The Book Thief

By Markus Zusak

“BRILLIANT and hugely ambitious. . . . It’s the kind of book that can be LIFE CHANGING.”
—The New York Times

MARKUS ZUSAK
THE EXTRAORDINARY NEW YORK TIMES #1 BESTSELLER
Markus Zusak, age 32, currently lives in Sydney, Australia. In his free time, he enjoys surfing and playing soccer.

When Marcus was growing up, he wanted to be a house painter like his father. He soon realized he had a talent for knocking things over, painting himself into corners and figured out painting bored him. When he was a teenager, he read a few novels that really brought him into their worlds. He decided he wanted to become a writer. He wrote his first book at age 16, but it took many years before he could get a publisher interested. He was glad he had so many rejections and failures. They made him realize that what he was writing just wasn’t good enough – so he had to improve what he was doing.

When it comes to writing, Mr. Zusak has two routines. He said the first one is the non-lazy routine. He begins working at 7am and aims to finish by 11:30am. That usually sees him though until 12 or 12:30 (with a bit of time-wasting in between). Then he takes a long break and writes for a few more hours in the afternoon. The lazy routine usually starts at 10am and he usually writes longer in the afternoon. The only time these routines change is when he is starting a new book or ending one. He then chooses to work more at night.

Mr. Zusak grew up hearing stories about Nazi Germany, about the bombing of Munich and the Jews being marched through his mother’s small German town. He always knew it was a story he wanted to tell.

He is an award-winning author of five books for young adults: The Underdog, Fighting Ruben Wolfe, Getting the Girl, I am the Messenger, and The Book Thief.
# The Book Thief Chapters and Page Numbers

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<th>Due Date</th>
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Themes of The Book Thief

- Words, Reading, and Propaganda - Throughout the novel, Liesel grows to understand the power of words, the importance of reading, and the power words can have in changing the minds of others (both for the better and for the worse). How is propaganda, in both visual and audio mediums, present in Liesel’s everyday life? How has it created a fearful world?

- Bravery and Cowardice - In Hitler’s Germany, is it cowardice NOT to stand up to the Nazis and their beliefs? Is this cowardice acceptable? Who was brave in this society?

- Thievery - As indicated by the title, The Book Thief is a book, in part, about thievery. How does this stealing have both literal and symbolic meanings throughout the novel for Liesel and the rest of characters?

- The Use of and Acknowledgement of Colors - In literature as in life, colors can have symbolic meanings. How did Markus Zusak use colors to express tone and to create bonds between characters in the story?

- Anger and Abandonment - To be left is to be hurt. Throughout the novel we see characters who were left by the ones they love or who feel like they were abandoned. What impact does this abandonment have on the characters personalities and outlooks on life?

- Tolerance and Intolerance in Nazi Germany - dictionary.com defines tolerance as "a fair, objective, and permissive attitude toward those whose opinions, practices, race, religion, nationality, etc., differ from one's own; freedom from bigotry." How do we see examples of both tolerance and intolerance in the story? What lessons do we learn from these instances?
## Character List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character Name</th>
<th>Character Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liesel Meminger</td>
<td>Protagonist; young German girl; brown eyes; book thief; waxy blonde hair; befriended a Jew; determined; foster-child; her brother died; poor; “uneducated” but street-smart / clever; skinny; best friends with Rudy Steiner; morally aware; curious; tenacious; hard-working; caring; defiant; extrinsically motivated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans Hubermann</td>
<td>Optimistic; silver eyes; very caring / loving; father; soothing; talented with accordion; escaped death twice (WWI &amp; ???); patient; brave; impulsive (acts on instincts...morals??); acts with integrity; selfless; against the NSDAP (anti-Nazi); protective over Liesel; passive-aggressive?;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosa Hubermann</td>
<td>Loud-mouthed; harsh but still cares about Liesel; finds it hard to express emotions; verbally and physically aggressive; does possess a soft-side (e.g. when Hans leaves + accordion); cardboard-face (never smiles—stiff; brown); acts strong for Hans; “good woman for a crisis”; simile—Rosa is like a hurricane—strong outside, calm inside;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td>Death; sympathetic; talks about colors a lot; likes colors; expresses emotions through colors?; uses a lot of metaphors; difficult to understand; has no concept of time??; eternal; busy; doesn’t seem to like his job;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Character Name</td>
<td>Character Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rudy Steiner</td>
<td>Athletic; likes Jesse Owens; sarcastic; smart; kind of obnoxious (because of what he says to Liesel); friends with Liesel; blonde hair; blue eyes; oblivious to the Nazi-thought-process (indoctrination); talented; defiant; stubborn / holds grudges; hates Hitler;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Vandenburg</td>
<td>Jew (Jewish); German; German-Jew; pretends to fight Hitler in the basement; likes to fist-fight; likes to day dream; likes to draw; likes to write; used to be afraid of stand-over men; friends with Liesel; really thankful; male, gray, pale, scrawny, hair is like feathers / twigs / sticks / kindling; feels unworthy of help – feels bad for those who help him; Liesel helps him feel optimistic; thinks that being a Jew is a bad thing (Nazi-indoctrination)—it’s his fault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilsa Hermann</td>
<td>Mayor’s wife; fluffy white hair; disconnected from reality; coward (tries to disappear into background by not talking; doesn’t accept reality); son died; quiet; understanding; giving; punishes herself by leaving the window open—feels guilty; lonely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tommy Muller</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Frau Diller</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Character Name</td>
<td>Character Description</td>
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<td>-----------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frau Holtzapfel</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hans Junior and Trudy Hubermann</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Franz Deutscher</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Erik Vandenburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arthur Berg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Viktor Chemmel</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walter Kugler</td>
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</table>
Identifying Literary Techniques

