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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:

Spy School Blackout

Author:

Stuart Gibbs

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.

After Chapter 8, what prediction can you make about the next challenge Ben will face, and what evidence from the chapter supports it?

Example answer: I predict that Ben will have to use both his brain and his courage in the next challenge. He often is not the strongest or most trained person, but he notices details other people miss. The chapter made me think the problem is not completely solved yet. I think Ben will need help from Erica, but he will also have to make a choice on his own.

How to Answer (continued)

After Chapter 19, what is one possible theme you see developing, such as courage, loyalty, honesty, or teamwork? Use this chapter as evidence.

Example answer: One theme I see is teamwork. Ben may be smart, but he cannot handle every dangerous situation alone. Erica has different skills than he does, and that makes their team stronger. This chapter reminded me that a good spy mission depends on people trusting each other and using everyone's strengths.

After Chapter 31, how does Ben handle pressure in this chapter, and what does that show about how he is growing?

Example answer: Ben handles pressure by trying to think through the problem instead of giving up. He still gets nervous, which makes him feel realistic to me, but he keeps going anyway. That shows he is growing because he is learning how to act even when he is scared. I think that is part of becoming a better spy and a stronger person.

Chapter 1

After Chapter 1, what do you learn about Ben Ripley’s situation so far, and what questions do you have about the trouble he may face?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 45

After Chapter 45, what feeling are you left with after this chapter, and what part of the chapter caused that feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

After Chapter 2, how would you describe Ben’s personality based on his thoughts, choices, or reactions in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

After Chapter 3, what is one clue, surprise, or problem that seems important, and why do you think it matters?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 44

After Chapter 44, how does the author make you want to keep reading as the book gets close to the end?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 43

After Chapter 43, what loose ends or mysteries still need to be solved, and which one feels most important to you?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

After Chapter 4, how does Erica Hale affect the story so far, and what makes her different from Ben?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

After Chapter 5, what setting details help you picture the spy world Ben is part of, such as the school, training, or mission locations?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 42

After Chapter 42, how are the characters using what they have learned earlier in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 41

After Chapter 41, what does this chapter suggest about the difference between confidence and overconfidence?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

After Chapter 6, choose one new or interesting word from this chapter. What do you think it means, and how did the sentence help you understand it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

After Chapter 7, what does this chapter show about trust between Ben, Erica, and the other people around them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 40

After Chapter 40, how does this chapter raise the stakes for Ben, Erica, or the mission?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

After Chapter 39, which character’s point of view or feelings did you understand better after this chapter, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

After Chapter 8, what prediction can you make about the next challenge Ben will face, and what evidence from the chapter supports it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

After Chapter 9, how does the author mix danger with humor in this chapter? Give an example of each.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

After Chapter 38, what is one example of cause and effect in this chapter? Describe what happened and what it led to.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

After Chapter 37, how do the characters respond when they do not have all the answers?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

After Chapter 10, what decision did a character make that stood out to you, and do you agree with it? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

After Chapter 11, what does Ben seem to know for sure, and what is still confusing or mysterious to him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

After Chapter 36, what information would you want before making a prediction about the next chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

After Chapter 35, how does the chapter show that being a spy involves more than action and gadgets?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

After Chapter 12, how does teamwork help or hurt the characters in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

After Chapter 13, what is one moment when a character has to be brave, careful, or clever? Describe what that moment reveals about them.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

After Chapter 34, what mistake or risky choice does a character make, and what can readers learn from it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

After Chapter 33, pick a line, description, or action that created a strong picture in your mind. What did you imagine?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

After Chapter 14, how does Stuart Gibbs build suspense in this chapter through timing, danger, secrets, or unanswered questions?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

After Chapter 15, what role does communication play in the chapter? Think about what characters say, hide, misunderstand, or figure out.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

After Chapter 32, what do you think Erica values most in a mission, and what evidence from this chapter supports your idea?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

After Chapter 31, how does Ben handle pressure in this chapter, and what does that show about how he is growing?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

After Chapter 16, how is Ben’s spy training useful so far, and where does he still seem to need help?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

After Chapter 17, what do you notice about Erica’s way of solving problems compared with Ben’s way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

After Chapter 30, what is one place where the author gives you information slowly instead of all at once? How does that affect your reading?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

After Chapter 29, what conflict seems most important right now: a conflict between people, inside a character, or against a dangerous situation? Explain.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

After Chapter 18, which character seems most reliable in this chapter, and what actions make you think so?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

After Chapter 19, what is one possible theme you see developing, such as courage, loyalty, honesty, or teamwork? Use this chapter as evidence.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

After Chapter 28, how does the chapter show the difference between looking like a good spy and actually being a good spy?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

After Chapter 27, what is one question you would ask Ben, Erica, or another character right now, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

After Chapter 20, how does the chapter change what you think might happen later in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

After Chapter 21, what is one obstacle the characters face, and what choices do they have for dealing with it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

After Chapter 26, how do friendship and loyalty influence what the characters do in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

After Chapter 25, what is one thing Ben learns in this chapter, and how might it change his plan or attitude?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

After Chapter 22, how do rules, orders, or adult authority affect Ben and the other young spies in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

After Chapter 23, what small detail from the chapter might turn out to be important? Explain why you noticed it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

After Chapter 24, how does the title Spy School Blackout connect to the mood, events, or problems in the story so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
