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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.



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Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Masterminds

Author:

Gordon Korman

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.

Based on what you have read so far, how would you describe Serenity, New Mexico? Use two details that help you picture the town.

Example answer: I would describe Serenity as peaceful but unusual. Eli sees it as a good place to grow up, and the town seems very safe. It is also away from other towns, which makes me picture a small community set apart from the outside world. Those details make me wonder whether living there feels comfortable or limiting.

How to Answer (continued)

Would you want to live in Serenity, based only on what you know right now? Describe one thing that appeals to you and one thing you would want to ask about.

Example answer: I would enjoy living somewhere that seems safe and friendly like Serenity. I would like knowing the people around me instead of feeling lost in a huge city. Still, I would want to ask what life is like outside the town. I would not decide to move there until I understood how much freedom I would have.

Select a word you would use to describe Serenity at this point in the story. Define the word in your own language and explain why it fits.

Example answer: I would choose the word isolated to describe Serenity. To me, isolated means separated from other places or people. Serenity is away from other towns, so the word fits its location. I think that distance could make the town feel peaceful, but it could also make learning about the outside world harder.

Chapter 1

Based on what you have read so far, how would you describe Serenity, New Mexico? Use two details that help you picture the town.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

Looking only at what you have read so far, what lesson might Masterminds be building about making your own choices? Connect your idea to a character's actions.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Which moment from your latest chapter would you most want to discuss with another reader? Explain what makes it surprising, confusing, funny, or important.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

What have you learned about Eli Frieden so far? Explain which detail tells you the most about him.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Which event in your latest chapter seems most important to understanding life in Serenity? Explain what it helps you understand.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Compare two young characters you have met in Masterminds. How do their different personalities affect the way they handle what happens around them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

What does a character's behavior so far suggest about being brave? Explain whether bravery always has to look bold or fearless.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Choose one of the young characters you have met so far in Masterminds. How does that character respond to a problem or a question?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

How do the adults you have met so far shape life for the children in Serenity? Give an example from your reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Select a word you would use to describe Serenity at this point in the story. Define the word in your own language and explain why it fits.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

Notice how Gordon Korman ends your latest chapter. How does that ending make you feel, and what does it make you want to find out?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

What do you predict Eli will want to learn next? Use a clue from what you have read, without looking ahead.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

If you could ask someone in Serenity one question right now, whom would you ask, and what would you want to know? Explain your choice.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

What unanswered question about Serenity interests you most right now? Explain which details made you wonder about it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

How has your opinion of Eli or another character changed since you first met that person? If it has not changed, explain which details have kept your opinion steady.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Pick a word from your latest chapter that describes a place, person, or feeling. What do you think it means, and which nearby words help you understand it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Which detail about Serenity seems ordinary, and which seems unusual? Explain why you put each detail in that group.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Choose a conversation from your latest chapter. What does it reveal about the relationship between the people speaking?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

What does your latest chapter suggest about trust? Explain how a character decides, or might decide, whom to believe.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Think about a choice made by a character in your latest chapter. What other choice could that person have made, and how might it have changed the situation?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

What does your reading so far suggest about curiosity? Explain whether asking questions seems helpful, risky, or both in Serenity.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

Would you want to live in Serenity, based only on what you know right now? Describe one thing that appeals to you and one thing you would want to ask about.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

Where do you notice a difference between what someone says and what someone does, if any? Explain what that difference—or agreement—suggests about the character.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Among the young characters you have met so far, who would you choose as a partner for solving a mystery? Support your choice with something that character has said or done.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Summarize your latest chapter in three important points. How does each point add to your understanding of the people or problems in Serenity?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Which piece of information from your latest chapter would you add to a detective's notebook about Serenity? Explain why it deserves attention.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

How is a friendship in Masterminds developing so far? Describe something that seems to strengthen it or put it under pressure.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Which character's feelings were easiest for you to understand in your latest chapter? Explain what helped you connect with that person.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Find a word or phrase in your latest chapter that makes Serenity or its people seem a certain way. What picture or feeling does it create for you?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

What might happen if a character in Serenity shares an important question or worry with someone else? Base your prediction on what you know so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