Death and Chocolate and Beside the Railway Line

**Directions:** Identify the following literary elements: similes, metaphors, personification, hyperbole, onomatopoeia, alliteration and imagery. Which one of the literary techniques

a. I can be amiable. Agreeable. Affable.

b. Personally I like a chocolate covered sky.

c. It helps me relax.

d. It felt as if the whole globe was dressed in snow.

e. The world was sagging now, under all that snow.

f. The guard was as small as a squirrel.

g. Death was honest Abe.
Use this as a guide for reading. As you read each page, answer the questions. Read the guide and follow the directions.

As you read, you will come across beautiful sentences, descriptions and quotes. Use this area to write quotes from that you find meaningful. Write at least 2 quotes.

QUOTE AREA


Arrival on Himmel Street (Pages 19 – 29)

Setting/Characters: Liesel, her brother and mother are travelling on a train in Germany, 1939

Read page 19 then answer the questions.

1. What color is the sky? What do you think this symbolizes?

_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

2. What question do you have after you finish reading page 19?

_____________________________________________________________________________

Did you find any quotes to record in the quote section?

Read page 20 – 21

3. How old is Liesel? ______________ What year is it? ______

What do you know about Liesel’s education?

4. What do you think about the way Death describes Liesel’s brother’s soul?

_____________________________________________________________________________

Did you find any quotes to record in the quote section?
Read pages 22 - 23

5. Where are they going?  

6. How does Death let the reader know how cold it is out? What words does he choose? 

Read pages 24

7. What did Liesel steal? 

Read pages 25 – 26

8. What does Himmel mean? 

What does this make you think? 

Read pages 26 – 29

9. Do you like Rosa? Why or why not? 

10. What is the name of the book Liesel took? 

Why do you think she took it? 

Did you remember to write some quotes?
Growing Up Saumensch  Pages 30 – 33 (Inferring)

Before you read you need to know:

Profanity – means cursing

Vehement – means strong, aggressive

Read page 31

1. “Liesel had a starving smile.” What does this mean?
   __________________________________________________________________________________

2. Liesel’s father is a Kommunist (Communist). How is this presented in the text? What words make the reader know that to be Kommunist is not acceptable?
   __________________________________________________________________________________

Read page 32

3. Why did Liesel’s mother leave her?
   __________________________________________________________________________________

Read pages 33 – 35

The reader learns a lot about Rosa (Liesel’s mother) and Hans, (Liesel’s father). What words does the author use to tell us the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hans is:</th>
<th>We know this because</th>
<th>on page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. creative</td>
<td>He played the piano and accordion.</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. lucky</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. kind</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. valuable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rosa is :</th>
<th>We know this because :</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. hardworking</td>
<td>She did washing and ironing</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. a terrible cook</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. verbally abusive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. always angry looking</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Woman With the Iron Fist (Pages 36 – 45) (Connecting)

Read the following quotes and interpret each one.

Choose two (2) quotes and make a connection.

Example:

“...her mother carried the memory of him....”

This quote means that after the boy died his mother always remembered him.

Connection – When you really love someone they are always inside you, even after death.

Page 37  “Not leaving: an act of trust and love......

Meaning:________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Connection:____________________________________________________

Page 37 “No one had ever given her music before.”

Meaning:________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Connection:____________________________________________________

Page 38 “It didn’t really matter what the book was about. It was what it meant that was more important”

Meaning:________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Connection:____________________________________________________

Page 39 “She often wished she was pale enough to disappear altogether.

Meaning:________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Connection:____________________________________________________
Page 41  “…………..He dragged her gently from her nightmare.”

