

**Welcome to  
8th Grade ELA**

Dear 8th Graders and Parents,

The summer slide: it sounds fun, but it can make the transition from seventh grade to eighth grade very difficult. Saints John and Paul School students can start strong in September if their reading habits don't "slide" away during the summer.

Students entering 8th grade must read: **8A: The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak and **8G: The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** by John Boyne. After reading the novels, they are to complete the given exam/writing project. This will be collected and graded during the first week of school and will count towards their first quarter ELA grade.

Please encourage your child to read other books for enjoyment this summer. Have a terrific summer!

Sincerely,

*Rose Scozzari*

**Mrs. Rose Scozzari**

Name:

Incoming 8A

Date:

The Book Thief- end of book

Section 1: Multiple Choice: Circle or highlight the correct answer.

1. Where did Liesel's brother die?
  - a. In a hospital
  - b. On a train
  - c. At home in bed
  - d. In Hans' and Rosa's basement
2. Which book did Liesel steal first?
  - a. The Duden dictionary
  - b. The Shoulder Shrug
  - c. The Grave-diggers Handbook
  - d. The Whistler
3. What is the English translation of Himmel Street?
  - a. Heaven Street
  - b. Hotdog Street
  - c. Rubble Street
  - d. High Street
4. What is the color of Hans' eyes?
  - a. Silver
  - b. Blue
  - c. black
  - d. brown
5. Hans befriends Liesel by teaching her to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Whistle
  - b. Paint houses
  - c. play the accordion
  - d. Roll his cigarettes

6. Why did Rudy cover his body in coal?
- a. To be invisible at night.
  - b. To play a black cat in the school play.
  - c. To imitate Jesse Owens.
  - d. To avoid joining the Hitler Youth.
7. Why is Hans Jr. belligerent with his father?
- a. He is angry because Hans Sr. is poor.
  - b. He is angry that Hans Sr. is hiding a Jew.
  - c. He is angry that Hans Sr. isn't a member of the Nazi party.
  - d. He is angry that Hans Sr. plays the accordion.
8. At the book burning when Liesel says she hates Hitler, Hans slaps her. He does it because \_\_\_\_.
- a. He is patriotic and loves Hitler.
  - b. It is dangerous for Liesel to speak against Hitler in public.
  - c. She just stole a book, and Hans wants her to know stealing was wrong.
  - d. He is sick of her complaining.
9. Ilsa Hermann lost her son. He died \_\_\_\_.
- a. In Russia
  - b. In a car accident
  - c. in WW1
  - d. During childbirth
10. In order to stay in shape in the basement, Max \_\_\_\_.
- a. Does pushups and imagines he's boxing Hitler.
  - b. Does sit-ups and imagines competing in the Olympics.
  - c. Does jumping jacks and imagines swimming in the Amper River.
  - d. Does yoga and imagines marrying Rosa Hubermann.

11. When Rudy rescued Liesel's book from the river, he hoped to be rewarded with \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. An apple
- b. A cigarette
- c. a reading lesson
- d. A kiss

12. When Max gets sick, Rosa and Hans are very worried that he \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Will need medicine they can't afford.
- b. Will have something that is contagious.
- c. Will cough and alert the neighbors.
- d. Will die and they will have to get rid of his body.

13. At which battle was Michael Holtzapfel injured?

- a. Berlin
- b. Leningrad
- c. Moscow
- d. Stalingrad

14. After he gives bread to the elderly Jewish prisoner being paraded through town, Hans' attitude can best be described as \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Proud for having intervened.
- b. Disgusted for having watched the parade.
- c. Sorrowful because of how the Jews were treated.
- d. Panicked for having jeopardized Max's safety.

15. According to Death, everyone in Nazi Germany had to take their turn being punished. What was Hans' punishment?

- a. Being sent to war
- b. Being sent to Dachau
- c. Being forced to memorize Mein Kampf
- d. Losing his job.

16. After Hans leaves, Rosa stays up holding his accordion each night because \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. She doesn't want Liesel to play with it.
- b. She wants to learn to play it herself.
- c. It makes her feel closer to Hans.
- d. She is worried it will be stolen.

17. After Liesel tears up a book in Ilsa Hermann's library, Ilsa brings Liesel a blank notebook so that \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Liesel can write a letter to her mother.
- b. Liesel can write her own story.
- c. Liesel can do her math homework.
- d. Liesel can draw a picture of Max.

18. When Himmel Street is bombed, Liesel is not killed because \_\_\_\_\_?

- a. She is in Ilsa Hermann's library.
- b. She is riding her bike with Rudy.
- c. She is in the Hubermann's basement.
- d. She is looking for Max in the forest.

19. Rudy finally gets what he wants from Liesel after the bombing when she gives him \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. A teddy bear.
- b. The fourth Hitler Youth medal.
- c. A kiss.
- d. A book.

20. Of the following characters, who survived the bombing on Himmel Street?

- a. Rudy
- b. Nobody
- c. Rosa
- d. Hans

21. When Death comes for Liesel, he gives her a book he rescued from the rubble the night of the bombing. What is it?

- a. The Book Thief
- b. The Grave-diggers Handbook
- c. The Whistler
- d. The Word Shaker

22. When Liesel asks Death if he read the book, he tells her he is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Not a fast reader.
- b. Sorry for what happened during the war.
- c. Haunted by humans
- d. Jealous that she gets to die.

## Section 2: Culminating Activity.

Choose ONE of the following activities to complete.

1). **Book Review:** Read a number of different book reviews from different sources. Try to identify the key points that form the framework of a successful review. These points include:

- plot summary
- description and discussion of characters
- information about the settings
- explanation of the themes
- your personal response to the book
- a recommendation and rating (usually a mark out of 10; a star rating or grade)
- you may also provide information about the author

Task: Write a book review of The Book Thief for publication in a newspaper, magazine, or journal of teenage fiction.

2). **Creative Writing:** Near the end of **The Book Thief** there is a big gap in the time between Liesel and Max reuniting at the end of the war to Liesel's death in Sydney. What do you think the rest of Liesel's life turned out to be like? What effect did the war have on her personality?

Task: Write another chapter in the life of Liesel. This could be:

- just after she and Max reunite
- the events and decisions that led her to leave Germany
- who she married and how they met
- anything else of your choice

Your chapter must complement the author's style.

