

# Trapped

Haidi held her hands over the mouths of her two young sons, Harry and Gerald, trying desperately to stop them giving away their position. They had aged drastically since the start of the unrest, but she couldn't take any chances. Upstairs, the floorboards creaked and muffled voices indicated that, despite the fraught attempts Freida, her friend, had made to stop any visitors, the nosy neighbour had come for another visit.

This was now the twelfth night they been hiding, trapped, in Freida's basement. With no choice but to flee after that fateful night – Kristallnacht, the night of broken glass – they had arrived exhausted, desperate and at the complete mercy of Haidi's friend. Haidi hated to be a hinderance, but what choice did they have?

War was imminent and the third Reich regime had imposed despicable rules persecuting Jews and other minorities. The Austria they knew and loved was gone along with the days that allowed her eldest son, Harry, to pass as a non-Jew with his blonde hair in order to buy their food. Haidi's husband, Jack, had already been captured and sent to a concentration camp at Dachau. Freida and her husband were putting themselves at great risk by hiding Haida and her sons, and a rush of guilt surged through Haidi.

The murmurs stopped. After a pause, there was a gentle knock on the trapdoor. Haidi and her children froze. Finally, Freida's gentle voice called down to say the coast was clear and she would fix them some supper. Haidi released her sons and they began to relax. Soon, they were looking forward to a hot meal to satisfy their growling stomachs.

Haidi's mind was resolute. She *had* to find a way to leave the country she no longer recognised and seek refuge in England before it was too late. She could no longer impose herself and her family on her friends, no matter how much they protested that they were happy to have them. The risk was just too great.

As her boys slept on the mattress in the corner of the basement, a plan began to formulate in Haidi's mind. What she needed were the exit visas that would enable them to leave the country posing as a non-Jewish family. The problem was how to get them. They had to be obtained from the passport office and there were, really, only two options: bribery or impersonating a Nazi officer.

Without funds, she would never be able to afford the travel expenses and set up a new life for her family in England. Bribery was a no-go. She would have to impersonate a Nazi officer. Desperate for a way out of Austria, it was the only solution Haidi could think of, but the consequences would be disastrous if she couldn't pull it off. Her two young sons would be alone and likely be caught themselves.

When Freida brought down some breakfast, Haidi took her aside to discuss a plan. Freida worked as a washer women, and often took in Nazi officers' uniforms to clean and press. This was an opportunity she couldn't pass up and she knew she should take advantage of while she had the chance. Very reluctantly, Freida agreed to help.

The following morning, Haidi donned the offensive uniform. She had washed her hair and tied it up in a severe bun. Her sons looked up at her in terror. She looked like a completely different person. She became someone they had learned to dread. Wordlessly, she left the basement and into startling daylight – something she hadn't felt on her skin for days – and Freida smuggled her out of the house.

Just before she'd left, Haidi had instructed her boys to cut out the inside heels of all the shoes they owned – which wasn't many anymore – and cram in as many of their valuables as they could. They couldn't take any chances that they would be confiscated and these items would be needed when they arrived in England. They had to be ready to leave as soon as Haidi returned.

With great apprehension, Haidi made her way to the passport office where she could obtain the exit visas. Every muscle in her body was tense. Once there, she knew she had to act aggressively, or else no one would believe the act. Pushing to the front of the queue, Haidi marched up to the clerk and slammed her trembling hand on the desk.

"Three exit visas now!" Haidi said forcefully.

"Proof of identify for the exit visas is needed, Frauline." replied the clerk in a uninterested tone, not looking up.

"Are you questioning a Nazi officer Herr....?" she sneered.

It was then the clerk looked up at who he was speaking to. His eyes went wide with shock.

"N...N...No, Frauline. I'm sorry..." he stuttered. "What are the names?"

Haidi gave the clerk the names and waited, tensely, for what seemed like eternity while the visas were written and stamped for approval. As the clerk handed them to her, a knot of guilt twisted in her stomach. She snatched them from his hand, turned on her heel and strode purposefully out of the building.

Pushing her mixed feelings aside, Haidi hurriedly made her way back through the city to her sons hoping that they had managed to prepare everything for an immediate departure. There would be no time for any dilly-dallying or long drawn out goodbye's. The sooner they got out, the safer they, and Freida's family, would be.

"Are you ready?" Haidi asked.

### Vocabulary

1. Find and copy one word which means that the voices couldn't be heard clearly.
2. 'Haidi's mind was resolute.' What do you think this means?
3. '...often took in Nazi officers' uniforms to clean and press.' What does 'press' mean in this sentence?
4. Find and copy one word from the text that means 'delaying'.

