

1. Spiegelman uses animal metaphors to represent different nationalities and ethnicities of people (e.g. Germans as cats, Jews as mice, Poles as Pigs, Americans as Dogs). Why do you believe he used animals, rather than humans, to tell his story? Do you think this metaphor is effective?
2. What was the purpose of the Prisoner on the Hell Planet portion of the book?
3. Vladek and Mala had a very different relationship from Vladek and Anja. Why did Vladek remarry? What was Anja and Vladek's relationship like throughout the war?
4. Why did Vladek's father not want him to serve in the military?
5. Why do you believe Vladek destroyed Anja's diaries, letters, and photographs? Why is Art so angry that these were destroyed?
6. How did Vladek's Holocaust experiences contribute to the kind of person he became?
7. On page 60 he saw the future? What do you think about that? Did it actually happen?
8. What role does wealth play throughout the book?
9. What did you think of little Richieu's death? How has his death impacted Art, Vladek, and Anja?
10. How did the idea of family change throughout the book?
11. Why did Artie call his dad a murderer?