

Language Notes and Content Warnings

for *Escape from the Edge* by Morris Schnitzer

Non-English Terms

Page	Term/Phrase	Language	Definition/Translation
7	Eretz Yisrael	Hebrew	The Land of Israel
12	Talmud	Hebrew	The oral law and commentaries on the Torah
16	Shabbat	Hebrew	See glossary in the book
16	minyan	Hebrew	The quorum of ten adult Jews, traditionally male, required for certain religious rites. The term can also designate a congregation.
17	cantor	English	See glossary in the book
17	Oneg Shabbat	Hebrew	A sabbath celebration
17	Neginot	Hebrew	Proper liturgical chant and traditional melodies
17	chazzan	Hebrew	See cantor
18	daven	Hebrew	To pray
22	Unglück	German	Misfortune
23	kosher	Hebrew	Fit to eat according to Jewish dietary laws
24	Mizrachi	Hebrew	See glossary in the book
24	Brith Hanoar	Hebrew	See glossary in the book
24	kibbutzim	Hebrew	See glossary in the book
25	Kristallnacht	German	See glossary in the book
26	Kindertransport	German	See glossary in the book
33	hachshara	Hebrew	The preparation and training for collective farm life
36	shiurim	Hebrew	Lessons
39	Zemirot	Hebrew	Songs
39	Kaddish	Hebrew	The mourner's prayer for the dead
39	sidra	Hebrew	The Torah reading of the week
45	Mishnah	Hebrew	The oral common law
45	Gemara	Hebrew	Debates on the common law and Jewish history
51	schnell	German	Fast
54	Sephardic	English	Pertaining to Jews with Spanish or Portuguese ancestry, or Sephardim (singular, Sephardi). The term is sometimes applied to Jews from North Africa, though they are more accurately referred to as Mizrachi Jews.
58	razzia	German	Raid
59	Tehillim	Hebrew	Psalms
59	"Im ein ani li mi li?"	Hebrew	"If I am not for myself, who will be for me?"
61	tefillin	Hebrew	Phylacteries – A pair of black leather boxes containing scrolls of parchment inscribed with Bible verses and traditionally worn by Jewish men on the arm and forehead at prescribed times of prayer as a symbol of the covenantal relationship with God

Page	Term/Phrase	Language	Definition/Translation
119	simcha	Hebrew	Celebration
120	Yehudi	Hebrew	Jew
121	Beth Cholutz	Hebrew	A pioneer house in Amsterdam for people planning to settle in the Land of Israel
124	Bachad	Hebrew	See glossary in the book
125	Shaliach	Hebrew	Envoy
125	HaKibbutz HaDati movement	Hebrew	A branch of the Bachad (see Bachad)
126	Passover (Hebrew; Pesach)	English	See glossary in the book
130	tsuris	Yiddish	Trouble

Content Warning

Some of the book's content may be inappropriate for your students. At your discretion, the following content can be shortened or skipped to better suit the needs of your classroom.

P – Profanity

AS – Act of antisemitism

V – Violence

Page	Nature of Content	Excerpt
8	P	The road to hell is paved with good intentions.
8	AS, V	They would jeer at me: Jude Itzig Nase spitzig! This well-known rhyme among Germans meant "Izzie the pointed-nose Jew." They would also beat me and pelt me with stones.
9	AS, V	Sometimes my brothers and I were even stoned by other kids on our outings.
22	AS	Jews were classified as rats, sewer rats, vermin.
28	AS, V	They debased and weakened people; abuse, starvation and excessive labour were just some of the ways the Nazis were murdering the Jewish people.
77	V	Prisoners were being shot every night in the courtyard. I could hear the shots and screams.
82	V	Sometimes we ambushed and shot at German staff cars to try to kill specific officers.
114-115	V	<i>Morris describes a vengeful and violent experience with a German after the war:</i> I shoved him. Then I kicked him. I kicked him so hard that he rolled right down the stairs.