Kamrass
English 9*;* Night Unit
Characterization Essay

Task:
In both Elie Wiesel's memoir, Night, and Steven Spielberg's film, Schindler's List, both protagonists experience a drastic **transformation** as a result of their experiences during the Holocaust.

In a well-developed essay, trace the transformations of both characters (Elie Wiesel and Oskar Schindler). Both protagonists are transformed by their experiences.

Literary terms to incorporate:

1. **dynamic character** – a character who changes throughout the course of the work

2. **setting** – the time and place that the story takes place

Guidelines:
- Essay should be well organized, starting with a clear thesis that characterizes how both change throughout each text (memoir and film).
- Using specific and relevant examples, establish who both protagonists are at the beginning, middle and end. Thoroughly explain how these examples relate to your thesis. (This is the CD-CM part.)
  - Use at least one quotation from each work—complete with punctuation and page number from Night.
    - This is the proper format: "From the depths of the mirror, a corpse was contemplating me" (115).
- Body paragraphs work best when they start with a transition and topic sentences that contain a "big idea" that relates to the thesis.
- Incorporate the literary devices

This will be written in drafts so that you can receive the full benefits of the writing process.
- ➢ The first draft should be something that reflects a completed assignment—it should be far from perfect.
- ➢ We will then undergo a peer review because collaboration is a part of any real writing process (ask any professional writer).
- ➢ Finally, the final copy should contain major additions, cuts, and corrections to represent *your best work*. This typed with MLA style, and stapled on top of your peer review sheet, first draft and rubric (facing in). This stapled pack will be graded.

RUBRIC	CHARACTER ANALYSIS CRITERIA			
	90-100	**80-89**	**70-79**	**Redo (60)-65**
Introduction	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic, thesis, and previews the structure of the paper. *Briefly* gives general information needed so that the entire essay makes sense.	The introduction clearly states the main topic, thesis, and preview the structure. Gives some information.	The introduction states the main topic and thesis but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper nor is it particularly inviting.	There is no clear introduction of the main topic, thesis, or structure of the paper.
Support for topic / details	A substantial number of relevant character traits are well-supported with accurate and specific information from the sources.	A sufficient number of character traits are supported well with accurate information from the sources. Would benefit from more specifics.	Several character traits are adequately supported with information from the sources. Needs more specifics.	Only a few character traits are, or may be, adequately supported with information from sources. Lacking specifics.
Support for topic / analysis	Relevant and specific details give important information that goes beyond the obvious or predictable. All relevant in supporting assertions about the two characters	Relevant and specific details give important information that support assertions about the two characters.	Supporting details and information are relevant, but may not be specific. Or, they may be relevant, but not thoroughly connected to explaining characterization.	Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the topic.
Sequencing / Organization	Details are placed in a logical order and the way they are presented effectively. Transition help create a logical flow of information.	Details are placed in a logical order in the entire essay, but paragraphs need focus or logical flow of information.	Some details are not in a logical or expected order, making some ideas and development unclear.	Many details are not in a logical or expected order. There is little sense that the writing is organized.
Word Choice	Paper has precise word choice that aid clarity of the overall writing. Placement of words seems accurate, natural and not forced. Writer takes risks to add style while keeping clarity. Avoids clichés.	Paper mostly has specific word choice that aids the clarity of the overall writing. Some placement or choices may be imprecise. Writer may take risks that help, but may also create unclear writing. Mostly avoids clichés.	Words mostly communicate clearly, but there may be a good number of imprecise choices that add to confusion. Some risk taking evident. Some clichés present.	The vocabulary does not communicate strongly. Many clichés may be present.
Mechanics and Grammar	Paper has essentially **no errors** in sentence structure, punctuation, spelling, and capitalization. (Sentence structure is varied.)	Paper has some errors in sentence structure, punctuation, spelling, and capitalization. (Sentence structure is varied.)	Paper has many errors in sentence structure, punctuation, spelling, and capitalization. (Sentence structure is varied.)	A number of errors throughout make most of the paper unclear.

Errors with instructions will receive point deductions.

Teacher Comments: