



Ten questions for kids: They deal primarily with the first sections of the haggadah, with the goal of engaging kids before they disengage—or fall asleep!



Ten questions for everyone, designed to elicit short answers: These ten questions open the floor for everyone to share something personal but only require short answers. They bring guests into the Seder without making “too big a deal of it.”



Three questions for everyone, designed to elicit longer, more thoughtful responses. These sections are specially designed as conversations for pairs (*chevruta*). These three questions invite a deeper and more personal conversation. To include everyone, we suggest a bit of stage management: ask everyone to turn to the person next to them and talk for a few minutes about what they wrote and what this question brings up for them. This mini-*chevruta* allows for more privacy and shakes up the group-reading dynamic. Allow two to three minutes for the first partner, and then switch. Conclude by asking if anyone would like to share with the group.



Fifteen sections for everyone—the “Hope-Giver” ideas: Explained in the next chapter, page 12.



Two questions for seniors: Our elders have so much wisdom and experience to offer, yet they often feel left out. These two opportunities offer them center stage, giving them a chance to share their stories with the next generation.

The Plan

Give a copy of this haggadah to each of your guests. Ask them to read it through and answer the questions in writing. Encourage guests with small children to work through the haggadah together. **Write in the haggadah itself!** Each piece has sections for personal writing, with an extra writing page at the back for those who need more space.

This pre-Seder preparation will take less than one hour. It offers time for reflection, for a check-in that gets everyone into the Seder frame of mind. **This one hour can make the difference between a Seder that is just like last year’s and a Seder that will be different from all other nights.**

At the Seder

When guests have already prepared, your role as leader becomes incredibly simple.

All you have to do is read a section of the haggadah—or invite someone else to read a section—and then ask everyone, “Who would like to share their response to this question? Who would like to begin our conversation?”

The pressure is off. You don’t have to illuminate or entertain. Your job is to create the space for everyone to feel comfortable, to participate, and to share. The floor is open—everyone will want to hear what others have to say, and many will want to share.

With forty different questions—forty opportunities to share—there is more than enough material to fill the evening. I actually do not suggest covering all forty questions unless you want to sit at the Seder table until sunrise, like the haggadah’s famous rabbis. In fact, the biggest challenge for the Seder leader will be to keep from getting stuck too long on one question!