

How to print this booklet

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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:

Impossible Escape

Author:

Steve Sheinkin

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 do Rudi's actions so far show about his personality, such as courage, curiosity, intelligence, or determination?

Example answer: I think Rudi shows that he is very observant and determined. He does not seem like someone who just accepts danger without thinking about what is happening around him. I noticed that he pays attention to details, which could help him understand patterns and survive. To me, that makes him brave in a quiet but important way.

Chapter 39

What do you want to keep watching for as you continue reading Impossible Escape, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

How does Steve Sheinkin help you understand the danger of Nazi Europe in the chapter you just read? Use one or two details from the text.

Example answer: Sheinkin helps me understand the danger by showing how people could lose their freedom very quickly. The chapter made the rules and threats feel scary because they affected real families and real choices. I also noticed that the danger was not only from one moment, but from a whole system of control. That made the history feel more serious and personal.

How are fear and hope both present in the chapter you just read?

Example answer: Fear is present because the people in the book are living under terrible pressure and do not know what will happen next. At the same time, I saw hope in the way Rudi keeps thinking, watching, and looking for chances to survive. The hope does not make the chapter happy, but it keeps it from feeling completely helpless. I think that mix of fear and hope makes the story powerful.

Chapter 1

So far, what have you learned about Walter Rosenberg, also known as Rudi Vrba, and what details make him seem like a real person instead of just a figure from history?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

How does the pacing of this chapter—fast, slow, or changing—affect the way you read it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

What is one thing you admired, questioned, or disagreed with in someone's actions in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How does Steve Sheinkin help you understand the danger of Nazi Europe in the chapter you just read? Use one or two details from the text.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

What choice has Rudi or another person faced so far, and why was that choice difficult?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

How does this chapter make you think about the responsibility people have to speak up when something is wrong?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

What do you think courage means in the world of this book so far? Give an example from the chapter.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Which setting described in this chapter felt most important, and how did it affect the people in it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

What is one new fact you learned about the Holocaust, Slovakia, or Auschwitz from this chapter, and why did it stand out to you?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

Pick a detail from this chapter that you can picture clearly. What makes that image stay in your mind?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

How does the author show that ordinary people can be pushed into extraordinary situations?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

How does the author build suspense in the part you just read, even though this is nonfiction?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What do Rudi's actions so far show about his personality, such as courage, curiosity, intelligence, or determination?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

What is one decision made by a bystander, prisoner, Nazi officer, or helper in this chapter, and what effect did it have?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

How did the chapter change what you understand about Auschwitz or the larger system of Nazi persecution?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Choose one word or phrase from this chapter that felt powerful or unfamiliar. What do you think it means, and how did it shape the mood?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

What question would you ask Rudi if you could talk to him at this point in the book, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

What part of this chapter was hardest to read, and why do you think books for young readers still include difficult history?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

How does Rudi use his mind, not just his body, to deal with danger so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

How are fear and hope both present in the chapter you just read?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

What does this chapter show about how the Nazis used rules, lies, or force to control people?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

What was the most tense or serious moment in the chapter, and how did the author make it feel that way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

If this chapter had a one-sentence lesson or warning, what would it be?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Describe a moment when someone paid close attention to details. Why might noticing details matter in a story about survival?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

What is one thing you think Steve Sheinkin wants readers to feel or understand after this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

What is one example of unfairness or cruelty in this chapter, and how did people respond to it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

What did you notice about friendship, trust, or teamwork in the chapter you just read?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

How has your opinion of Rudi changed or grown based on what you read today?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What prediction can you make about a problem Rudi or others may face next, based only on what has happened so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

How does Sheinkin balance telling a historical fact with telling a story that keeps readers interested?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

What information in this chapter seems especially important to remember for later in the book? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

How does this chapter show the importance of memory, truth, or telling what happened?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What is one small act of resistance or bravery you noticed so far, and why does it matter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

What is one connection you can make between this chapter and something you have learned in school, read in another book, or seen in a documentary?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

How does the chapter show that survival can depend on both luck and choices?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

How does the author use specific names, places, dates, or numbers to make the history feel more real?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

Which person in this chapter did you want to know more about, and what made that person interesting?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What emotions did you feel while reading this chapter, and which part of the text caused those feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
