

Name: _____

Night by Elie Wiesel

READING GUIDE

Night CHARACTER LIST:

For each character we meet, write the character's name and who they are below.

Night VOCABULARY

- abominable
- anecdote
- degradation
- diplomacy
- encumbered
- humane
- impenetrable
- improvise
- indifferent
- perilous
- sages
- waif
- Achtung
- Aryan
- Crematories
- Fascist
- Gestapo
- Kapo
- Meister
- Messiah
- Nazi
- Rabbi
- Rosh Hashana
- Passover
- Yom Kippur

- Zionism

Night DISCUSSION GUIDE & CHAPTER REFLECTIONS

This discussion and reflection guide will be used as a tool in class to help with discussions and also a way for you to prepare for the final discussion and chapter quizzes. If you write this by hand, please do so neatly. You may also access this on the class website and type your responses if you choose. Each answer must be in complete sentences. You must include your one paragraph response and 2 quotes for each reflection.

Chapter 1 (pages 3-22)

1. *What kind of a person is Elie?*

2. *Why don't the people believe Moshe's story?*

Name at least two other instances in which the Jews of Sighet push truth and fear aside and choose to ignore something or believe something else.

3.

4.

5. *When Elie's family goes to the "little ghetto" their old servant offers to help them escape and hide. Why do they refuse the offer?*

Chapter 1 Reflection

Think about Elie's journeys throughout the chapter. As a young man, Elie was forced to change spiritually, emotionally, and physically because of the circumstances that he faced and the horrors that he witnessed. **As you read each chapter, think about his spiritual, emotional, and physical changes. Write one paragraph describing the changes you see in Elie during the chapter. Find two quotes that describe a change in his spiritual, emotional, or physical condition.**

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 2 (pages 23-28)

6. *How does the opening scene in the railroad car show differing responses to a crisis situation?*

7. *List two or three phrases Madame Schachter speaks to foreshadow the arrival at Birkenau.*

Chapter 2 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 3 (pages 29-46)

8. On page 29, Elie tells of how some of the Jews talk of fighting back. Why don't they?

9. Explain this passage: "Never shall I forget those moments which murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to dust ..." (page 32)

10. Explain the statement: "The student of Talmud, the child that I was, was consumed in the flames. There remained only the shape that looked like me. A dark flame had entered my soul and devoured it." (page 34)

11. When Elie's father was hit, Elie does not try to defend him. He says, "I had looked on and said nothing. Yesterday, I should have sunk my nails into the criminal's flesh." (37) How could such a change occur?

12. Elie says, "How I would sympathize with Job!" Explain who Job (Old Testament) was and why Elie would say this.

13. What is A-7713? What is the purpose of this number do you think?

14. Why does Elie lie to the old family friend? Do you approve of his lie? Why?

15. What is the "selection", and how are people "selected"?

Chapter 3 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 4 (pages 47-65)

Elie portrays the Nazi supervisors as morally corrupt. List two examples that demonstrate their degenerate behavior.

16.

17.

18. *Elie tries hard to keep his gold crown from being removed. Why does he finally part with it?*

19. *When Elie is beaten, what advice does the French girl give him? Is it good advice? Why?*

20. *On page 52, Elie describes the beating of his father by Idek. What is Elie's reaction? What does it say about him?*

21. *How do the other prisoners feel toward the man who crawls out to the soup cauldrons? What does this tell us about the emotional state of the prisoners?*

22. *Why do the prisoners cheer the air raids even though they could be killed?*

23. *What makes the last scene (the boy's hanging) so horrible for Elie and the readers?*

24. *When someone asks, "Where is God," Elie says (page 62), "Here He is—He is hanging here on the gallows..." What does he mean? What does this tell us about Elie at this point?*

Chapter 4 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 5 (pages 66-84)

25. On pages 63-65, Elie talks about his reaction to the Rosh Hashanah service. He says at one point, "I felt myself to be stronger than the Almighty." Explain what you think he means.

26. "The whole year was Yom Kippur." (page 66) What does he mean by this?

27. What point is made about survival for some prisoners through the example of Akiba Drumer?

28. One of Elie's neighbors in the hospital says he has "more faith in Hitler than in anyone else." (page 77) What does he mean? How is this statement ironic?

29. When the camp is about to be evacuated, Elie has a choice. What is the choice, why does he decide to do what he does, and what does he find out later about the option he did not take?

Chapter 5 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 6 (pages 85-97)

30. *What thought keeps Elie from quitting during the long evacuation march?*

31. *Why is Elie glad he did not tell Rabbi Eliahou about seeing the Rabbi's son during the march?*

32. *Elie's story is sometimes punctuated with strange, dreamlike moments. Such a moment in this chapter is an incident involving Julieck. What happens?*

Chapter 6 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 7 (pages 98-103)

33. *What does the episode about the German citizens throwing bread reveal about the people who do the throwing AND about the prisoners who go after it?*

34. *When they finally arrive at Buchenwald, Elie gives us an idea of the survival rate. If so few survived (and assuming the Germans did not expect many starved and beaten prisoners to survive in the first place), why do you suppose they even bothered with this march? Why not just leave them behind?*

Chapter 7 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 8 (pages 104-112)

35. *What does Elie mean when he says, “No better then Rabbi Eliahou’s son had I withstood the test?” (page 102)*

36. *What are the circumstances surrounding the death of Elie’s father?*

37. *Why when his father dies does Elie think that deep inside, he (Elie) is feeling “free at last” about himself? (page 106)*

Chapter 8 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.

Chapter 9 (113-115)

38. *How is the camp liberated?*

39. *Why does no one think of revenge after the liberation?*

40. *Why do you suppose Elie called this book **Night**?*

41. *Which of Elie's experiences do you feel is the worst? Why?*

42. *Genocide has a long legacy in human history. We like to think of ourselves as "civilized", yet inhumanity on this planet continues. List some current examples of inhumanity --- in the "outside world" and close to home.*

43. *Could a holocaust such as Elie survived take place today? Explain.*

44. *What can any of us do to prevent inhumanity, even genocide? How does this book help?*

Chapter 9 Reflection

To review, each reflection entry should include:

1. One paragraph describing Elie's spiritual, emotional, or physical change
2. Two quotes, with page numbers, which show Elie's transformation
3. Paragraphs should be thoughtful, clear, and include 5-7 COMPLETE sentences.