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### Summarise

1. Summarise what has happened to Haidi and her family.
2. Briefly describe Haidi's plan.
3. Summarise the instructions Haidi gave to her boys just before she left the house.
4. Summarise how Haidi's feelings have changed during the events on page 4.

### Retrieve

1. What allowed Harry to pass more easily as a non-Jewish person?
2. Why couldn't they afford to bribe someone for the exit visas?
3. Name two things Haidi does to look like a Nazi officer.
4. What information did the clerk need to complete the exit visas?

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### Infer

1. Why were Haidi and her children in hiding?
2. 'Haidi and her children froze.' What does this tell you about how they are feeling?
3. Why do you think they don't own many pairs of shoes anymore?
4. The way the clerk speaks changes. What does this tell us about his feelings towards Nazi officers?

### Predict

1. Do you think the nosy neighbour will catch them? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer.
2. What do you think would happen if Haidi was caught? Why?
3. Do you think that the clerk will believe that Haidi is a Nazi officer? Why?
4. Do you think that Haidi and her sons will make it to England safely? Why?

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### Effect of language

1. The text says 'what choice did they have?' Explain what effect this rhetorical question has.
2. How does the use of italics affect the sentence, 'She *had* to find a way to leave...'?
3. How does the author show that even when Haidi is acting aggressively, she is still scared?
4. The German words 'Frauline' and 'Herr' have been used. What is the effect of using these words within the text?

### Link ideas

1. What theme links the paragraphs beginning '*Haidi held her hands...*' and '*War was imminent...*'?
2. What is the same and what is different about the risk mentioned in the paragraphs beginning '*Haidi's mind...*' and '*Without funds...*'?
3. In the paragraph beginning '*When Freida...*' we learn that Freida is a washer woman. How does this link to Haidi's plan?
4. How does the paragraph beginning '*Haidi gave the clerk...*' link to the paragraph beginning '*This was now...*' on page 1?

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### Compare

1. How do you think like has changed for Haidi and her children from before the unrest?
2. Describe how emotions changed during the events in the paragraph beginning '*The murmurs stopped...*'
3. Use the paragraphs beginning '*When Freida...*' and '*Haidi's mind...*' on page 2 to compare how Freida's feelings differ regarding the help she is giving Haidi.
4. Compare the feelings of the clerk once he hears Haidi is a Nazi officer to Haidi's feelings whilst impersonating the Nazi officer.

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1. 'Freida and her husband were putting themselves at great risk....' What does this tell you about them?

.....

1 mark

2. 'Haidi is smart.' Find one piece of evidence to support this statement.

.....

1 mark

3. 'Very reluctantly, Freida agreed to help.' What does this tell you about Haidi's plan?

.....

.....

.....

1 mark

4. What impression do you get of Haidi?  
Give two impressions using evidence from the text to support your answer.

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.....

.....

.....

3 marks

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1. 'Freida and her husband were putting themselves at great risk....' What does this tell you about them?

1 mark for selfless / brave / kind etc.

☐  
1 mark

2. 'Haidi is smart.' Find one piece of evidence to support this statement.

1 mark for she came up with a plan to escape etc.

☐  
1 mark

3. 'Very reluctantly, Freida agreed to help.' What does this tell you about Haidi's plan?

1 mark for reference to Freida's hesitation. The plan is very risky for both of them / Freida thought it might not work etc.

☐  
1 mark

4. What impression do you get of Haidi?  
Give two impressions using evidence from the text to support your answer.

3 marks for two acceptable points, at least one evidenced.

Acceptable points for impression e.g: intelligent /

brave / caring / determined

Likely evidence: She came up with a plan to get the exit

visas she needed / she impersonated a Nazi officer even

though she was scared / she felt guilty putting other people

at risk / 'Haidi's mind was resolute'.

☐  
3 marks

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This was now the twelfth night they been hiding, trapped, in Freida's basement. With no choice but to flee after that fateful night – Kristallnacht, the night of broken glass – they had arrived exhausted, desperate and at the complete mercy of Haidi's friend. Haidi hated to be a hinderance, but what choice did they have?

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## ← QUESTION SELECTION BOX 1

**Vocabulary (2a):** Find and copy one word which means that the voices couldn't be heard clearly.

**Retrieve (2b):** What allowed Harry to pass more easily as a non-Jewish person?

**Summarise (2c):** Summarise what has happened to Haidi and her family.

**Infer (2d):** Why were Haidi and her children in hiding?

**Predict (2e):** Do you think the nosy neighbour will catch them? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer.

