



MACRAT PACK
VOLUME 15.3 AND 15.4
(GET) ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas
Suggested Answers

Chapter 1

- 1.1 many servants / large house / important guests / deferential attitude towards family
- 1.2 Father's employer & lady friend [Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun]
- 1.3 an important job / promotion post – a position that requires authority and a man in uniform with a high rank
- 1.4 aloof, authoritarian father
sympathetic mother
annoying elder sister [Gretel]
young, innocent, naïve Bruno

Chapter 2

- 2.1 no neighbouring houses – no friends to play with – desolate / lonely – much smaller than house in Berlin – depressing atmosphere – no laughter – no bannister to slide down – does not feel like 'home'

Chapter 3

- 3.1 illustrates tension between brother and sister – Bruno feels inferior – points to gap between siblings; "Hopeless case": no chance of establishing closeness; "Trouble": long history of conflict
- 3.2 clear mispronunciation
ironic charm + childlikeness
'Out-With' enforces sense of isolation/exclusion
- 3.3 'hollow': no substance; crucial part is missing
'collapse': ironic pointer to future events (foreshadowing)
emphasises sense of not belonging
clearly not homely / comforting / secure

Chapter 4

- 4.1 *Everywhere* = emphasises number of prisoners; vastness
tall, short, old, young = everyone included; lists of all sorts of people
stood perfectly still = trying to avoid notice; suggests distress or trauma
hands by their sides = passivity; have given up
trying = desperation; weakness?
opening and closing quickly = unfeeling; suggests aggression and dominance
chain gang = reminiscent of slavery; like prisoners
pushing wheelbarrows = hard labour; reader (& Bruno) wonder why
out of sight = secrecy, mystery

staring at the ground = avoiding eye contact; boredom? fear? hopelessness?

sort of game = ironic; reader knows this is not a game

crutches = injured/maimed; emphasises weak/sick condition of prisoners

bandages = injuries; hints at torture ill-treatment

carried spades = hard labour; reader wonders why

a place = mystery; sense of foreboding; another disappearance

could no longer be seen = ominous; implied threat; strong sense of foreboding

- 4.2 Answer must mention contrast between children and soldiers – group being forced apart by soldiers’ actions – intended humiliation as soldiers laugh at and applaud children.

1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a clue! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor • Out of depth • Refers to only 1 or 2 phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average • Pleasing attempt • Refers to some relevant phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good • Shows insight • Refers to most relevant phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent • Insightful • Refers to all relevant phrases

- 4.3 Free association

Chapter 5

- 5.1 Father is asking/instructing Bruno to distance himself from his fellow human beings. This goes against most moral and religious teachings. Father is stifling Bruno’s curiosity and thinking skills. He does not allow his son to question issues and develop his own opinions.
- 5.2 It is expected of him. Bruno believes the action will win Father’s approval. Bruno has been ‘brainwashed’ into copying the gestures of the soldiers around him.

Chapter 6

- 6.1 Bruno is correct. The people in ‘Out-With’ have not chosen to be there – the prisoners are there against their will and the soldiers have been ordered to serve at Out-With.
- 6.2 Maria recognises that father is, in essence, a decent man. She cannot understand how he could be party to the atrocities carried out under his command.

Chapter 7

- 7.1 uniform = symbol of authority
instils respect
misleading – Kotler appears older in uniform
- 7.2 Kotler’s personality – must substantiate from text
arrogant and unfriendly – did not greet Bruno
air of menace – Bruno felt a chill in his presence
aware of his appearance – immaculate uniform and overuse of cologne
condescending – speaks down to Bruno – makes jokes that he knows Bruno will not understand
mean-spirited, prejudiced – his treatment of Pavel

- 7.3 Mother would have been afraid of Father's reaction – he would have been angry if he found out that an inmate [Jew] had been on such close/intimate terms with his son.

Chapter 8

- 8.1 She does not agree with the Nazi party policies i.e. with what the uniform represents; she is disappointed by her son's choices.
- 8.2 "Dressing up like a puppet on a string"
simile is appropriate
Father being compared to a puppet who is controlled by others – doing the dirty work of others
- 8.3. BE FLEXIBLE
e.g. ... a traitor
... disloyal to the family values that he was taught
... too stupid to see what is happening politically

Chapter 9

- 9.1 BE FLEXIBLE
assess answer on mature insight, thoughtfulness
mention should be made of the value of escapism and imagination

1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a clue! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor Little/no insight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average Refers to imagination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good Shows maturity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent Well thought out, extra effort

Chapter 10

- 10.1 The reference to the Star of David would be a confirmation to the educated reader that the boy is a Jew in Auschwitz concentration camp. Bruno clearly does not recognise the significance of the star.
- 10.2 reference to the 'striped pyjamas', the apparel of all concentration camp inmates / the "forlorn" and "sad" expression on the boy's face / the boy's typically Jewish name, Shmuel / Shmuel is from Poland – scene of first Nazi invasion and rounding up of Jews / Bruno's references to overheard adult conversations about German superiority / Bruno's references to the sounds of war in Berlin
- 10.3 If Bruno had not gone exploring, he would not have exposed himself and his family to the tragedy and heartache that follows.

