

## The Boy in the Striped Pajamas: Chapters 6-10

1. Explain how Maria came to work for Bruno's family

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2. Read the following passage: "...he has a lot of kindness in his soul, truly he does, which makes me wonder..." "Wonder what?" asked Bruno. "Wonder what he...how he can..." "How he can **what?**" insisted Bruno. What is Maria alluding to in this conversation?

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3. Do you think that Bruno's father could be as kind a man as Maria describes and still be a Nazi Officer?

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4. Why is Maria grateful to the Commandant, Bruno's father?

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5. Why is Maria so upset when Bruno keeps complaining that his father made a terrible mistake in coming to Out-With?

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6. Do you agree with Maria that Bruno should keep his criticism to himself?

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7. To what is Maria referring when she says that it is not up to her and Bruno to change things? Why do Bruno and Maria both feel like crying after she makes this statement?

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8. What causes both Bruno and Gretel to feel uncomfortable with Lieutenant Kotler?

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9. How does Pavel help Bruno after his accident?

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10. Why is Bruno surprised to find out that Pavel is a doctor?

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11. What does Pavel mean when he tells Bruno that he thinks he has always been at Out-With?

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12. Why does Bruno's mother take credit for cleaning Bruno up after his fall? What does this suggest about her?

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13. If you knew Lieutenant Kotler, how would you feel about him? Is he the type of person you would want to be friends with? Why or why not?

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14. What about the character Pavel? What type of person do you think he is? Is Pavel the type of person you would want to be friends with? Why or why not?

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15. Why did the last play Bruno and Gretel performed with Grandmother end in disaster?

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16. Why was Grandmother unimpressed with her son's new uniform?

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17. Who is Herr Liszt and why does he dislike storybooks?

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18. Why does Bruno decide to explore to find out more about the people in the striped pajamas?

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19. Why does Bruno think that Shmuel's face is strange?

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20. When Bruno states that he and Shmuel are like twins, why does Shmuel reply, "A little bit"?

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21. What changes take place at Out-With in Chapter 9?

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22. What does Bruno notice when the two groups (pajama group and the uniform group) mixed?

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23. What does the following passage reveal about Bruno's character? "*...taking a deep breath and beginning his journey. The one thing Bruno tried not to think about was that he had been told on countless occasions by both Mother and Father that he was not allowed to walk in this directions, that he was not allowed anywhere near the fence or the camp, and most particularly that exploration was banned at Out-With. With now exceptions.*"

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24. The boy Bruno sees has an armband that looks like this:  What is this on his armband? What does this let us know about Shmuel, the boy Bruno meets?

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25. What do you think was the cause of the argument between Bruno's father and Grandmother?

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26. How do you think Bruno's father would define the word patriot? How might Grandmother's definition of the word be different?

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27. Do you think that Shmuel is as naïve as Bruno?

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28. If you were Shmuel, how would you answer Bruno's last questions: *"Why are there so many people on that side of the fence? And what are you all doing there?"*

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29. Do you think that Bruno will do something when he finds out more about the other side of the fence?

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