Meaning____________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________
Connection___________________________________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________
Extra Credit

Did you find any other quotes that you liked or could relate to?
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
The Kiss Pages 46-55

Part 1

Prior Knowledge

1. Jesse Owens (watch video clip)

Page 46  Listening Activity

Listen to the description of the neighbors on Himmel Street. Do they remind you of your neighbors? Would you like to live on Himmel Street?

You will read the following passage and be prepared to discuss it with a partner.

It is helpful if you are able to concentrate on and be able to discuss the following with your partner.

Part 2

Read the questions before you read the passage so you are prepared.

Group 1 ~~ Read pages 47 (top) – 49 (Up to, An Important Note)

Questions:
1. What did the kids do in their spare time?
2. Who was the worst player on the team and why?
3. How did Rudy and Liesel get along?
4. What kind of soccer player was Liesel?
5. What kind of kid was Rudy? What did he look like? Did other kids like him?
6. How was Rudy different from other kids?

Group 2 Read pages 49 (Start at, An Important Note) – 50 (Up to, The Last Stop)

Questions:
1. What kind of business did Frau Diller own?
2. What kind of women was Frau Diller?
3. How did she treat her customers?
4. Who was she loyal to?
5. What kind of shop did Rudy’s father own?
6. How come Liesel did not know that it was Rudy’s father shop when she saw it?
Part 3

Share what you read with your partner. Use the questions to help you remember the important parts. Re read together if necessary.

Part 4

Read  

The Last Stop together as a class.

Refer to  

I Never Saw Another Butterfly book to appreciate the artwork created by Holocaust victims.

Optional: Instead of doing tonight’s homework you may choose to draw a picture and create a scene that illustrates the description Zusak uses to explain what the road of yellow stars looked like. Do your best work.

Part 5

Read aloud bottom of page 51 and top of page 52. Discuss

Silent reading of page 53 bottom.................”Come on,” Rudy said,......................................to the end.
The Jesse Owens Incident (Page 56 – 61)

Read page 56

1. What struck you as strange about Hitler’s reaction to Jesse Owens?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Read pages 57 – 58

2. What did Rudy do to demonstrate that he saw Jesse Owens as a role model?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Read page 59 (bottom) two times.

3. What was Mr. Steiner saying to Rudy? Did he like the Jews? What was confusing about what he said?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

4. Make a connection to Night and “She Shall Not Be Moved.” Analyze the words Mr. Steiner is telling Rudy. Think about how one learns to be intolerant? Is it natural (within) or is it learned?
How do parents and society teach intolerance?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Be prepared to discuss these thoughts and ideas tomorrow.
On-Going Quote Assignment

We have been discussing the beautiful words in *The Book Thief* and the unique way Marcus Zusak combines his words to allow the reader to experience reading on a deeper and more meaningful level. As you read, copy sentences that you find touching, curious, significant or silly. Use three pages in your notebook to keep these special quotes together. You should at least record one (1) or two (2) quotes a day.
The Other Side of Sandpaper (Page 67 – 68)

Open your notebook to a blank page and date it (but don’t marry it).

Prior Knowledge

1. Liesel has trouble reading.
2. Liesel has screaming nightmares.

Read silently page 67 – 68 and respond in your notebook. Give a reaction, not a summary.

Shoulder Shrug

Town Walker
Prior Knowledge

1. Liesel has been waiting for her mother to write to her.
2. Hans and Rosa do not have the heart to tell Liesel her mother is missing and they are not sure she is alive.
3. Hans allows Liesel to continue to write her mother letters although he knows her mother will never receive the letters.
4. Rosa does laundry for wealthy people and it is Liesel’s job to drop off the clean laundry and collect the money for Rosa.
5. *Watschen* means beating in German
6. Animosity means hatred

Part 1

Read page 97 – and the top of 98 until the break in the page. Write a response to this section in your notebook.

Part 2

Read page 98 (the middle of the page) and record your thoughts about Liesel’s birthday in your notebook.

Part 3

Read the rest of the chapter (pages 98 – 100). Write your thoughts as you read.

Pretending you are 10 year old Liesel, compose a letter to your mother. Do this in letter format. It should be at least a page long. You are writing this, not texting it. Spelling and grammar count. You may type it.