**Link ideas (2f):** What theme links the paragraphs beginning '*Haidi held her hands...*' and '*War was imminent...*'?

**Effect of language (2g):** The text says 'what choice did they have?' Explain what effect this rhetorical question has.

**Compare (2h):** How do you think life has changed for Haidi and her children from before the unrest?

*Each question in this box is the first question in its respective section of the 'Questions by skill' sheet.*

## QUESTION SELECTION BOX 2 →

**Vocabulary (2a):** 'Haidi's mind was resolute.' What do you think this means?

**Retrieve (2b):** Why couldn't they afford to bribe someone for the exit visas?

**Summarise (2c):** Briefly describe Haidi's plan.

**Infer (2d):** 'Haidi and her children froze.' What does this tell you about how they are feeling?

**Predict (2e):** What do you think would happen if Haidi was caught? Why?

**Link ideas (2f):** What is the same and what is different about the risk mentioned in the paragraphs beginning '*Haidi's mind...*' and '*Without funds...*'?

**Effect of language (2g):** How does the use of italics affect the sentence 'She *had* to find a way to leave...'?

**Compare (2h):** Describe how emotions changed during the events in the paragraph beginning '*The murmurs stopped...*'

*Each question in this box is the second question in its respective section of the 'Questions by skill' sheet.*

The murmurs stopped. After a pause, there was a gentle knock on the trapdoor. Haidi and her children froze. Finally, Freida's gentle voice called down to say the coast was clear and she would fix them some supper. Haidi released her sons and they began to relax. Soon, they were looking forward to a hot meal to satisfy their growling stomachs.

Haidi's mind was resolute. She *had* to find a way to leave the country she no longer recognised and seek refuge in England before it was too late. She could no longer impose herself and her family on her friends, no matter how much they protested that they were happy to have them. The risk was just too great.

As her boys slept on the mattress in the corner of the basement, a plan began to formulate in Haidi's mind. What she needed were the exit visas that would enable them to leave the country posing as a non-Jewish family. The problem was how to get them. They had to be obtained from the passport office and there were, really, only two options: bribery or impersonating a Nazi officer.

Without funds, she would never be able to afford the travel expenses and set up a new life for her family in England. Bribery was a no-go. She would have to impersonate a Nazi officer. Desperate for a way out of Austria, it was the only solution Haidi could think of, but the consequences would be disastrous if she couldn't pull it off. Her two young sons would be alone and likely be caught themselves.



When Freida brought down some breakfast, Haidi took her aside to discuss a plan. Freida worked as a washer women, and often took in Nazi officers' uniforms to clean and press. This was an opportunity she couldn't pass up and she knew she should take advantage of while she had the chance. Very reluctantly, Freida agreed to help.

The following morning, Haidi donned the offensive uniform. She had washed her hair and tied it up in a severe bun. Her sons looked up at her in terror. She looked like a completely different person. She became someone they had learned to dread. Wordlessly, she left the basement and into startling daylight – something she hadn't felt on her skin for days – and Freida smuggled her out of the house.

Just before she'd left, Haidi had instructed her boys to cut out the inside heels of all the shoes they owned – which wasn't many anymore – and cram in as many of their valuables as they could. They couldn't take any chances that they would be confiscated and these items would be needed when they arrived in England. They had to be ready to leave as soon as Haidi returned.

With great apprehension, Haidi made her way to the passport office where she could obtain the exit visas. Every muscle in her body was tense. Once there, she knew she had to act aggressively, or else no one would believe the act. Pushing to the front of the queue, Haidi marched up to the clerk and slammed her trembling hand on the desk.

### ← QUESTION SELECTION BOX 3

**Vocabulary (2a):** '...often took in Nazi officers' uniforms to clean and press.' What does 'press' mean in this sentence?

**Retrieve (2b):** Name two things Haidi does to look like a Nazi officer.

**Summarise (2c):** Summarise the instructions Haidi gave to her boys just before she left the house.

**Infer (2d):** Why do you think they don't own many pairs of shoes anymore?

**Predict (2e):** Do you think that the clerk will believe that Haidi is a Nazi officer? Why?

**Link ideas (2f):** In the paragraph beginning '*When Freida...*' we learn that Freida is a washer woman. How does this link to Haidi's plan?

**Effect of language (2g):** How does the author show that even when Haidi is acting aggressively, she is still scared?

**Compare (2h):** Use the paragraphs beginning '*When Freida...*' and '*Haidi's mind...*' on page 2 to compare how Freida's feelings differ regarding the help she is giving Haidi.

