



CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND PERSONAL RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT

(SUITABLE FOR NOVEL AND GRAPHIC NOVEL VERSIONS)

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. Who is Adolf Hitler? What did he start? What did his armies do, and what did they bring with them to do it?

2. What do Hannah and Max see outside the fence? What does Max do, and why? What happens next?

3. Who does Max think of after he and Zena escape the Nazi soldier? Who is she, and what important things did she say to Max about the Nazis?

4. Who finds Max and Zena in the field and how does he help them? What is he risking by doing this?

5. Why did Aunt Hannah leave Esties? What group did she join? What is this group doing, and how are they doing it?

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND PERSONAL RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT *(CONTINUED)*

6. Why did Hannah, Martin, and Lev blow up the train the night before? Why was this important?
How did they do it?

7. What happens to Zena's foot as the group is walking through the forest to their secret camp?
What do the others do to make her feel better?

8. How does Max save Martin and Zena from the Nazi soldiers sneaking up on them in the forest?
What does he have with him, and why?

9. When Hannah and Lev return to the camp, who is with them? Where was this person, and why?
What happened to him?

10. At the end of the book, where do Max, Zena, and Papa go? Where do Hannah, Lev, and Martin go? Why are they going to different places?

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND PERSONAL RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT *(CONTINUED)*

PERSONAL-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT: Read the question below. Write your response, or jot down notes and have a conversation with your classmates or *I Survived* book-club friends to share your thoughts.

Imagine you are Max or Zena. Your father has decided that it's too painful to try and rebuild your lives in Poland after the war, so he is taking you to a new country. But you don't want to go. What do you say to him? What argument do you make about why you should stay in your Poland?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

I Survived The Nazi Invasion, 1944

ANSWERS

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. Adolf Hitler is Germany's leader. He started a terrible war. His armies invaded countries all over Europe, bringing with them tanks, machine guns, and their hatred of Jewish people.
2. Hannah and Max see raspberries outside the fence. When they can't reach them, Max squeezes underneath the fence and picks some for them to eat and some to trade for potatoes. Then a Nazi soldier catches Max and hits him in the head with a rifle.
3. Max thinks about his Aunt Hannah, his father's 19-year-old sister. She tells Max that the Nazis want to take everything from the Jewish people. She also says, "Do not let them take away your hope."
4. A farmer named Jablonski finds Max and Hannah in the field and helps them by hiding them in his barn. He is risking everything to help them; the Nazis shoot anyone they catch hiding Jewish people.
5. Aunt Hannah left Esties to join a group of Jewish people hiding in the forest called the partisans. The partisans are fighting back against the Nazis by working in small groups to burn down the factories that make German uniforms, ambush troops at night, and blow up trains.
6. Hannah, Lev, and Martin blew up the train the night before because it was especially important. It had at least thirty railcars packed with machine guns, ammunition, winter uniforms, and Panzer tanks. They carried explosives through the woods, hid

from the soldiers guarding the tracks, and then placed the explosives.

7. As they are walking through the forest, Zena feels pain in her foot. She takes off her shoe and sock to find that the skin of her toe has been torn away because her boot is too small. To make her feel better, the others tell her about their own scars, clean her wounds for her, and turn her boot into a sandal.
8. Max saves Martin and Zena by throwing a rock at one of the Nazi soldiers, giving Martin time to stand up and use his rifle. The rock is the same one Max used to dig himself out from under the tree earlier. He put it in his pocket because he thought he might need it later.
9. Hannah and Lev bring Max and Zena's father back to the camp. He had been captured by the Nazis and put on a train bound for a prison camp, but he managed to escape. He went back to Esties but couldn't find anyone. He heard about a farmer who had found two children, and that's how he found his way back to Max and Zena.
10. Max, Zena, and Papa go to America. Hannah, Lev, and Martin go to Palestine. Papa thinks that life in Palestine will be tough, so he decides that America is the best choice for his children. Hannah chooses Palestine because she wants to help build Israel, the new Jewish state, and because there are already thousands of Jewish people living there.

PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

Answers will vary.