Include the following:

1. A description of the neighborhood and neighbors
2. A description of her Papa and his accordion
3. A description of Rudy
4. A description of Rosa
5. An update of her reading and writing progress
6. Anything else you think Liesel would include
Hitler’s Birthday, 1940 (pages 101-107)

Read page 101

1. Why was Liesel checking the mailbox every afternoon? ________________________________

2. What was Molching preparing for? ________________________________

Read page 102

3. What were people to bring to the Nazi party office? ________________________________

4. What did everyone in the town have to have outside? ________________________________

Read page 103

5. What was the calamity that the Hubermanns had earlier in the day? ________________________________

6. Who came to the Hubermann’s house that afternoon? ________________________________

7. Describe Hans Junior. ________________________________

8. Describe Trudy. ________________________________

9. What was the mood in the household upon their arrival? ________________________________

Read page 104

10. Why is Hans Jr. embarrassed to be seen with his father? ________________________________

11. What event held Hans back from joining the party? ________________________________
Read page 105

12. What book does Hans Jr. think is the most valuable book ever written?

13. What does Hans Jr. call his father?

Read page 106

14. What did Hans Jr. do after that?

15. What didn’t Rosa do to Hans that afternoon?

Read page 107

16. Where do The Hubermann’s go at this point?
Prior Knowledge:

- It is still the day of Hitler’s birthday.
- The German youth and others were waiting in the center of the town for the book burning.

2. Write your reaction in your journal.
3. Read from page 109- top of page 110.
4. Write your reaction in your journal.
5. Respond to this quote “Although something inside her told her that this was a crime – after all, her three books were the most precious items she owned- she was compelled to see the think lit. She couldn’t help it. I guess humans like to watch a little destruction.”
6. Read from the top of page 110 – the bottom of page 110 (Halfway through the speech...)
7. Write a reaction in your journal.
8. Read from the bottom of page 110- the top of page 111.
9. Write a reaction in your journal.
10. Read from page 111 – the top of page 112 (In her attempt...)
11. Write a reaction in your journal.
12. Read from page 112 – page 113.
13. Write a reaction in your journal.
Book of Fire (118-122)

Read pages 118-122

1. What does Liesel discover amongst the pile of ash? ________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

2. What does she think or wonder about what she has found? ________

_____________________________________________________________________________

3. What does Liesel try to do in the pile of ash? ______________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

4. What does Liesel do after she was not discovered by the Nazi soldiers?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

5. What was happening to Liesel at the end of the chapter? _________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Write a reaction about how Liesel must have felt during this chapter.

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________
The Way Home  (Pages 125 – 128)

Prior Knowledge:
1. The names of books are *italicized*
2. Author use of story sequence

Vocabulary:
3. volatile – explosive
4. revelation - information that is a surprise
5. criminality – having to do with criminals
6. irrefutable – certain
7. affability - friendliness

Read page 127  **Papa’s Fast Paced Visions** together.

7. What book do you think Hans Jr. would believe to be suitable for Liesel?
   ________________________________________________________________

Go back to 125 and listen as the first paragraph is read.

8. What does *penned* mean in the first sentence. __________________________

9. Read to the *end of 125* silently and find two examples of *personification*.
   ___________________________ and ___________________________

Read page 126 -127 silently

10. What was Papa wondering about the book Liesel stole?
    ________________________________________________________________

11. Something was on Papa’s mind that had nothing to do with what was going on with Liesel. What was Liesel worried about? __________________________

Read the rest of the chapter while focusing on the following questions.

12. What did Papa ask Liesel? ____________________________________________
13. Try to predict what Papa might ask Liesel to keep secret? What could the secret have to do with?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________


15. Consider what we know about Papa. Why is this choice of books weird?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

16. Make an inference. For what reason did the men in the Nazi Office think Hans was buying the book?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

17. What do you think the last three sentences are telling us?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________
The Mayor’s Library (Pages 129 -137)

Prior Knowledge:

1. The Mayor’s wife saw Liesel steal the book. Refer to page 121. (..the shadows identity, the fluffy hair, injured expression…)
2. Rosa does the Mayor’s clothing
3. Liesel job is to pick up the clothes for Rosa.
4. Pay close attention to the Mayor’s wife. You will be asked to analyze her character after reading.

Vocabulary:

5. Prolific – explosive
6. Caughtoutedness – not a real word – to be caught
7. Arthritic – having arthritis (a joint disease).
8. Watschen – beating
9. Read page 129 – 132 to find out what Liesel was worried about.

10. Who went with Liesel to get the laundry? ____________________
11. What happened to Liesel when she saw the Mayor’s wife? Was she recognized? ____________________
12. What does Death tell us that Liesel does not know? ____________________
13. Read up to the end of the chapter (page 137) and answer the following as you read. How did the Mayor’s wife react when Liesel came back the second time? ____________________
14. Where did the woman bring Liesel? ____________________
15. How did Liesel react? ____________________
Marcus Zusak helps us see and understand the Mayor’s wife. If you were the director of the movie *The Book Thief*, who would you cast as the Mayor’s wife and why?

