

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

Challenge Cards



Create a diary entry from Bruno, written on the day that he first meets Shmuel.

What information would Bruno put in his diary?



How would he describe Shmuel?

What would he say his plans for the next day are?

How would he describe his feelings?

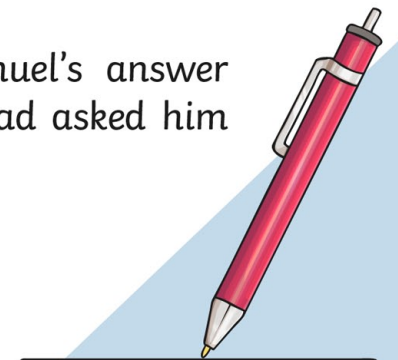
Use a dictionary to find out what these words mean.

prejudice, racism, inequality,
enunciate, desolate, plaque, insolent,
escapade, summon, forlorn,
torrent, muster

Write a list of some other words in the book that you hadn't heard of before, and find the definitions for them too.

In chapter 10, Bruno wants to ask Shmuel why he looks so sad, but he doesn't.

Write what you think Shmuel's answer would have been if Bruno had asked him this question.



Write a letter from Bruno to his friends Karl, Daniel and Martin.

What would Bruno tell his old friends in Berlin about his new house?

Would he invite them to come and visit?

Would he moan to them about his sister, Gretel?

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Create some questions that you would ask Shmuel.

What kind of family do you think Shmuel came from?

What was his life like before he ended up on the other side of the fence?

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Compare and contrast Bruno's old home with his new home.

What was different about Bruno's old home in Berlin and his new home in 'Out-With'?

Were there any similarities?



Draw both houses to show how different they are.

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Retell the events of chapter 7 from Pavel's point of view.

How do you think Pavel feels about Bruno and his family?

What did he mean when he said to Bruno 'I think I've always been here'?

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List all of the things that we learn are different between Bruno and Shmuel in chapter 12.

How were their train journeys different?

Where did each of the boys live?

What sort of food do each of them have access to?



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Write an extra chapter.

The book has 20 chapters in it. Can you write a 21st?

What do you think would happen?

What happened to Bruno's father?

What about Gretel – how do you think she got on when she returned to Berlin?

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Write a character profile for Eva, the lady that the Fury brings to Bruno's house for dinner.

What sort of person do you think Eva is?

What does she do to give you this opinion?



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Plan a 30 second trailer for 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' movie.

What are the important events of the book that you would show in the movie?

How would you get viewers interested enough to buy a ticket for the film?

What would your first, opening scene be?

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