Surviving Hitler

‘s

Journal

Started on: ___________ Completed on: ___________
Plan Your Schedule

My group members are: ____________________________________________

We plan to read *Surviving Hitler* and meet on these dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Date We Will Finish Reading</th>
<th>Date We Will Discuss</th>
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<tbody>
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Our Exchange meeting will be on this date: ________________.
Prepare to Read

Think About What You Know
The World War II prison camps were crowded and filthy. The prisoners had very little food and water, no clean places to sleep, and no medical care. How do you think some of the prisoners survived? What would you have done to survive?

Preview and Predict

• Look at the front cover.
• Read the summary on the back cover.
• Read The Exchange question on the title page.
• Read the Table of Contents.

1. Look at the cover. The teenager in the front is Jack Mandelbaum. Who are the people behind him? What do you notice about them?

2. Page through the book and look at the photographs. What do they tell you about Jack Mandelbaum and his experiences? What will you learn about his life?
Use a Reading Strategy

Use a Cause and Effect Chart

As you read each part of *Surviving Hitler*, use a Cause and Effect Chart to show what happened in Jack’s life and why.

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<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Causes</th>
<th>Effects</th>
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Respond to Chapter 1

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Jack was proud of Gdynia and his family. What makes you proud of your family and home?

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

2. **Character** Jack always had enough to eat. When he was not hungry, he gave away his food to poor children. What does this tell you about the kind of person Jack was?

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

3. **Judgments** Jack and his friends were happy and excited when the schools closed and the war was coming. Were they right to be happy? Why or why not?

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________
Respond to Chapter 2

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Tell about a time you traveled to a different place to visit your relatives or a friend. What was it like?

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

2. **Author’s Point of View** The author told the story from Jack’s point of view. Do you think this is a good way to tell about the Holocaust? What other ways could the author have told the story?

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

3. **Sequence** What events happened after the family went to Grandfather’s village? Did Jack expect they would happen?

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________
Respond to Chapter 3

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Jack was treated differently because he was Jewish. Have people ever treated you differently because of your ethnicity or ideas? How did you respond?

2. **Conclusions** What was life like for non-Jews? How were they treated differently or the same as Jews?

3. **Paraphrase** Tell in your own words why Jack and others were forced to watch the Catholic man be hanged on page 38.
Respond to Chapter 4

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Tell about a time you were afraid. What happened? Could your parents or friends help you?

2. **Sequence** Tell in order how the Nazis got Jack from his house to the compound that was filled with prisoners.

3. **Monitor Reading** Choose one part of Chapter 4 that was difficult for you to understand. Ask two questions about that part. Write the answers to the questions below.
Respond to Chapters 5–6

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response  Aaron taught Jack the rules of the camp and gave him advice. Have you ever helped a stranger? What did you do? Why?

2. Opinion  Do you think the kapos were wrong to work for the Nazis? Why or why not?

3. Inference  Jack and the other prisoners were very tired and hungry after their long march. They worked to build the road anyway. How did they find the strength to work?
Respond to Chapter 7

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response  Jack decided that hate was a negative emotion that would make him weak. Do you feel that way about hate? Why or why not?

2. Monitor Reading  Find one part of Chapter 7 that was difficult to understand. Reread it. Then summarize what happened in that part.

3. Problem and Solution  Lice were a problem in all of the camps. What things did Jack do so that he would have less lice at Blechhammer?
Respond to Chapter 8

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response Jack tried to survive by being clever and alert. Tell about a time you had to be clever or alert. What happened? How did your actions help or hurt the situation?

2. Problem and Solution The guards didn’t tell the prisoners any information. How did the prisoners learn about the war?

3. Paraphrase Read the last paragraph of Chapter 8. In your own words, tell what Jack said.
Respond to Chapters 9–10

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response**  Moniek gave Jack hope. How have friends helped you? How can friends make bad situations seem better?

2. **Problem and Solution**  Why was being sick with dysentery so dangerous in the prison camps? What kept Jack alive?

3. **Judgments**  Moniek acted silly and fun even though he was in the concentration camp. Was this a good way to act? Why or why not?
Respond to Chapters 11–12

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Jack thought it was a miracle that he got to work in the kitchen. Tell about a time that you have been in a bad situation, but something good happened to change it.

2. **Judgments** Jack and Moniek decided to take some risks when they were in the kitchen. Do you think the risks were worth it? Why or why not?

3. **Latin and Greek Roots** The root word in *commandant* comes from Latin and means “to order.” Other words that have this root are *command, commandment,* and *commandeer.* Use a dictionary to find the meanings of these words. Then, write sentences with the words.
Respond to Chapter 13

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response  Jack had to wait a long time for his freedom. Tell about a time you have had to wait for something you wanted. Was it hard to wait? Why?

2. Goal and Outcome  Jack’s goal was to live through the war and to find his family again. Did he accomplish it? What was the outcome?

3. Latin and Greek Roots  The root word in liberation comes from Latin and means “to set free.” Other words that have this root are liberty, liberate, and liberal. Use a dictionary to find the meanings of these words. Then, write sentences with the words.
Respond to Chapter 14 and The Concentration Camps

Cause and Effect Chart


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response**  Jack found out that the day he left the camp was May 7, 1945. He never forgot it. What dates are important to you? Why?

2. **Viewing** Look at the pictures in Chapter 14 and on page 133. How do these pictures help you understand Jack’s story better? How do they make you feel?

3. **Author’s Point of View** How does the author feel about the Holocaust and concentration camps? How can you tell?