in the story, how would you try to be a good friend? Explain what you would do and what you would avoid doing.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

Where have you noticed courage in Efrén’s story so far? Explain why an action can be brave even if the person feels afraid.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

How does Efrén seem to feel inside compared with what he shows other people? Use a detail from your reading, or explain why his feelings seem easy to see.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

What has your reading so far made you think about fairness? Connect your answer to Efrén’s experiences rather than only giving a general opinion.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

What have you learned so far about what Amá or Apá means to Efrén? Explain how a detail helps you understand that bond.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What unanswered question about Efrén’s situation are you most eager to explore? Predict a possible answer using clues you already have.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Which adult in Efrén’s life do you understand best so far? Explain what helps you understand that person and what you still wonder about.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Choose something that happened in your latest reading. What caused it, and how did it affect Efrén or someone close to him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

The title is Efrén Divided. What might the word “divided” mean for Efrén at this point in your reading?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
