

Ben Lesser Discussion Chapter 1 (0-30 minutes)

1. What city was Ben Lesser born in?

- A) Warsaw
- B) Krakow
- C) Lodz
- D) Wroclaw

2. How many members were in Ben Lesser's family?

- A) 5
- B) 7
- C) 12
- D) 10

3. Which two family members of Ben Lesser survived the Holocaust?

- A) Ben and Morris
- B) Ben and Lola
- C) Lola and Goldie
- D) Morris and Goldie

4. What business did Ben's father own?

- A) Wine and syrup manufacturing
- B) A bakery
- C) A shoe factory
- D) A bookstore

5. What did Ben's father create that was similar to KitKat?

- A) Chocolate covered wafers
- B) Gummy bears
- C) Hard candies
- D) Lollipops

6. Describe the scene that Ben Lesser witnessed from his bedroom window early one morning.

7. What happened five days after the occupation of Krakow?

8. What restrictions were placed on Jewish people under the new ordinances?

9. Where did Ben Lesser's family have to relocate, avoiding the ghetto?

- A) Niepolomice
- B) New York
- C) Warsaw outskirts
- D) Belzec

10. What was Ben Lesser's job at the uniform factory?

- A) Sewing buttons
- B) Tailoring
- C) Cutting fabric
- D) Shoe making

Ben Lesser Discussion Chapter 2 (31-60 minutes)

1. Where did the friendly Jewish policeman guide Michael and Lola for their next hiding spot?
 - A) A water tank
 - B) A basement
 - C) An attic
 - D) A barn

2. According to Jewish tradition, how soon are the deceased supposed to be buried?
 - A) Within 7 days
 - B) Within 24 hours
 - C) Immediately
 - D) Within 3 days

3. Why did Lola and Michael go first in the truck?
 - A) They knew the route
 - B) To test the trustworthiness of the driver
 - C) They were the bravest
 - D) There was not enough space for everyone

4. Upon reaching Hungary, what legal process did Ben and his brother have to go through to become legalized?
 - A) Apply for citizenship
 - B) Go to a local government office
 - C) Go to jail
 - D) D) None of the above

5. How did the group manage to avoid detection by the soldiers while being smuggled in the truck?

6. Describe the conditions that Michael and Lola found when they lowered themselves into the hiding spot.

7. How did the situation change when the Jewish policeman and his family asked for help?

Name: _____

Ben Lesser Discussion Chapter 3 (60-90 minutes)

1. What is the significance of the number 41212 in the narrative?
 - A) It was the Ben's identification number.
 - B) It was the time of day when a significant event occurred.
 - C) It was the number of people present during a roll call.
 - D) It was the code for the labor camp.

2. Why did Ben keep his shoes on during the shower?
 - A) He forgot to take them off.
 - B) They were a gift from his uncle and the shoes had diamonds in them.
 - C) He did not want to lose them.
 - D) It was a form of silent protest.

3. What does the act of giving his uncle diamonds for a job in the kitchen reveal about the Ben's priorities?
 - A) Wealth
 - B) Family well-being
 - C) Personal survival
 - D) Rebellion against the camp authorities

4. What was the consequence for not following the instructions exactly during the punishment?
 - A) Extra food rations
 - B) Immediate release from the camp
 - C) Starting the count over or potentially being shot
 - D) Transfer to a different camp

5. What were the conditions of the death march?
 - A) Pleasant and orderly
 - B) Chaotic but survivable
 - C) Harsh with immediate execution for those who could not keep up
 - D) Well-managed with plenty of rest

6. Evaluate the Ben's feelings and experiences during the death march and his survival.

7. Discuss the significance of Ben being able to complete his punishment without error.

8. Describe the emotions Ben might have felt upon receiving the striped clothes and number 41212.

Name: _____

Ben Lesser Discussion Chapter 4 (90 minutes to the end)

1. What was the reason Ben had to get bread?

- A) He was hungry.
- B) B) He needed it to trade for something else.
- C) C) He was trying to escape.
- D) D) He wanted to share it with his cousin.

2. What can be inferred about the setting when Ben says "the train is still shuttling back and forth"?

- A) It was during peacetime.
- B) It was a form of transportation for the public.
- C) It was part of a wartime scenario.
- D) It was a regular passenger train.

3. How many people walked out alive from the train, according to the narrator?

- A) 7000
- B) 18
- C) 4
- D) 60

4. What was the tragic outcome after Ben's cousin ate the Spam offered by the GIs?

- A) He felt better immediately.
- B) He got very sick.
- C) He was taken to a hospital.
- D) Ben's cousin died.

5. What was the remarkable event that occurred when Ben visited his friend Rachel in the hospital?

- A) He discovered his lost sister Lola.
- B) He found out he was being sent to America.
- C) Rachel gave him an important message.
- D) He decided to stay in the hospital.

6. Reflect on the impact that the arrival of the American GIs had on the survivors, as depicted in the narrative.

7. Analyze the narrator's feelings when he is picked up by the Polish Jesuit priest and given encouragement.

8. Discuss the themes of survival, resilience, and family as they are presented in the Ben's story.
