

The Book Thief

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Literature Practice Worksheets

The Book Thief

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Your Complete Literature Practice Worksheets Guide (For Grades 7-9)

**Multiple Choice Questions, Short Answer & Short Essay Questions,
Mid-Book & Final Test**

Multiple Choice Questions

The Multiple Choice Questions in this Practice Worksheets Guide will test a student's understanding of *The Book Thief*. The questions are broken out into sections, so they focus on specific chapters within the book. This allows you to test and review the book as you proceed through the unit.

Short Answer Questions

Short-answer questions are open-ended questions that require students to create an answer. They are commonly used in examinations to assess the basic knowledge and understanding (low cognitive levels) of a topic before more in-depth assessment questions are asked on the topic.

Short Essay Questions

Short Essay Questions listed in this section require a one to two sentence answer. They ask students to demonstrate a deeper understanding of *The Book Thief* by describing what they have read, rather than just recalling it. The short essay questions evaluate not only whether students have read the material, but also how well they understand and can apply it. They require more thought than a multiple choice question, but are shorter than the essay questions.

Mid-Book Test (Easy, Medium and Hard)

Final Test (Easy, Medium and Hard)

Answer Keys

Multiple Choice

Prologue, A Mountain Range of Rubble, and Part One, The Grave Digger's Handbook

1. Who places Liesel Meminger in foster care?

- (a) Her father.
- (b) Her aunt.
- (c) Her grandfather.
- (d) Her mother.

2. Who is the narrator of this novel?

- (a) Fate.
- (b) Love.
- (c) Hope.
- (d) Death.

3. How does the reader know Liesel's brother is sick?

- (a) He is moaning.
- (b) He is sweating.
- (c) He is coughing.
- (d) He is sneezing.

4. How are Liesel and her brother traveling to the foster care system?

- (a) By ship.
- (b) By train.
- (c) By taxi.
- (d) By airplane.

5. How many armed guards escort Liesel when she helps to bury her dead brother?

- (a) Three.
- (b) Five.
- (c) Two.
- (d) Four.

6. To which German city is Liesel being relocated by the foster care system?

- (a) Munich.
- (b) Hamburg.
- (c) Berlin.
- (d) Stuttgart.

7. Which of the following adjectives best describes Rosa Hubermann?

- (a) Cruel.
- (b) Shy.
- (c) Vulgar.
- (d) Warm.

8. Which of the following instruments does Hans Hubermann play?

- (a) Bagpipes.
- (b) Banjo.
- (c) Accordion.
- (d) Harp.

9. Which of the following activities does Hans Hubermann convince Liesel to do after she has been in the house for a few weeks?

- (a) Take a bath.
- (b) Eat porridge.
- (c) Change her clothes.
- (d) Walk the dogs.

10. Why does Liesel struggle in school?

- (a) Because she cannot do math.
- (b) Because she cannot spell.
- (c) Because she cannot read.
- (d) Because she has no friends.

11. What is the BDM?

- (a) Band of German Girls.
- (b) Girl Scouts.
- (c) Hitler's Youth Organization.
- (d) Cooking Club.

12. What does Rosa do for a living?

- (a) She is a factory worker.
- (b) She is a seamstress.
- (c) She is a laundress.
- (d) She is a midwife.

13. What does Liesel clean off the door frame every day, left by Frau Hollapfel?

- (a) Chicken feathers.
- (b) Eggs.
- (c) Newspaper clippings.
- (d) Spit.

14. What sport does Liesel regularly play with the neighborhood kids?

- (a) Football.
- (b) Dodgeball.
- (c) Soccer.
- (d) Baseball.

15. Which of the following sports is Rudy most interested in?

- (a) Track and Field.
- (b) Gymnastics.
- (c) Swimming.
- (d) Rugby.

16. What does Rudy use to darken his body in the hopes of emulating Jesse Owens?

- (a) Coal.
- (b) Paint.
- (c) Magic Marker.
- (d) Dirt.

17. Which of the following characters teaches Liesel how to read?

- (a) Max.
- (b) Hans.
- (c) Rudy.
- (d) Rosa.

18. What does Hans Hubermann do for a living?

- (a) He is a musician.
- (b) He is a mechanic.
- (c) He is a painter.
- (d) He is a teacher.

Part Two, The Shoulder Shrug

19. At which holiday does Liesel finish reading "The Gravedigger's Handbook"?

- (a) Christmas.
- (b) Thanksgiving.
- (c) Independence Day.
- (d) Easter.

20. What is the name of the street where Liesel lives with the Hubermann family?

- (a) Himmel Street.
- (b) Fimmel Street.
- (c) Mimmel Street.
- (d) Gimmel Street.

21. What does Hans sell in order to buy Liesel two new books?

- (a) Locks of his hair.
- (b) His paintings.
- (c) Homemade candles.
- (d) Hand-rolled cigarettes.

