

Maus II Reading & eZine Guide

12/01 Read Chapter1 Analyze Images in Chapter 1	12/02 Read Chapter 2 Analyze Images Through Pg. 49	12/03 Analyze Images pp. 51-72	12/04 Read Chapter 3 Analyze irony in chapter 3	12/05 Read Chapter 4 Analyze irony in chapter 4
12/08 Read Chapter 5 Analyze irony in chapter 5	12/09 3+ Level three questions due Work on MWDS	12/10 Work on MWDS	12/11 eZine #1 for <i>Maus II</i> due Work on MWDS	12/12 HOLOCAUST LITERATURE TIMED WRITE <i>Maus II</i> study guide due
12/15 SOCRATIC SEMINAR MWDS due	12/16 eZine #2 for <i>Maus II</i> due NO 6TH PERIOD 7 th Vocab TEST 16ABC & Writing activity	12/17 1 st /2 nd Vocab TEST 16ABC & Writing activity	12/18 3 rd /4 th Vocab TEST 16ABC & Writing activity	12/19 5 th /6 th

Your analysis of images and irony in the text will be scored and entered as a grade; therefore, there is not an annotations score for this text. However, you are expected to track what you believe Spiegelman is saying about your eZine topic so that you can accomplish the eZine assignments which are due on December 11 and December 16.

Maus II: Chapters 1 – 2 **Imagery and Theme**

Objective: Understanding the way visual images combine with words to create thematic ideas

Activity: Reflect upon and explain the ideas and feelings that come to mind when you look at the details of each of the images and read the surrounding conversations. On the **Images and Ideas Sheet**, record these three things: 1) the details you see in the frames or on the pages assigned 2) an explanation of what these details suggest to the reader, and 3) a thematic connection, in other words, explain what the author is trying to tell you about life, people, or the world.

Images in Chapter 1:

- Pg. 29: The very last panel
- Pgs. 30 – 31: The kapo’s cruelty contrasting with his treatment of Vladek
- Pg 32: The irony of the kapo’s comment, “Otherwise I’d be a nothing like you...”
- Pgs. 33 – 34: The futility of helping a fellow prisoner
- Pg. 35: The randomness of death in the camp
- Pgs. 35, 37: The irony of Vladek’s comment, “And I had it still happy there” on pg. 35 contrasted with his comment, “Was she happy” on pg. 37.
- Pg.37: panels 1, 2, 3, 5, and 8—Pay attention to how Art and Vladek ate situated in each frame, especially in regards to each other

Images in Chapter 2:

- Pg. 41: The background, outside of Art’s office, looking like the barbed wire of a concentration camp
- Pgs. 41-43: Flies around Artie at his drawing table, which is on top of a pile of dead bodies
- Pgs. 41-43: The visual pun of time flies
- Pgs. 41-43: The incomplete cliché, “Time flies....”
- Pgs. 41-47: Artie, men with business propositions, and Artie’s psychiatrist, all wearing masks
- Pgs. 42-46: Artie getting smaller/younger/larger/smaller
- Pg. 43: The drawing of an actual dog and a framed photograph of a pet cat
- Pg. 49: The difficulties of surviving
- Pg. 51: The umbrella pole as dividing line
- Pg. 51: The smoke from Artie’s cigarette and the central image
- Pg. 70: The drawings of the crematoriums and the ovens
- Pg. 71: The closed door in the top right hand corner
- Pg. 71: The juxtaposition of cartoon-style animals with realistic props and locations
- Pg. 72: The drawings of open graves and burning bodies
- Pg. 72: The drawing of Artie and Francoise discussing Vladek’s moans as he sleeps

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE ONLY – YOU MAY HAVE ANOTHER INTERPRETATION

Details	Ideas/Implications	Thematic Idea/Statement
Pages 41 – 43 The image of flies swarming and dead bodies in Art’s office, which he doesn’t see	Art does not seem aware of what’s under or around him, which suggests that is impossible for people who have not experienced the Holocaust to know the extent of the suffering, even if the evidence is all around them.	Suffering can be understood only by those who endure it

Images and Ideas Sheet (Feelings and Ideas Suggested)

Details	Ideas/Implications	Thematic Statement

Maus II: Chapters 3-5

Irony

Objective: Understanding how irony creates meaning in a literary text

Irony: When a person, situation, statement, or circumstance is not as it would actually seem. Many times it is the exact opposite of what it appears to be.

- **Verbal Irony:** This is the contrast between what is said and what is meant.
- **Dramatic Irony:** This is the contrast between what the character thinks to be true and what we (the reader) know to be true.
- **Tragic Irony:** A form of dramatic irony in which a character who is about to become a victim of disaster uses words that have one meaning to him and quite another to the spectator or those who are aware of the real situation.
- **Situational/Cosmic Irony:** This is the most common in literature. It is the contrast between what happens and what was expected (or what would seem appropriate). Because it emerges from the events and circumstances of a story, it is often more subtle and effective than verbal or dramatic irony.

Activity: Discuss the contradictions in the examples below. Be sure to also identify the type of irony. Then, write a short explanation of the thematic idea this irony suggests.

Chapter 3:

- Pgs. 81-88: the German activity of bringing all prisoners to Germany
- Pg 82: Vladek's comment about how humans die similarly to dogs, especially in light of Spiegelman's use of animals for all different races - and how the Nazis used dogs
- Pg. 85: the hooks
- Pg. 87: The last panel
- Pg. 88: the Red Cross can only provide a small portion of food and nothing else
- Pg. 91: the fighting
- Pgs. 98-100: the racism

Chapter 4:

- Pg. 102 (compared to pg. 86): the sugar
- Pgs. 105-110: the end of the war for the prisoners
- Pg. 111: getting sick
- Pg. 113: being accused of theft
- Pg. 114: how the Americans treat Vladek
- Pgs. 115-116: the photos on the floor
- Pg. 117: Vladek's final comment

Chapter 5:

- Pg. 122: Mala feels trapped
- Pg. 125: hosiery vs. diamonds
- Pg. 129-131: living in camps
- Pgs. 129-136: the contrast of Vladek in the past and in the present
- Pg. 131, 133-136: Anja's suicide after her miraculous survival
- Pg. 132: "For THIS he survived"
- Pg. 134: Vladek's photograph
- Pg. 136: "...happily ever after."