Who ________________________________

Why__________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Interpret: What do the following quotes mean?

16. Page 129 “……the paranoia itself became the punishment.”

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Prior Knowledge:
1. Author use of book sequence
2. Map of Stuttgart, Molching and Pasing
3. In this passage a Jew, Max, is in hiding awaiting important papers to allow him to travel without being caught.

4. You will be asked to write down 2 quotes from this section you found meaningful or different.

Read pages 138 to 141

1. Why was Max in the dark? (139)
2. How does Zusak let us know Max is starving? What words does he use?

3. Why did Max have to wait so long for someone to come?

4. Imagine you are Max. How do you feel?

5. List 4 things (not the food or drink) that Max brought with him.

6. Read the last paragraph on page 140. What do you think of the way Zusak described Max’s eating experience? Why did he use choose to use these words?

7. Make a connection with another part of the book. We know the character of Hans Hubermann. Where do you think Max is going and why?

8. Make an inference. What book did Max have with him?
9. One quote from this section you liked

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

10. Another quote

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
The Aryan Shopkeeper (pages 154- 156)

Read pages 154- top sentence on page 155.

1. Try to predict what Rudy and Liesel will do with the pfennig they find.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Read pages 155- 156.

2. What did Rudy and Liesel do with the pfennig?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3. How did Rudy and Liesel have to free the Aryan Shopkeeper?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

4. What couldn’t they afford to purchase? What did they purchase?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

5. How did Rudy and Liesel feel about the situation and the day itself?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
The Struggler, Continued (157-160)

Prior Knowledge:

1. Max is referred to as ‘the struggler.’
2. He is leaving Stuttgart to travel to the Hubermann house.
3. He is carrying a copy of Mein Kampf with him.

Read pages 157-160 and answer the following questions as you read.

1. Analyze the first paragraph on page 158, that begins with, “Look proud, he advised himself…” Why was Max saying these words to himself?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

2. Interpret the following quote from page 158.

“It could be worse.” He looked his friend in his Jewish eyes. “I could be you.”

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

3. Interpret the following quote from page 159.

“In his stomach was the electric combination of nourishment and nausea.”

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

4. What words did Max dread to hear and why?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

5. Reread the last page. Analyze the last four lines. What is ironic about what is written?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
The Struggler, Concluded (168 – 170)

1. Interpret the following quote from page 168.
   “If they killed him tonight, at least he would die alive.” Compare this to the people who died at the camps in Night.
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

2. As Max gets close to his destination, how does he feel? How does Zusak tell the reader? What words does he choose? (169)
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

3. Reread the description of the house again. Connect with another part of the text the words, “brown spit-stained door.” (pg 44)
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

4. Reread the last two paragraphs on page 170. Picture Max taking out the key. What are you wondering?
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
The Accordionist (The Secret Life of Hans Hubermann) (pages 173-184)

Prior Knowledge

- The Great War is World War I
- there- refers to going out into battle.
- Kristallnacht- means night of broken glass; which was a series of attacks on Jews in Nazi Germany in 1938.

Vocabulary

- vicinity- in the area

Read the first paragraph on page 173.

1. Make an inference about who is standing in the kitchen. ________________________________

Read page 174.

2. What is the narrator saying about what happened during the wars?

3. When was the first time that Hans was in the vicinity of death?

4. Explain A Small but Noteworthy Note on pages 174-5.

Read page 175.

5. Who taught Hans to play the accordion? When did this occur?

6. What was their friendship built upon? ________________________________

7. Write down a meaningful quote from this page. ________________________________

Read page 176.

8. What happened to Hans’ friend? ____________________________
9. How was Hans able to survive? ____________________________
10. Why did people not want to volunteer when the Sergeant asked for volunteers? ____________________________
11. Where was Philipp from, and what did he have to do when he volunteered? ____________________________

Read page 177.

12. The Sergeant has difficulty finding a volunteer who has what? ____________________________

Read page 178.

13. Who did they volunteer to be the writer? What did he have to write? ____________________________
14. What happened to the others while Hans wrote? ____________________________
15. How many times has Hans escaped death? What were they? ____________________________
16. What did Hans carry? ____________________________
17. What did he do upon his return to Stuttgart? ____________________________

Read page 179.

18. What does Hans say to Erik’s wife? ____________________________
19. Who else is there with Erik’s wife? ____________________________
20. Predict why this person will need help in the future.

________________________________________________________________________

21. What did Hans do for work?

________________________________________________________________________

22. For how many years was Hans able to do his job and live his life normally?

________________________________________________________________________

Read page 180.

