

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:

Out of my mind

Author:

Sharon M. Draper

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.

How does Mrs. V treat Melody differently from many other adults, and why might this be helpful for Melody?

Example answer: I think Mrs. V treats Melody like a real person with strong thoughts, not like someone who cannot learn. She is kind, but she also pushes Melody to try hard and not give up. This is helpful because Melody needs people to believe in her. Mrs. V helps Melody feel stronger and more confident.

How to Answer (continued)

How does Melody's new Medi-Talker change the way others see her? Use examples from the chapter.

Example answer: I think the Medi-Talker helps people finally understand that Melody has been smart all along. Before, many people judged her because she could not speak out loud. Now she can answer, joke, and share her ideas. It does not fix every problem, but it gives her a voice people can hear.

At the end of the novel, how has Melody changed, and what message do you think the author wants readers to remember?

Example answer: I think Melody has become braver because she keeps going even after people hurt her feelings. She has learned that her voice matters, even when others do not listen the right way. The author wants readers to remember not to judge someone by how they look or move. Everyone has thoughts, feelings, and talents inside.

Chapter 1

How does Melody describe words and thoughts, and what does this help you understand about her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

At the end of the novel, how has Melody changed, and what message do you think the author wants readers to remember?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How do Melody’s parents react when the doctor underestimates her, and what does that show about them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

What details show the difference between what people see when they look at Melody and who she really is inside?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

How do Melody’s classmates and teacher act when she returns, and what do you think Melody needs from them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

What does Melody learn about Penny’s condition, and how does her family show love during a frightening time?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

How does Mrs. V treat Melody differently from many other adults, and why might this be helpful for Melody?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

What is life like for Melody in room H-5, and how does it make her feel about school?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

How does the accident with Penny connect to Melody’s struggle to communicate, and why is it such a tense moment?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

After Melody is left behind, what emotions does she experience, and how can you tell from her actions?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Which classmate or teacher in H-5 stands out to you, and what does Melody’s description teach you about empathy?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

How does the incident with Mrs. Billups show why Melody gets frustrated when adults do not listen?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Why is the airport scene so upsetting, and what does it reveal about the people on the team?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

What goes wrong with the trip to Washington, D.C., and how does Melody try to make herself heard?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

What changes when Melody begins spending time with students outside H-5, and what challenges come with that change?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

How do the students in the regular classes react to Melody at first, and what do their reactions reveal about kindness and misunderstanding?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

How do reporters, classmates, and adults treat Melody after the win, and what do you think is fair or unfair about it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

What does the team’s success mean to Melody, and how does it change what she hopes for next?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

How does Catherine help Melody have a stronger voice at school, and why is trust important between them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

What does Melody notice about Rose, Molly, and Claire, and how do these girls affect her feelings about belonging?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

During the competition, how does Melody show what she knows, and how does the team respond?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

What role do teamwork and practice play as the quiz team gets ready for competition?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

When Melody learns about technology that can speak for people, what prediction can you make about how it might change her life?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Why is choosing words for Melody’s communication system so important, and what would you want to be able to say first?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

How does being chosen for the team affect Melody’s confidence and her relationships at school?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

What happens during the tryout, and how do people’s reactions show their assumptions about Melody?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

How does Melody’s new Medi-Talker change the way others see her? Use examples from the chapter.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What does the name and voice Melody chooses for her device tell you about her personality?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

How does Melody prepare for the Whiz Kids tryout, and what does her preparation show about her character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

What do we learn about Mr. Dimming and the quiz team, and why does Melody want to try out?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

How does Melody’s family react when they hear her speak with her device, and why is this moment meaningful?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What new problems appear even after Melody gets a way to talk, and what theme does this show about fairness?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

How does Melody handle rude or uncomfortable moments with classmates, and what would you have done in her place?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
