

Read *Henderson's Boys* by Robert Muchamore and answer questions 1 to 6.

# *Henderson's Boys* by Robert Muchamore

## ***Henderson's Boys: The Escape***

Two parallel stories merge in a perfectly set-up storyline for the first book of a new series by the author of *Cherub*. It is June 1940, and the Germans are set to invade Paris. Marc, an orphan, is mistreated by the orphanage director, so he steals a bike, money and clothes, and heads for Paris.

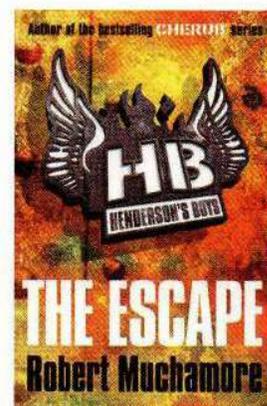
Meanwhile, Mr Clarke with his children, Rosie and Paul, are trying to escape Paris. His work as a salesman for a wireless company hides many secrets. He has blueprints that need to be taken safely to Charles Henderson who works for naval intelligence. But Clarke is killed by shrapnel and his children are left to deliver the precious blueprints.

Marc, weary from travel, breaks into an abandoned home. Letters on the mat are addressed to Henderson. He is caught and tortured by the SS for information on the house's owner, just before Henderson returns.

Full of action, intrigue and murder, with smart children as the protagonists, this will leave readers gasping for more.

Hodder, \$17.99, Age guide: 12+

Reviewed by Anastasia Gonis ★★★★★



1. The 'two parallel stories' in *Henderson's Boys: The Escape* refer to the stories of
  - (A) Rosie and Paul.
  - (B) Henderson and Marc.
  - (C) Marc and the Clarks.
  - (D) Henderson and Mr Clarke.
2. What are the documents that Mr Clarke wanted to give to Charles Henderson most likely to be?
  - (A) detailed plans of military operations
  - (B) advertisements about a wireless company
  - (C) information about the orphanage where Marc had lived
  - (D) letters concerning the invasion of Paris
3. What is the meaning of the word 'intelligence', as it is used in the text?
  - (A) creativity
  - (B) espionage
  - (C) innovation
  - (D) camouflage

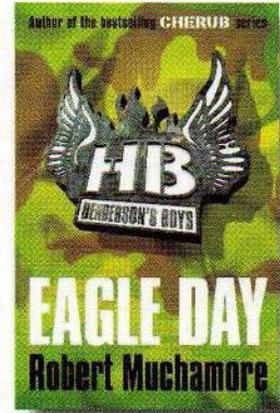
## Henderson's Boys: Eagle Day

It's 1940 and Hitler has conquered France. Charles Henderson, a British spy, and three young refugees he has taken under his wing are trapped between the German army and the English Channel. They discover that Hitler and his army are planning to invade Britain. Do they flee to safety or undertake the dangerous mission of sabotaging the Germans' plans? Should Henderson risk the lives of the young people in his care? Are the children able to outwit the enemy and escape to England?

Thankfully, Muchamore doesn't resort to stereotypes. There are aspects of Henderson's character that are very disturbing, and not all of the German soldiers are evil, brutish men. The reader is taken on an adventure that has it all: espionage, spies, narrow escapes, Nazis, romance and courage in the face of great danger. It would make an exciting film.

Hachette Childrens, \$17.99, Age guide: 12+

Reviewed by Wendy Noble ★★★★★



4. In the review of *Henderson's Boys: Eagle Day*, the reviewer uses rhetorical questions to
- (A) engage readers in solving the problems.
  - (B) justify the decisions made by Henderson.
  - (C) arouse interest in the storyline.
  - (D) challenge readers to consider different viewpoints.
5. Both books would best be classified as
- (A) murder mystery.
  - (B) action adventure.
  - (C) tragic drama.
  - (D) military biography.
6. The book reviews are written by different people, yet they follow the same basic structure. What is the correct order of this structure?

(A)	Describe the main characters and plots	Outline the conflicts between the main characters	Assess the suitability of the books as films
(B)	Outline the position of the books in the series	Describe the major crisis points in the books	Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the main characters
(C)	Describe the settings and complications in the plots	Outline the major turning points in the plots	Assess the accuracy of the stories
(D)	Outline the settings and characters	Describe the complications in the plots	Assess the appeal of the books