*Each question in this box is the third question in its respective section of the 'Questions by skill' sheet.*

### QUESTION SELECTION BOX 4 →

**Vocabulary (2a):** Find and copy one word from the text that means 'delaying'.

**Retrieve (2b):** What information did the clerk need to complete the exit visas?

**Summarise (2c):** Summarise how Haidi's feelings have changed during the events on page 4

**Infer (2d):** The way the clerk speaks changes. What does this tell us about his feelings towards Nazi officers?

**Predict (2e):** Do you think that Haidi and her sons will make it to England safely? Why?

**Link ideas (2f):** How does the paragraph beginning '*Haidi gave the clerk...*' link to the paragraph beginning '*This was now...*' on page 1?

**Effect of language (2g):** The German words 'Frauline' and 'Herr' have been used. What is the effect of using these words within the text?

**Compare (2h):** Compare the feelings of the clerk once he hears Haidi is a Nazi officer to Haidi's feelings whilst impersonating the Nazi officer.

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"Three exit visas now!" Haidi said forcefully.

"Proof of identify for the exit visas is needed, Frauline." replied the clerk in a uninterested tone, not looking up.

"Are you questioning a Nazi officer Herr....?" she sneered.

It was then the clerk looked up at who he was speaking to. His eyes went wide with shock.

"N...N...No, Frauline. I'm sorry..." he stuttered. "What are the names?"

Haidi gave the clerk the names and waited, tensely, for what seemed like eternity while the visas were written and stamped for approval. As the clerk handed them to her, a knot of guilt twisted in her stomach. She snatched them from his hand, turned on her heel and strode purposefully out of the building.

Pushing her mixed feelings aside, Haidi hurriedly made her way back through the city to her sons hoping that they had managed to prepare everything for an immediate departure. There would be no time for any dilly-dallying or long drawn out goodbye's. The sooner they got out, the safer they, and Freida's family, would be.

"Are you ready?" Haidi asked.

# Trapped – Answer Matrix

by skill	by skill	by skill	by skill
<p><b>Vocabulary (2a) 1</b> Find and copy one word which means that the voices couldn't be heard clearly. <b>Muffled</b></p>	<p><b>Vocabulary (2a) 2</b> 'Haidi's mind was resolute.' What do you think this means? <b>She had made a firm decision; Haidi had decided what to do and was determined to do it</b></p>	<p><b>Vocabulary (2a) 3</b> '...often took in Nazi officers' uniforms to clean and press.' What does 'press' mean in this sentence? <b>To iron.</b></p>	<p><b>Vocabulary (2a) 4</b> Find and copy one word from the text that means 'delaying'. <b>Dilly-dallying</b></p>
<p><b>Retrieve (2b) 1</b> What allowed Harry to pass more easily as a non-Jewish person? <b>His blonde hair.</b></p>	<p><b>Retrieve (2b) 2</b> Why couldn't they afford to bribe someone for the exit visas? <b>They needed the money to pay for travel expenses and set up their new life in England.</b></p>	<p><b>Retrieve (2b) 3</b> Name two things Haidi does to look like a Nazi officer. <b>She dressed in a Nazi officer's uniform and she placed her hair in a severe bun.</b></p>	<p><b>Retrieve (2b) 4</b> What information did the clerk need to complete the exit visas? <b>Their names.</b></p>
<p><b>Summarise (2c) 1</b> Summarise what has happened to Haidi and her family. <b>Her husband has been sent to a concentration camp; Haidi and her two sons are hiding in a friend's basement.</b></p>	<p><b>Summarise (2c) 2</b> Briefly describe Haidi's plan. <b>Haidi's plan is to impersonate an officer to get exit visas and immigrate to England.</b></p>	<p><b>Summarise (2c) 3</b> Summarise the instructions Haidi gave to her boys just before she left the house. <b>She asked them to hide their valuables in the heels of their shoes.</b></p>	<p><b>Summarise (2c) 4</b> Summarise how Haidi's feelings have changed during the events on page 4. <b>Various answers, for example: at the beginning she was nervous/scared to impersonate an officer. Then she felt guilty about how she made the clerk feel. Finally she felt relief that she had managed to get the visas.</b></p>
<p><b>Infer (2d) 1</b> Why were Haidi and her children hiding? <b>They were Jewish and rules have been created by the new regime to persecute them.</b></p>	<p><b>Infer (2d) 2</b> 'Haidi and her children froze.' What does this tell you about how they are feeling? <b>It tells us that they are really scared.</b></p>	<p><b>Infer (2d) 3</b> Why do you think they don't own many pairs of shoes anymore? <b>Various answers, for example: They would have had to leave most of their belongings behind when they went into hiding.</b></p>	<p><b>Infer (2d) 4</b> The way the clerk speaks changes. What does this tell us about his feelings towards Nazi officers? <b>Various answers, for example: he stutters which tells us that he is nervous/scared around the Nazi officers.</b></p>