23. What were some of Hans’ reasons for not joining the NSDAP (later the Nazi party)?

________________________________________________________________________

24. Why is Hans’ business suffering?

________________________________________________________________________

Read page 181.

25. What does Bollinger ask Hans?

________________________________________________________________________

26. What did Hans do in the spring of 1937?

________________________________________________________________________

27. What did he witness at this time?

________________________________________________________________________

28. What were Hans’ two mistakes?

________________________________________________________________________

Read pages 182-183.

29. What were the three small but important facts and why were they important?

________________________________________________________________________

30. Why was Hans on the waiting list?

________________________________________________________________________

31. What happened toward the end of 1938?

________________________________________________________________________

32. What 2 things that saved Hans?

________________________________________________________________________
Read page 184.

33. What happened on June 16, 1939? __________________________________________

34. Predict what will happen next. ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Prior Knowledge

1. Hans Hubermann was in the army with Eric Vandenburg, Max’s father.
2. Eric Vandenburg saved Hans Hubermann’s life
3. Hans Hubermann gave Eric’s wife a paper with his information offering help should the need arise

Questions I have before I read:

1. How did Max get in touch with Hans and set up the visit?
2. Will Rosa agree to help Max?
3. How will Liesel feel about having Max live in her house?
4. Will they get caught?

Read Page 185

1. How old is Max when he arrives at Himmel Street?

2. How did Max feel after arriving at Himmel Street?

3. After Liesel noticed Max what else did she notice? This fits in with her character and the title of our book.
A Short History of the Jewish Fist Fighter (Pages 187 – 196)

Prior knowledge

1. November 9 Kristallnacht The night of broken glass.

This chapter focuses on Max. Who was Max before Hitler came into power? We will only read parts from this section, so pay attention to the pages on this guide.

Page 187

1. What did Max enjoy doing in his spare time? ___________________________________
2. How does Death tell us Max was a ‘tough’ kid? _______________________________

Page 188

3. How did Max end up living with his cousins? _______________________________
4. Based on the clues, what are we able to guess Max’s uncle died from? __________
5. What did Max find bothersome about the way his uncle died? This detail will be important later. _______________________________

Read the top of 189 up to “I like that a lot,” then continue reading the bottom of 191 that starts...”Altogether, over the next few years....up to the bottom of 192.

6. Life was becoming more difficult for Max. How?
________________________________________

Read page 193

7. When Walter Max’s friend came to take him, we can infer that Max is being ____________________________
8. What was the important slip of paper Max’s mother gave him? _________________
9. How did the chaos help Max escape? __________________________________________
10. How long did Max remain in hiding? _________________________________________
Read 194 -195

11. What did Walter offer to do for Max once he realized he could no longer safely hide him? __________________________________________________________

12. What important news did Walter bring Max about Hans?
________________________________________________________

Read page 196 and interpret:

“ ………..he sat in a stranger’s kitchen, asking for the help he craved and suffering the condemnation he felt he deserved.” _________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
The Wrath of Rosa (pages 197-198)

Vocabulary

grave - serious or solemn

morose - gloomy

1. Read page 197.

2. Discuss this quote, “Somehow, though, there was also a look of triumph on her face, and it was not the triumph of having saved another human being from persecution. It was something more along the lives of, see?”

3. Read page 198.

4. What happened to Max here? 

5. At the end of the section, why does Liesel ask the question, “Who were these people?” Write your reaction.
Liesel’s Lecture (pages 199-204)

Vocabulary

predicament - an unpleasantly difficult, perplexing, or dangerous situation
dormant - quiet and inactive, as during sleep

1. Read page 199 to *The Situation of Hans and Rosa Hubermann*.
2. Explain the meaning of the line *The Situation of Hans and Rosa Hubermann* “Very sticky indeed. In fact, frightfully sticky.”

3. What is this a difficult situation for Rosa and Hans?

4. Read page 200.
5. Where was Max to sleep that night?

6. Why didn’t Liesel go to school that day?

7. Read page 201.
8. What surprised Liesel when she woke up that morning?

9. What does Mama say to Liesel?

11. What did Hans tell Liesel?

12. Making connections: Recall what Liesel promised Hans on the Fuhrer’s birthday?

13. Read page 203-204.
14. How do you think Liesel feels at this point?
Pages from the Basement (pages 223-238)

1. Read page 223.
2. What does Max use to write/draw the story on?

3. Read the story that Max wrote.
4. Read pages 237-238.

5. Write a response in your journal. You may answer the following questions or write your own response.
   a. How did you feel when you were reading Max’s book?
   b. What did the book reveal about Max, Liesel and the situation they are in?
   c. What is ironic about the paper on which Max writes the book?

