

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:

The Black Pearl

Author:

Scott O'Dell

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.

In Chapter 5, the story includes warnings and beliefs about the Manta Diablo. What do these warnings make you predict might happen later?

Example answer: I predict that the Manta Diablo will become a real danger later in the story. The warnings make the sea seem mysterious and scary, not just beautiful. I think Ramón may ignore the warnings because he wants to prove himself. That could lead him into trouble.

How to Answer (continued)

In Chapter 11, do you think Ramón should keep the pearl, sell it, or give it away? Explain your opinion using details from the story.

Example answer: I think Ramón should give the pearl away because it seems too powerful and dangerous to keep for himself. Many people start acting differently because of the pearl, and it brings worry instead of happiness. If Ramón gives it away, he might show that he cares more about doing the right thing than becoming rich. That would make him seem more mature.

In Chapter 18, how has Ramón changed from the beginning of the book to the end? What is one theme or lesson you think the author wants readers to remember?

Example answer: At the beginning, Ramón wants to prove that he is brave and important. By the end, he understands that bravery is not just finding treasure or taking risks. I think he learns to respect the sea and to think about the results of his choices. One lesson is that greed can cause harm, but wisdom means knowing when to let something go.

Chapter 1

In Chapter 1, what do you learn about Ramón's home, his family, and the pearl business? How does the setting help you understand the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

In Chapter 18, how has Ramón changed from the beginning of the book to the end? What is one theme or lesson you think the author wants readers to remember?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

In Chapter 17, Ramón must make a hard choice about the black pearl. Do you think he makes the right choice? Why or why not?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

In Chapter 2, Ramón wants to be treated as more than a child. What does he do or think that shows he wants more responsibility?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

In Chapter 3, Ramón learns more about pearls and the people who dive for them. What dangers or challenges do the pearl divers face?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

In Chapter 16, what lesson does this chapter suggest about respecting nature, the sea, or old legends?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

In Chapter 15, Ramón has to face fear and guilt. What does he learn about himself during this part of the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

In Chapter 4, how does Ramón’s father influence the choices Ramón makes? Give one example from the chapter.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

In Chapter 5, the story includes warnings and beliefs about the Manta Diablo. What do these warnings make you predict might happen later?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

In Chapter 14, how does the danger on the sea affect Ramón, his family, or the town? Describe the mood of this chapter.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

In Chapter 13, the pearl seems to bring trouble as well as wonder. What do you predict will happen next because of the pearl?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

In Chapter 6, why is Ramón drawn to the idea of finding a great pearl? What does this goal show about his character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

In Chapter 7, Ramón goes out on the sea with high hopes. What problems does he face, and how does he react to them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

In Chapter 12, choose a word such as superstition, omen, or courage. How does that word connect to what happens in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

In Chapter 11, do you think Ramón should keep the pearl, sell it, or give it away? Explain your opinion using details from the story.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

In Chapter 8, compare Ramón and the Sevillano. How are their attitudes about diving, danger, or pearls different?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

In Chapter 9, Ramón finds the black pearl. How does this discovery change the way he sees himself and his future?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

In Chapter 10, different people react to the black pearl in different ways. What do their reactions show about greed, pride, or faith?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
