

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 Lottery

Author:

Shirley Jackson

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.

Chapter 2: The word lottery usually makes people think of winning a prize. How is the meaning of lottery different in this story, and why do you think the author chose that word?

Example answer: I usually think a lottery is something happy because someone wins money or a prize. In this story, the lottery is not happy at all, because the person chosen is in danger. I think Shirley Jackson chose that word to surprise the reader. It makes the ending feel even more shocking because the word seemed positive at first.

How to Answer (continued)

Chapter 5: What message, or theme, do you think the story gives about traditions? Explain how the villagers' actions help show that message.

Example answer: I think the theme is that people should think carefully about traditions instead of following them just because they are old. The villagers keep doing the lottery even though it hurts someone. Some people do not even remember all the reasons for it, but they still join in. This shows that a tradition can be harmful if nobody questions it.

Chapter 6: How did you feel about the ending of the story? Do you think the villagers should keep doing the lottery or change their tradition? Explain your opinion.

Example answer: I felt upset and surprised by the ending because the village seemed normal at the beginning. I do not think the villagers should keep doing the lottery. A tradition should not hurt people or make families afraid. I think they should find a new way to bring the town together that is safe and kind.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1: What do you learn about the village and the people as they gather in the square? Use details from the story to explain the mood at the beginning.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Chapter 6: How did you feel about the ending of the story? Do you think the villagers should keep doing the lottery or change their tradition? Explain your opinion.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Chapter 5: What message, or theme, do you think the story gives about traditions? Explain how the villagers' actions help show that message.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Chapter 2: The word lottery usually makes people think of winning a prize. How is the meaning of lottery different in this story, and why do you think the author chose that word?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Chapter 3: What kind of leader does Mr. Summers seem to be? Describe him using at least two details from the story.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Chapter 4: As the drawing continues, what clues make you think something is not right? What do you predict might happen next?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
