

## PART SEVEN

**Vocabulary:** Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. depleted     | a. fear of future trouble or evil |
| 2. trilogy      | b. used up                        |
| 3. formidable   | c. pretend                        |
| 4. loathsome    | d. dreadful; menacing             |
| 5. apprehension | e. useless                        |
| 6. feign        | f. unchangeable                   |
| 7. immutable    | g. three-part work of literature  |
| 8. futile       | h. offensive; disgusting          |

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- Having enjoyed the first two plays, I looked forward to seeing the last play in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- My feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ grew as the storm approached.
- Once our supplies of food and water were \_\_\_\_\_, we knew we had to be rescued before nightfall.
- With a cast protecting my broken leg, I knew it would be \_\_\_\_\_ to try out for the basketball team.
- Afraid that I would be a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ competitor, my opponent dropped out of the tennis match.
- The cause of the \_\_\_\_\_ odor that filled the kitchen was a glass of milk that had been left out on the counter overnight.
- Having been tipped off ahead of time, I could only \_\_\_\_\_ astonishment when everyone cried, "Surprise."
- Faced with the host's set of \_\_\_\_\_ rules and regulations, the guests became uncomfortable and left early.

## Part Seven (cont.)

### Questions:

1. What caused the brief period of contentment for Liesel and Papa Hubermann during the summer of 1942?
2. Why did Rudy want to excel at athletic competition?
3. Why did Liesel conclude that she was a criminal even though Ilse Hermann gave her permission to steal books?
4. Why didn't Death feel sympathy for the Germans who hid in their basements during the air raids?
5. Why did the possible bombing of Molching place Max in particular danger?
6. What service did Liesel perform during the second air raid on Molching?
7. Why did Max have to leave 33 Himmel Street?
8. Why was Hans Hubermann guilt-ridden days after the incident at the march?

### Questions for Discussion:

1. Why do you suppose Rudy got himself disqualified from the final race of the day and then left his medals behind?
2. Why do you think the author included entries from the dictionary/thesaurus given Liesel by Ilse Hermann?
3. Why do you think the author placed the parade of Jews on their way to Dachau in the unfolding story of *The Book Thief*?
4. Why might Death have agreed with Hans Hubermann that his act of compassion was "stupid"?

### Literary Devices:

- I. *Irony*—Why is it ironic that a book helped the Germans live through the second air raid in Molching?

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Why is it ironic that Frau Holtzapfels wanted Liesel to continue reading that same book to her?

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Why is it ironic that Hans suffered feelings of guilt after giving the dying Jewish man a piece of bread?

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**Part Seven (cont.)**

- II. *Allusion*—An allusion is a literary reference to a familiar person, place, or event. Allusions may give readers a common reference point and also confer authenticity on a work of literature. For example, in this section of the novel, the narrator explains that the Jewish prisoners were being marched through the streets of Molching to demonstrate the efficiency of the Dachau work camp. If you are not familiar with the name Dachau, do some research to learn about what happened to prisoners of that camp.
- III. *Extended Metaphor*—An extended metaphor is a suggested or implied comparison that continues on. The chapter “The Long Walk to Dachau” begins with the events of the day being compared to “an ocean sky, with whitecap clouds.” Scan the chapter and find other examples of events being compared to stormy waters.
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- IV. *Personification*—What is being personified as Liesel contemplates the glorious summer with Papa that is coming to an abrupt end?

The brightness had shown suffering the way.

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**Social Studies Connection: Hitler Youth**

Do some research to find out how young people were indoctrinated into Nazism. What was the purpose of such organizations? How did they fit into the psychology of fascism and militarism? Prepare a brief written or oral report on your findings.

**Writing Activity:**

1. Imagine that you are Max and are able to write a letter to the family that has sheltered you before you decided to flee. Express your gratitude to the Hubermanns, your special fondness for Liesel, and your criticism of Nazi Germany as it appeared in Molching.
2. Imagine that you are an objective multi-national observer assigned to report on conditions in Molching during World War II. Write that report.