Multiple Choice Key

1. D	11. A	21. D	31. A	41. A	51. A
2. D	12. C	22. B	32. C	42. D	52. A
3. C	13. D	23. C	33. A	43. B	53. B
4. B	14. C	24. D	34. B	44. D	54. A
5. C	15. A	25. D	35. B	45. D	55. D
6. A	16. A	26. A	36. A	46. A	56. B
7. C	17. B	27. C	37. D	47. B	57. A
8. C	18. C	28. D	38. C	48. D	58. A
9. A	19. A	29. D	39. C	49. B	59. B
10. C	20. A	30. B	40. B	50. D	60. B
61. C	71. B	81. C	91. C	101. A	111. B
62. D	72. D	82. D	92. C	102. D	112. B
63. C	73. A	83. C	93. C	103. D	113. C
64. B	74. C	84. C	94. A	104. A	114. C
65. C	75. A	85. C	95. D	105. B	115. C
66. C	76. D	86. D	96. A	106. B	116. A
67. C	77. C	87. D	97. B	107. D	117. B
68. B	78. C	88. B	98. B	108. D	118. B
69. A	79. B	89. C	99. A	109. C	119. C
70. A	80. B	90. A	100. B	110. A	120. C
121. B	131. A	141. C	151. B	161. A	171. A
122. A	132. C	142. D	152. D	162. A	172. A
123. B	133. A	143. D	153. A	163. C	173. A
124. D	134. D	144. B	154. C	164. A	174. A
125. A	135. B	145. B	155. C	165. A	175. A
126. B	136. D	146. A	156. D	166. D	176. B
127. B	137. C	147. A	157. B	167. C	177. B
128. C	138. D	148. A	158. B	168. B	178. C
129. A	139. C	149. D	159. A	169. B	179. A
130. D	140. B	150. D	160. B	170. D	180. B

Short Essay Questions

1. Why is Liesel in a train at the opening of the novel?
2. What happens to Liesel's younger brother while he is on the train at the opening of the novel?
3. What are Liesel's first impressions of Rosa and Hans Hubermann?
4. How does Hans treat Liesel during the first few weeks she is at his home?
5. How does Liesel fare during her first few weeks of school in Munich?
6. What chores is Liesel expected to complete around the house while she is living with Hans and Rosa?
7. How does Rudy Steiner express his admiration for Jesse Owens?
8. How does Liesel celebrate her first Christmas with Hans and Rosa?
9. Where does Rosa get the idea to send Liesel on all of her sales calls for the laundry business?
10. How do Hans and Rosa react when Liesel asks for permission to write letters home to her mother?
11. How do the citizens of Molching decide to celebrate the birthday of the Fueher?
12. Why is the relationship between Hans and Hans Jr. strained?
13. What reaction does Liesel have when she overhears someone use the word "Communist" at the bonfire?
14. How does Liesel manage to get a hold of a copy of the book "The Shoulder Shrug"?

Short Essay Questions Key

1. Why is Liesel in a train at the opening of the novel?

At the opening of the novel, Liesel, her mother, and her young brother are being transported to Munich, Germany by a group of armed guards. Liesel's mother is being taken away for being a communist, and Liesel and her brother are going to be placed in foster care.

2. What happens to Liesel's younger brother while he is on the train at the opening of the novel?

Liesel's younger brother has been sick for most of the time on the train. He is coughing profusely, until he falls silent. Liesel knows that her brother has died. She and her mother disembark from the train to bury him in a small cemetery they pass along the way.

3. What are Liesel's first impressions of Rosa and Hans Hubermann?

Liesel thinks that Rosa is incredibly vulgar and has a foul mouth, but is pleased to realize that she is not cruel. When she meets Hans, she is immediately drawn to him and has a feeling that he has a warm heart.

4. How does Hans treat Liesel during the first few weeks she is at his home?

During the first few weeks, Hans treats Liesel with a gentle kindness. He encourages her to take a bath when she hasn't bathed in weeks. He sits with her during the nights when she has nightmares, and even begins to teach her how to read.

5. How does Liesel fare during her first few weeks of school in Munich?

During her first few weeks in school, Liesel performs poorly because she cannot read. She finds herself getting into fights on the playground because other children make fun of her illiteracy and the fact that she is in foster care.

6. What chores is Liesel expected to complete around the house while she is living with Hans and Rosa?

While living with Hans and Rosa, Liesel is expected not only to help cook and clean around the house, she is expected to balance that with her schoolwork, and helping Rosa with her job as a laundress in the neighborhood. Liesel travels from house to house collecting and returning laundry to their various clients.

7. How does Rudy Steiner express his admiration for Jesse Owens?

Rudy is infatuated with Olympic runner, Jesse Owens. To show his admiration, Rudy attempts to blacken his entire body by rubbing a lump of coal on his skin. His father warns him that admiring a black man could have catastrophic effects on the family.

Short Answer Questions

1. Who places Liesel Meminger in foster care?
2. Who is the narrator of this novel?
3. How does the reader know Liesel's brother is sick?
4. How are Liesel and her brother traveling to the foster care system?
5. How many armed guards escort Liesel when she helps to bury her dead brother?
6. To which German city is Liesel being relocated by the foster care system?
7. Which of the following adjectives best describes Rosa Hubermann?
8. Which of the following instruments does Hans Hubermann play?
9. Which of the following activities does Hans Hubermann convince Liesel to do after she has been in the house for a few weeks?
10. Why does Liesel struggle in school?
11. What is the BDM?
12. What does Rosa do for a living?
13. What does Liesel clean off the door frame every day, left by Frau Hollapfel?
14. What sport does Liesel regularly play with the neighborhood kids?
15. Which of the following sports is Rudy most interested in?

Short Answer Questions Key

1. Who places Liesel Meminger in foster care?

Her mother.

2. Who is the narrator of this novel?

Death.

3. How does the reader know Liesel's brother is sick?

He is coughing.

4. How are Liesel and her brother traveling to the foster care system?

By train.

5. How many armed guards escort Liesel when she helps to bury her dead brother?

Two.

6. To which German city is Liesel being relocated by the foster care system?

Munich.

7. Which of the following adjectives best describes Rosa Hubermann?

Vulgar.

8. Which of the following instruments does Hans Hubermann play?

Accordian.

9. Which of the following activities does Hans Hubermann convince Liesel to do after she has been in the house for a few weeks?

Take a bath.

10. Why does Liesel struggle in school?

Because she cannot read.

11. What is the BDM?

Band of German Girls.