Chapter 11

- 11.1 BE FLEXIBLE
e.g. demanding / thoughtless / rude / autocratic / arrogant / frightening / humourless / chauvinistic
- 11.2 contrast in appearance (short, dark, ugly vs blonde, attractive, smiling) / the Fury speaks down to the children / Eva makes time for the children / engages them in conversation / Fury shouts at Eva, expects instant obedience / Fury does not open door for Eva

Chapter 12

- 12.1 *and ... and ... and* = creates sense of many people/overcrowding
the wall = symbol of separation from other people
hated the wall = strong/emotive word; emphasises depth of feeling
always noisy & impossible to sleep = detail of unpleasantness of ghetto
everyone = no one was spared
wherever they could = sense of chaos and panic
everyone = no one is spared
the trucks took us to a train = forced, sense of coercion
horrible & no air & smelled awful = description shows how cruel train journey was
- 12.2 highlights injustice of action
 contrasts with Bruno's 'forced removal' from Berlin
 horror increased when told in simplistic version by child
 gives historical/social context
 dehumanising aspect of removal
- 12.3.1 Shmuel: 'horrible' / 'too many of us' / 'no air' / 'smelled awful'
 Bruno: 'comfortable' / 'few people' / 'plenty of seats' / 'fresh air'
- 12.3.2 Shmuel: horror – disgust – description shows inhumane treatment – overcrowding emphasised – olfactory
 Bruno: comfort and luxury emphasised – atmosphere of vacation and relaxation – sense of openness and pleasant countryside
- 12.3.3 BE FLEXIBLE
 ... an awful, frightening experience.
 ... a pleasant, exciting experience.
 This shows that ... *allow for any suitable, thoughtful comment*

Chapter 13

- 13.1 In earlier chapters, Kotler's belittling of Bruno is highlighted. His arrogance and rudeness have been illustrated. When Shmuel hears of Kotler, he 'shivers' and refuses to speak of him. Kotler's denial of his father at the dinner table seems monstrous. His reaction to Pavel's mishap with the wine bottle is extreme and instils fear in others.
- 13.2 BE FLEXIBLE
 Must refer to Herr Kotler's choice to leave Germany in 1938 – doubtless as he disagreed with the politics of the time.

Chapter 14

- 14.1 BE FLEXIBLE
 answer must allude to fate common to most concentration camp inmates (gassing / death due to ill health / abuse)
 for full marks – must refer to text

Chapter 15

- 15.1 Bruno denied knowing Shmuel when asked by Lieutenant Kotler. Shmuel was beaten afterwards and Bruno felt guilty.

Chapter 16

- 16.1 Bruno has had his head shaved because of lice. He now looks like Shmuel, who is also shaven-headed.

Chapter 17

- 17.1 Mother is unhappy as she is lonely – and Lieutenant Kotler has been transferred.
- 17.2 Negative words e.g ‘horrible’
She seems desperate e.g. ‘I just can’t stand it any more’ ; ‘You stay if you want to’
- 17.3 She feels that the place is unsuitable for them and is very lonely. She puts pressure on Father for the family to return to Berlin.
- 17.4 Relieved / overjoyed – preparations are speedy – the house is cleaned and they plan to leave within a week.
- 17.5 Mother wishes for a return to ‘normality’ and a return to the domestic routines of the past. She hopes that the whole family will be reunited – in their own house in Berlin.
- 17.6 BE FLEXIBLE 4 x 3 marks
Ralf has agreed to ...
Living at Out-With has been ...
... the children. Mainly because ...
When I get back to Berlin I plan to ...

Chapter 18

- 18.1 clues:
Shmuel’s father is missing
reference to brutality of Bruno’s father
Bruno’s comment that he’s never been to Shmuel’s side of the fence
lifting the fence so that a small boy could fit underneath
shaven head
striped pyjamas
the plan to search for Shmuel’s father

Chapter 19

- 19.1 BE FLEXIBLE
Learners must give reasons for feelings of shock, horror, disbelief, disgust ...
- 19.2 BE FLEXIBLE
What reader imagines is far worse than a written description – far too terrible a fate to capture in words

Chapter 20

- 20.1 BE FLEXIBLE
Learners must comment on irony – and refer to modern examples of genocide (e.g. Serbia/Ruanda)

[Total: 185 marks]