Maus Journal Prompts: Choose five and **write a thoughtful, detailed, evidence-based, full-page journal entry.** Date the entry and indicate the prompt number. Give **specific examples from the book for each answer**.

1. Though the author was born in Sweden after the end of the Holocaust, the events have nevertheless had a profound effect on his life. Discuss the nature of these effects and why the Holocaust remains such a formative event.
2. What is the significance of the author's decision to portray people of different races and nationalities as different animals? What effect does this have on the understanding and impact of the story?
3. Maus is written in the rather unconventional form of a graphic novel. Is this format an effective means of telling a Holocaust narrative? How might it differ from a more conventional Holocaust narrative?
4. To what degree was Vladek's survival based on luck, and to what degree was his survival based on his considerable resourcefulness?
5. To what extent are Vladek's aggravating personality traits a product of his experiences during the Holocaust?
6. Discuss Art's portrayal of his father. Is it a fair portrayal? What feelings does Art have about this portrayal?
7. Throughout Maus, Art is consumed with guilt. Discuss these different forms of guilt. How do they relate to one another? How do they differ?
8. Compare Vladek's marriage to Mala with his previous marriage to Anja. Why is Vladek's relationship with Mala so contentious, while his relationship with Anja was so filled with love?
9. Though Maus focuses largely on the Jewish people, the narrative generally avoids issues of religion. To what extent are the major characters religious? What role does religion play in their lives?
10. What other groups of people were affected by the Nazis? What other groups of people have been victims of other genocides? Based on your web quest or on your own knowledge, in which particular genocide are you interested for your research paper? Explain why.