



Croydon Maroondah College

English Department



Chapter 15, 16 and 17 Questions

1. Why are the Nazi soldiers staring at the group of children when they hold up their toothbrushes? (133)
2. What is Felix's plan to save Zelda? (136-138)
3. Barney is faced with a dilemma. What is a dilemma? What dilemma is Barney faced with and what does he choose?
4. Why is the train journey painful and miserable? (141)
5. Felix sacrifices his stories while on the train. Why is this a significant event in the novel? (144)
6. Why don't the Nazis need to stop the train when some of the men jump out? (147)
7. Why does Barney not jump off the train? (147)
8. The final chapter is about luck. Explain how Felix is lucky?
9. "Metal syringes". Explain how this short sentence carries so much dramatic impact.

Extension tasks

Reflection:

'Resilience' - "You know how when things are really bad and you feel like curling up and hiding, but instead you take deep breaths and the air reaches your brain and helps you think better?" (p.134). There are many examples of the strategies Felix uses to keep focusing on what is good or hopeful.

Explain how Felix and the other characters in this novel are resilient.

Reflection:

Your thoughts. Describe in about 8 lines, your thoughts and feelings about the story's ending.

(a) Explain what struck you the most in the character of Felix?

(b) What is the dominant emotion you feel at the conclusion of the novel?