Homework: Write your own book in which you use similar phrases to the ones Max used. For example, “All my life, I’ve been scared of ________.” Try to continue the story for at least 5 pages. Make sure you include illustrations for your story as well. Your story should be submitted on computer paper or some other nice paper, not loose leaf.
The Floating Book (Part I) pages 241-242

2. Write a response in your journal about the pages you read.

Sketches

Pages 277-281

Go back and re-read Sketches to find:

~~~5 examples of personification

1. _____________________________
2. _____________________________
3. _____________________________
4. _____________________________
5. _____________________________

~~~2 other examples (simile/metaphor) of figurative language

1. _____________________________
2. _____________________________
Three Acts of Stupidity by Rudy Steiner

First Mistake  293 - 295

1. What caused Rudy to steal the potato?

2. What does a “Choir of heavyset Helgas,” mean?

3 What literary device does Zusak use to describe the merchant’s teeth?

4 Why did the people in the crowd change their minds about Rudy?

Second Mistake  296 -298

1. Why did Franz Deutscher think Rudy would step in when Tommy had a hard time?

2. What did Rudy say to Franz to make Franz angry at the Hitler Youth meetings?

3. What did Rudy do to Franz when he saw him on the street?

4. What do you think about this?

5. What was the last date Rudy gave for Hitler’s birthday?

Third Mistake 299

1. What was the third mistake Rudy made?

2. Why do you think Rudy did this?

3. How did his parents react?

4. Why did Rudy change his mind about going and where did he end up?
Death’s Diary: 1942 (pages 307-310)

1. Read pages 307-308 (until “…dragged me along for the ride”)  

2. Read the next paragraph on page 308.  

3. Read to the top of page 309 (until “…defined my existence that year”)  

4. Read the rest of page 309.  

5. Read the rest of the section.
The Snowman (pages 311-315)

1. Read page 311 to the middle of page 312. **RESPOND**

2. Read the next paragraph on page 312. **RESPOND**

3. Read until the end of page 312. **RESPOND**

4. Read page 313 until after *Christmas Greetings from Max Vandenburg*. **RESPOND**

5. Read until the top of page 314 (until “… he said he was fine”) **RESPOND**

6. Read the rest of page 314. **RESPOND**

7. Read through the top of page 315 (“…now go”) **RESPOND**

8. Read through the bottom of page 315. **RESPOND**

9. Read through page 316 (until “… you had to”) **RESPOND**

10. Read until the end of page 316. **RESPOND**
Champagne and Accordions (pages 353-358)

1. Read page 353.
2. Why were people preparing for the inevitable? ____________________________________________
3. What was happening in the town? ______________________________________________________
4. What was Hans doing? _________________________________________________________________
5. Read page 354.
6. What was Hans getting for his painting? ________________________________________________
8. When Liesel and Hans worked together what did they do? ________________________________
9. What did Hans do when he had a break? _________________________________________________
10. Read page 356.
11. What did Liesel want? __________________________________________________________________
12. How did Hans mix the paint? ____________________________________________________________
13. Read page 357.
14. Where did the champagne come from? ________________________________________________
15. Why were Hans and Liesel drinking it? _________________________________________________
16. What did Liesel promise never to do? _________________________________________________
17. What did Liesel want to ask papa about? ______________________________________________
18. Read page 358.
19. Why does Liesel want to be oblivious again? ________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

The Trilogy (page 369 only)

20. What is the letter about? Who is it from? ________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Frau Holtzapfel’s Offer (pages 385-388)

22. What happened to their town? ________________________________

23. Read page 386.
24. Why did Frau Holtzapfel come to the Hubermann house? __________

25. Read page 387.
26. What does Frau Holtzapfel want Liesel to do? _________________

27. What does she offer Liesel and Rosa? __________________________

28. Read page 388.
29. What was Liesel thinking while she was with Frau Holtzapfel? __________

30. What happened in Molching at the end of the section? ________________
The Long Walk to Dachau (389 – 396)

Prior Knowledge/Before Reading:

Make a connection with the title of this passage and what you read about in Night

Vocabulary:

Convoy - a group of vehicles (cars, trucks, boats...) traveling together

Remember As you begin to read Death is speaking

Use the strategy visualization to help you understand what is going on.

Read page 389 and complete.

Analyze and interpret the following:

1. Poke at the package of Jews. ___________________________ ____________________________

2. His beard was a ball and chain. ____________________________

3. They could all smell me. ____________________________

Read page 390

4. It is perfect weather for a parade ____________________________

5. How far will they walk? (You may need to check back on 389)

____________________

Read page 391

Re-read the following and determine what is odd about this sentence.

