

Lesson 3 (pages 10 - 15)

Rose Blanche was furious at the way they had treated the little boy. Where were they taking him? She followed the lorry right through the town. She was a fast runner; she knew all the short-cuts. Winding streets forced the lorry to go slowly.



1. *Rose Blanche was furious at the way they had treated the little boy.* What do you think she planning to do in following the lorry?
2. How was Rose able to keep up with the lorry?

She ran along rutted tracks, across fields, over ditches and frozen puddles. She climbed under fences and barriers in places she wasn't meant to go.



Rose Blanche took a short-cut through the forest where bare branches scratched her face. The road was below her, the lorry was a long way ahead. She was so tired, she felt like giving up. Then she stumbled into a clearing and could hardly believe what she saw.



3. Find the words 'Sieg' and 'Verboten' in the picture. Research what they mean. What could these words suggest about what Rose might encounter?
4. What does the phrase 'she was so tired she almost felt like giving up' tell us about Rose's character?
5. Look closely at the second illustration: what mood does the artist want to portray? How does he do this?
6. What do you think Rose Blanche can see ahead?



7. Before you read the text for this page, describe in your own words the scene that Rose Blanche came across.

Dozens of silent, motionless children stared at her from behind a barbed wire fence. They hardly seemed to breathe.

Their eyes were large and full of sorrow. They stood like ghosts, watching as she came close. One of them called for food, and others took up the cry.

Food, food, please be our friend. Please give us something to eat, little girl.

But she had nothing to give them, nothing at all. The cries died down, the silence returned. The winter sun was setting, the chilly wind made the barbed wire moan. Rose Blanche turned for home. Their sad and hungry eyes followed her into the forest.

8. What does the phrase 'their sad and hungry eyes followed her' mean?
9. What does the phrase 'the barbed wire moaned' mean? What literary device has the author used?
10. How do these children feel? Provide evidence for your answer.