

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:

Player Piano

Author:

Kurt Vonnegut

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.

Chapter 7: The word automation means using machines to do work people used to do. How does automation help people in this chapter, and how does it hurt them?

Example answer: I think automation helps because the machines can do jobs quickly and make things run smoothly. But it also hurts people because many workers do not feel needed anymore. In the story, some people have lost pride because a machine has taken over what they used to do. That makes me think technology can be useful, but it should not make people feel worthless.

Chapter 35

Chapter 35: The ending is not completely happy or simple. What message do you think the author wants readers to think about after finishing the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

Chapter 18: Paul keeps thinking about the farm and a different kind of life. What do you predict he will choose, and why?

Example answer: I predict Paul will keep wanting the farm, even if it causes problems. The farm seems peaceful and real to him, unlike his job where he feels trapped. I think he wants to make his own choices instead of always doing what the company expects. He may not know exactly what to do yet, but he seems ready for a change.

Chapter 31: Some people seem excited when machines are broken. Why might breaking the machines feel good to them at first?

Example answer: I think breaking the machines feels good to them because the machines have made them feel powerless for a long time. When they smash them, they finally feel like they can do something. It is like they are taking back control for a moment. But I also think it may not solve everything, because people still need a better plan for how to live afterward.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1: What do you learn about the city of Ilium and the machines that run much of it? How does this setting make the world of the story feel?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

Chapter 34: What lesson does Paul seem to learn about people, machines, and habits? Explain using events from this part of the story.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

Chapter 33: After the damage, some people begin fixing machines again. Why is this surprising, and what might it mean?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Chapter 2: How does Paul Proteus seem to feel about his important job? Use details from the chapter to explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Chapter 3: What do Paul and Anita seem to want from life? In what ways are their hopes the same or different?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

Chapter 32: How do the leaders and soldiers respond to the rebellion? What does their response show about keeping control?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

Chapter 31: Some people seem excited when machines are broken. Why might breaking the machines feel good to them at first?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Chapter 4: Finnerty comes back into Paul's life. What kind of person does Finnerty seem to be, and how does he affect Paul?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Chapter 5: The Shah and his helper see America from the outside. What questions or surprises do they have about this society?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

Chapter 30: When the rebellion begins, what changes quickly? How do people react when the machines and systems are attacked?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Chapter 29: The rebels prepare to act. What hopes do they have, and what problems might stop them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Chapter 6: What is Homestead like compared with the richer, machine-run parts of Ilium? How do people there seem to feel about their lives?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Chapter 7: The word automation means using machines to do work people used to do. How does automation help people in this chapter, and how does it hurt them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Chapter 28: During Paul's trial, what do different people believe about him? How does the trial show the main conflict of the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

Chapter 27: Paul gets into serious trouble. How does he respond when he is accused or questioned?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Chapter 8: Why is Paul interested in the old farm? What might the farm stand for in his life?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Chapter 9: How do Paul's bosses try to guide or control him? What does this show about power in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Chapter 26: The Shah's visit helps readers see America in a new way. What does he notice that the Americans might not notice about themselves?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

Chapter 25: The government and company leaders watch people closely. How does this make the characters feel, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Chapter 10: Lasher talks about work, pride, and people feeling useful. What is one idea he shares that seems important?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Chapter 11: How does Shepherd act toward Paul? What does their relationship show about competition and success?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

Chapter 24: How do the secret plans create suspense in this chapter? What details make you wonder what will happen next?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Chapter 23: Paul must decide whether to stay safe or take a risk. What would make this decision difficult for him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Chapter 12: Paul feels pulled in different directions. What choices does he seem to be facing, and why are they hard?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Chapter 13: At the Meadows, leaders gather for a special event. What do you notice about how they talk and behave together?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Chapter 22: Lasher and others talk about dignity, which means feeling worthy and respected. How are people in the story losing their dignity?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

Chapter 21: Paul learns more about the people who want to fight the machine-run system. What reasons do they have for wanting change?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Chapter 14: What does the Meadows event teach Paul about the leaders of this society? Does he feel more included or more doubtful?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Chapter 15: The leaders play games and follow rules at the Meadows. How do these games connect to the way their whole society works?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

Chapter 20: The story shows people being judged by tests, jobs, and ranks. Do you think this is a fair way to measure a person? Why or why not?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

Chapter 19: How does Anita react to Paul's ideas about changing their life? What does her reaction show about what she values?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Chapter 16: How does Paul handle the pressure to fit in at the Meadows? What does his behavior tell you about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Chapter 17: What does Paul learn about trust and loyalty in this chapter? How do other characters make trust difficult?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Chapter 18: Paul keeps thinking about the farm and a different kind of life. What do you predict he will choose, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