6. More people gathered on the street where a collection of Jews and other criminals had just passed."

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

7. What do you think Hans was going to say to Liesel and why did he decide against it?

__________________________________________________________________________________________
8. Death is speaking and says, “……the Jews...........like a catalog of colors..”
   What is the significance of referring to the Jews in this manner?

9. **Read page 392** and use **visualization** to help you gain a deeper understanding of what is taking place. Try to picture it as if it is a movie.

10. What does the color *silver* symbolize? ________________ Who do we think of when we think of this color? ________________

11. **Analyze:**

   *They had the Fuhrer in their eyes.*

---

**Read page 393 - 394**

12. When Liesel watched the parade of Jews, who did all of them represent to her?

13. How would you feel watching this parade of people passing you in the street?


15. **Analyze:**

   “Other Jews walked past...............watching this small, futile miracle. They streamed by like human water. That day, a few would reach the ocean. They would be handed a white cap.”

   What does this mean?

16. How do you feel about what Hans did? ________________________________
17. Could you imagine anything like this happening today?

______________________________________________________________________________

If so, when and where?

______________________________________________________________________________

18. Tie this passage in with the project on tolerance you did.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

19. Why did Papa and Liesel most regret what Papa did?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

---

Peace (Pages 397 398)

20. What is the main event that takes place on these two pages?

______________________________________________________________________________

---

The Idiot and the Coat Men (399-403)

21. What is the important event that takes place in this passage?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
The Cardplayer (463-464)

1. Who was Reinhold Zucker? ________________________________
2. How old was he? ________________
3. What character trait would you assign to him? ________________
4. What do we know will happen to Zucker? _____________________
5. Predict how Hans will be involved in the end of Zucker’s life._________________________
6. What is the irony in the statement, “It kills me sometimes, how people die.”________________________

The Accident (475-480)

1. What did Zucker ask Hans to do? ________________________________

2. What happened to Zucker because of this? _____________________

3. In the end how did this benefit Hans? __________________________
One Toolbox, One Bleeder, One Bear (page 481-491)

1. Why was Rudy getting angrier? ____________________________

2. What does Liesel think Rudy is going to do? ________________________

3. Why does Rudy say Liesel is not a thief? ________________________

4. What did Rudy say was the purpose of the hammer? Towel? Teddy bear?
   ____________________________

5. What was wrong with Frau Holtzapfel? ____________________________

6. Was Liesel successful in helping Frau Holtzapfel? ____________________________

7. How did Frau Holtzapfel’s son feel after leaving her? ____________________________

8. Who appears at the shelter? ____________________________

9. What does Rudy see near the Amper River? ____________________________

10. What caused the fire near the Amper River? ____________________________

11. Predict who Rudy sees (page 489). ____________________________

12. Interpret the following quote, “It’s probably fair to say that in all the years of Hitler’s reign, no person was able to serve the Fuhrer as loyally as me.”
   ____________________________
THEMES: Provide at least one example of each of the following themes as seen in p. 123-170.

- Words, Reading, and Propaganda -

- Bravery and Cowardice -

- Thievery -

- The Use of and Acknowledgement of Colors -

- Anger and Abandonment -

- Tolerance and Intolerance in Nazi Germany -
The Book Thief Culminating Activity

For your final activity for the novel The Book Thief by Markus Zusak, you can select one of the following activities to complete. This activity will count as a project grade for the ________ quarter and will be due on ____________________________

Activity options:

1. **Alternate ending**- Write a scene giving the story an alternate ending. What might you change? How might the message of the story be different if certain elements of the storyline were different. Write a short explanation of your motivations for the plot changes.

2. **Favorite/ Least Favorite Character**- Write a paragraph describing your favorite character from the novel. Then write another paragraph describing your least favorite character. Each paragraph should include examples from the text to back up your arguments.

3. **Diary**- Choose one character from the novel and create a diary written in that person’s voice about their experiences. Each diary should have at least 10 short entries and span the length of the entire novel.

4. **Map**- The novel gives the reader many physical descriptions of such places as Himmel Street, Munich as a whole, and the bomb shelter. Using the descriptions in the text, create and in-depth map of the landscape of one of the major locations in the novel.

5. **Author Investigation**- Research the life of Markus Zusak and write a short report of his biography. Why might he have been inclined to write a book about the horrors of World War II?

6. **Interviews**- Imagine that a reporter has come to Himmel Street to interview one of the characters from the novel for the newspaper. Create a list of 10 questions that the reporter might ask them, and imagine and record the character’s answers.

7. **Books**- Liesel writes many small books about her experiences throughout the novel. Write and illustrate a short book of your own. Fold computer paper in half and staple it along the middle to fashion a “book” of your own. Bring the published work into class for display.