

Name: _____

Date: _____

P-- _____

***Night* Chapters 1-2**

1. When Elie says, “I was deeply observant,” what was he talking about?
2. Who does Elie turn to for guidance concerning his Jewish faith? Describe this man.
3. Describe what happened to Moishe the Beadle when he was expelled from Sighet. Why does he return to Sighet? What character traits does this action reveal?
4. Why is the Jewish community unafraid after they are transferred to the ghettos?
5. P. 12, near bottom a paragraph begins, “Night fell.” How does this two word sentence affect the mood of the passage?
6. P. 12 “Most people thought . . .The ghetto was ruled by neither German nor Jew, it was ruled by delusion.”
 - A. Explain how “delusion” was ruling the ghetto
 - B. Give at least two other examples where “delusion” prevailed over reality.
7. On page 16 it says, “They began to walk without another glance at the abandoned streets, the dead, empty houses, the gardens, the tombstones...” How can you interpret the meaning of “tombstones” (literal or figurative or both: explain)?
8. How does Madam Schachter’s presence contribute to the anxiety that already exists on the train? Describe the treatment Mrs. Schachter receives from her fellow captives.
9. Analyze Mrs. Schachter’s treatment, and determine what this could possibly foreshadow.

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2.	5.
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10. The Jews of Sighet are taken to which concentration camp?
11. Who/what are the “strange-looking characters” that greet them when the train stops? What is the “wretched stench”?

***Night* Chapter 3**

1. What does the following line indicate about Elie's emotional condition? How do we know the emotion is universal?

“The beloved objects that we had carried with us from place to place were now left behind in the wagon and, with them, finally, our illusions.”

2. When Elie is separated from his mother and sisters, he reflects on the moment he sees his mother and Tzipora for the last time. Why do you think this description is so void of imagery and emotion? What is the one thing that he seems to remember most?

3. When Elie arrives at Auschwitz, the other prisoners yell, “Didn't you know what was in store for you at Auschwitz? Haven't you heard about it? In 1944?” (p. 30)

Why is it important for Elie to illustrate that even those who were taken to the camps did not realize what was happening?

4. What does Wiesel witness that causes him to lose sleep even today?

5. Why is Elie's father upset that he didn't get to go with his mother? How is this dramatic irony (explain)?

6. P. 36, last paragraph: How does the sentence structure mimic the events being described? Explain.

7. Throughout the section, Eliezer wavers between having faith in God and not. After seeing the babies thrown into the fire, Eliezer condemns God, but in one scene Elie writes, “I had new shoes myself. But as they were coated with a thick layer of mud, no one had noticed them. I thanked God, in an improvised prayer, for having created mud in His infinite and wonderful universe.” How should the reader understand Elie's faith?

Do you sense any irony here? Explain.

8. The Germans dehumanized the Jews throughout the Holocaust; give three examples of how the Germans accomplished this.

9. Elie states that, “Here the word ‘furnace’ was not a word empty of meaning; it floated on the air, mingling with the smoke. It was perhaps the only word which did have any real meaning.”

What does he mean?

10. What is Elie's constant concern?

11. What is written on the iron gate of Auschwitz? Explain the irony.

12. Who comes to find Eliezer's father? What does he want? Why does Elie lie to him?

13. The sign read, "Warning: Danger of Death." Explain the irony

14. According to Stein, what is the only thing keeping him alive? Why do you think Stein never returns to Elie and his father after the transport from Antwerp arrives?

***Night* Chapter 4**

1. Why do some of the officers take an interest in the young boys as they come into camp?
2. Explain the conflict that ensues over Elie's shoes. How does it negate everything the men and boys have been told about surviving the concentration camps? How is this ironic?
3. Re-read the scene where Idek beats Elie's father, p. 54. Describe Elie's internal conflict while he watches his father getting beaten. Cite the simile that Elie uses when describing the beating his father receives.
4. How does Franek "motivate" Elie to give up his gold crown?
5. Explain what Franek could possibly symbolize.
6. Re-read the part about the man who wanted to get some soup during the air raid. Did the other men actually crawl with him? Explain.
7. Why did the bombing excite the prisoners? Weren't they still intent upon living? Explain the conflict that Elie faces as he is watching the Buna factory being bombed.
8. "The raid lasted over an hour. If only it could have gone on for ten times ten hours...Then, once more, there was silence. The last sound of the American plane dissipated in the wind and there we were, in our cemetery.

By context clue, what does "dissipate" mean?
Explain the metaphor used in the quote.

9. Why does Elie refer to the three gallows that are going to be used to murder the young pipel "three black ravens"? (P. 64)
10. How does the death of the young boy at the end of the chapter differ from the other prisoners?
13. What is the response to the question, "Where is God now?" Explain the significance of this event for Eliezer in terms of his faith.
14. Wiesel is careful to use repeating images at the end of the fourth section regarding the two hangings. Cite the repetition and explain its effect.

Night Chapter 5

1. P. 66, last paragraph, "What are You, my God?..."

What tone does this passage have? Paraphrase what Elie is saying.