# Trapped – Answer Matrix

by skill by selection box	by skill →		
<p><b>Predict (2e) 1</b> Do you think the nosy neighbour will catch them? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. <b>Various answers, for example:</b> I think the neighbour won't catch them because Haidi has her hand over her sons' mouths to stop them making a noise and being caught.</p>	<p><b>Predict (2e) 2</b> What do you think would happen if Haidi was caught? Why? <b>Various answers, which must be justified from the text.</b> For example: She would be sent to a concentration camp because that's where her husband is and it says on page 2, that her sons would be alone.</p>	<p><b>Predict (2e) 3</b> Do you think that the clerk will believe that Haidi is a Nazi officer? Why? <b>Various answers, which must be justified from the text.</b> For example: Yes the clerk will believe Haidi is a Nazi officer because she is wearing the uniform and knows how to act.</p>	<p><b>Predict (2e) 4</b> Do you think that Haidi and her sons will make it to England safely? Why? <b>Various answers, which must be justified from the text.</b> For example: Yes they will make it to England safely because they now have exit visas which will allow them to leave.</p>
<p><b>Link ideas (2f) 1</b> What theme links the paragraphs beginning '<i>Haidi held her hands...</i>' and '<i>War was imminent...</i>'? <b>Various answers, for example:</b> risk, danger</p>	<p><b>Link ideas (2f) 2</b> What is the same and what is different about the risk mentioned in the paragraphs beginning '<i>Haidi's mind...</i>' and '<i>Without funds...</i>'? <b>Various answers which should state who will be impacted by the risk in each paragraph.</b></p>	<p><b>Link ideas (2f) 3</b> In the paragraph beginning '<i>When Freida...</i>' we learn that Freida is a washer woman. How does this link to Haidi's plan? <b>Various answers that refer to the fact that she washes Nazi uniforms and Haidi could use one of them to impersonate a Nazi officer.</b></p>	<p><b>Link ideas (2f) 4</b> How does the paragraph beginning '<i>Haidi gave the clerk...</i>' link to the paragraph beginning '<i>This was now...</i>' on page 1? <b>Various answers, which should reference the feeling of guilt in both paragraphs.</b></p>
<p><b>Effect of language (2g) 1</b> The text says 'what choice did they have?' Explain what effect this rhetorical question has. <b>It indicates that they did not really have any choice at all.</b></p>	<p><b>Effect of language (2g) 2</b> How does the use of italics affect the sentence '<i>She had to find a way to leave...</i>'? <b>The italics have been used to emphasise the urgency or importance of finding a way to leave.</b></p>	<p><b>Effect of language (2g) 3</b> How does the author show that even when Haidi is acting aggressively, she is still scared? <b>Her hand is trembling.</b></p>	<p><b>Effect of language (2g) 4</b> The German words '<i>Frauline</i>' and '<i>Herr</i>' have been used. What is the effect of using these words within the text? <b>Using German words reminds us that the story is not set in England, but in a German-speaking country (Austria).</b></p>
<p><b>Compare (2h) 1</b> How do you think life has changed for Haidi and her children from before the unrest? <b>Various answers, for example:</b> Before they could go out as normal and buy food, whereas now they have to hide and aren't able to buy food for themselves.</p>	<p><b>Compare (2h) 2</b> Describe how emotions changed during the events in the paragraph beginning '<i>The murmurs stopped...</i>' <b>At the beginning of the paragraph they were scared, but towards they end of the paragraph they were relieved.</b></p>	<p><b>Compare (2h) 3</b> Use the paragraphs beginning '<i>When Freida...</i>' and '<i>Haidi's mind...</i>' on page 2 to compare how Freida's feelings differ regarding the help she is giving Haidi. <b>Various answers that should reference her willingness to hide them, but her reluctance to provide the uniform.</b></p>	<p><b>Compare (2h) 4</b> Compare the feelings of the clerk once he hears Haidi is a Nazi officer to Haidi's feelings whilst impersonating the Nazi officer. <b>Various answers that refer to both the clerk and Haidi being nervous of Nazi officers.</b></p>