

The Count of Monte Cristo

Alexandre Dumas

Which part of Dantès's escape depends on preparation rather than luck?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Dantès escapes inside the burial sack
------------	---------------------------------------

FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter 20 · The Cemetery of the Château d'If
START	Dantès, although stunned and almost suffocated, had sufficient presence of mind to hold his breath
END	With a mighty leap he rose to the surface of the sea
PASSAGE ID	sec-mc-02

THE MOVE

Follow preparation turning catastrophe into opportunity

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Dantès is thrown into the sea in what should be a burial, but he survives because he has prepared a knife, understands the sack and cord, controls his breath, and acts immediately. Catastrophe becomes opportunity because preparation is already in place.

MARK

Circle every tool or preparation Dantès has before entering the water. Number the actions he takes after being thrown in. Star the step that would have been impossible without advance planning.

NOTICE

- Which part of the escape depends on the guards unknowingly helping him?
- Which parts depend on choices Dantès made before the opportunity appeared?
- Why is preparation especially valuable when the exact form of the opportunity could not be predicted?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Which part of Dantès's escape depends on preparation rather than luck? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Which part of Dantès's escape depends on preparation rather than luck? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Preparation matters in the parts of the escape Dantès can control: having the knife, holding breath, cutting the sack, severing the weight, and acting immediately. Luck creates the opportunity; preparation makes survival possible.
EVIDENCE	Separate the accidental opportunity from at least two actions enabled by prior preparation.
WATCH FOR	Do not claim the whole escape is planned. The lesson asks which parts depend on preparation within an unforeseen catastrophe.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

The Count of Monte Cristo

Alexandre Dumas

Which part of Dantès's escape depends on preparation rather than luck?

START ANCHOR	Dantès, although stunned and almost suffocated, had sufficient presence of mind to hold his breath
END ANCHOR	With a mighty leap he rose to the surface of the sea

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Circle every tool or preparation Dantès has before entering the water. Number the actions he takes after being thrown in.

Star the step that would have been impossible without advance planning.

2. NOTICE - Which part of the escape depends on the guards unknowingly helping him? Which parts depend on choices Dantès made before the opportunity appeared? Why is preparation especially valuable when the exact form of the opportunity could not be predicted?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Which part of Dantès's escape depends on preparation rather than luck?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.