2. What specific reasons does Elie give for not being able to bless the Almighty?
3. Why does Elie regard the weak, starving prisoners stronger than God?
4. P. 68: Re-read the paragraph beginning, "But now, I no longer pleaded..." Why does Elie feel himself to be stronger than the Almighty? Describe how Elie has changed.
5. This quote is centered around the Rosh Hashanah ceremony, p. 68: "We remained standing in the Appelplatz (assembly place) for a long time, unable to detach ourselves from this surreal moment."
Explain the surrealism of the moment.
6. How does Elie show his rebellion against God? Do you find this rebellion ironic? Explain why or why not.
7. Characterize the relationship between Eliezer and his father as it is described in the last paragraph on page 68 that begins "I ran to look for my father..."
8. What advice is given to the prisoners before selection? Why? What will this accomplish?
9. Why does Chlomo give his son his knife and spoon? What does Elie call this? What was the end result of the second selection?
10. Contrast the image of Akiba Drumer as he was described earlier in the memoir with the image of him now. What could Akiba Drumer symbolize?
11. What did Akiba Drumer ask of his fellow inmates? Did they do as he wished? What does their response demonstrate about the men?
12. Why did Elie have to go to the hospital? What does this situation add to the story?
13. When told of the rumor that The Red Army was advancing on Buna, Elie says that these rumors were an "injection of morphine." P. 80 What does he mean?
14. Elie and Chlomo have a choice to make. Do they stay in the camp hospital or get evacuated with the rest of the prisoners? Who made the final decision? What is ironic about the choice that was made?
15. On page 83, Elie refers to the last night in Buna in much the same way he contemplated the "new" year. Explain the rhetorical technique Wiesel uses in the passage that begins "It was cold," and the affect it has on the meaning.

Night Chapter 6

1. During the forced march, what was the only thing that kept Elie from giving up and dying? How is this representative of the change in the relationship that he has with his father?
2. Throughout the Holocaust, the Germans maintained control of the Jews through violence and dehumanization. At the beginning of the forced march, the SS refer to the prisoners as filthy dogs. Later in the passage, Elie thinks, "If one of us stopped for a second, a quick shot eliminated the filthy dog." (p. 85) Why does he continue the metaphor that the SS create?
3. Reread the passage on page 86 that begins "I soon forgot him." Explain the rhetorical features and the effect they have on the meaning and tone in the passage.
4. When the men stopped at the brick warehouse, why wouldn't Chlomo allow Elie to sleep?
5. Rabbi Eliahou came into the shed looking for whom?
6. What did Elie remember about Rabbi Eliahou's son?
7. What terrible thought entered Elie's mind after he remembered seeing the Rabbi's son?
8. What prayer rose up in Elie's heart? Explain the irony.
9. What was ironic about the German's words of encouragement toward the marching Jews?
10. Once the men reached Gleiwitz they were all forced into barracks. Elie nearly suffocated to death. What did he hear that was so out of place? What song was it? Who was playing?
11. On p. 96, how do the SS officers further demonstrate their inhumanity as the men are waiting for the train?

***Night* Chapter 7**

1. When on the train, why does Elie believe that there is no longer a reason to live or fight?
2. How did Elie, once again, save his father's life?
3. Describe the scene when the German people began to throw pieces of bread into the cars. What does this scene demonstrate?
4. Throughout the memoir, Elie describes separate occasions that illustrate the relationships between fathers and sons. Summarize the situation between the father and son on the cattle car. How is Elie similar to, or different from, the boy in this story?
5. Explain the significance of Elie's choice to end the story of the father and son fighting for the piece of bread with "I was sixteen." (p. 102)
6. Explain the purpose of including Meir Katz at this point in the memoir?
7. How do the prisoners demonstrate cooperation and support? What image does Elie use to describe it?
8. How many people out of the original 100 got off the train?

***Night* Chapters 8 and 9**

1. What is Elie's fear as they arrive at Buchenwald? Why does the crematorium leave no impression?
2. When trying to convince his father not to sleep, Elie feels he is struggling directly with whom? Not his father.
3. Why does Elie become angry at his father?
4. How do you see the relationship between father and son changing? Give three examples from throughout the book to support.
5. What happened when the alarm sirens went off? What glimpse does the reader have of Elie's internal conflict?
6. When Elie finally finds his father again, what is Chlomo's condition?
7. Elie describes his father as passing him "like a shadow." (p. 107) Explain the significance of the simile.
8. Elie states, "I gave him what was left of my soup. But my heart was heavy. I was aware that I was doing it grudgingly. Just like Rabbi Eliahou's son, I had not passed the test." (p. 107)

Explain what Elie means by failing the test.

9. What illness does Chlomo have? Why didn't he receive food?
10. Why did the other prisoners beat Chlomo?
11. What advice did the head of the block give Elie concerning his father?
12. What was Elie's reaction to this advice?
13. What was the last word from Chlomo Wiesel?
14. Why is Eliezer unable to weep?
15. How does the language in section nine reflect Elie's state of mind?

16. Once they were free, what was the first thing all the prisoners did? How does this behavior illustrate the way the men have been treated during their time in the concentration camps?

17. The memoir ends with these lines:

“From the depths of the mirror, a corpse was contemplating me. The look in his eyes as they gazed at me has never left me.” (p. 115)

Explain the significance of these lines both literally and figuratively.