Global Literature Name_____
<u>Night</u> by Elie Wiesel

Reading One: Pages 3 - 28

1. Why do you think Wiesel starts the book with the story of Moishe the Beadle? Why is Moishe's story significant? Who else's story is it similar to? How?

2. What do the following lines tell the reader about the people of Sighet? Why might the people behave in this way? What kind of mood does this create? How?

   a. The people were saying, 'The Red Army is advancing with giant strides…Hitler will not be able to harm us, even if he wants to…" Yes, we even doubted his resolve to exterminate us. Annihilate an entire people? Wipe out a population dispersed throughout so many nations? So many millions of people! By what means? In the middle of the twentieth century! (8)

3. Find another passage, similar to the one above, that Wiesel includes to create irony, foreshadowing and a mood of foreboding. Include the page number.

4. Explain the importance of the following passage.

   NIGHT. No one was praying for the night to pass quickly. The stars were but sparks of the immense conflagration that was consuming us. Were this conflagration to be extinguished one day, nothing would be left in the sky but extinct stars and unseeing eyes (21).

5. Compare the passage above to the similar passage from the first translation.

> Night No one prayed, so that the night would pass quickly. The starts were only sparks of the fire which devours us. Should that fire die out one day, there would be nothing left in the sky but dead stars, dead eyes (18)

6. Write down one line that you think best describes the experience of the transport (chapter 2). Why did you select this line?

7. Why does Wiesel include the story of Mrs. Schachter? How does it affect the mood, etc.?

8. Write down at least one topic and what the author is trying to say about this topic (the theme) for these two chapters.

Reading Two: Pages 29 - 65

Chapter 3

1. Why were Elie and his father persuaded to lie about their ages? What difference would it have made?

2. One of the prisoners in charge gave Elie some advice for surviving in the concentration camps. What did he advise?

Chapter 4:

1. Possessions take on a very significant role in this chapter. Give an example of what the prisoners did to obtain or keep their possessions.

2. Who was the "sad-eyed angel"? Why was he killed?

3. Juxtapose these two remarks about soup.
"I remember that on that evening, the soup tasted better than ever " (Wiesel 63)
"That night the soup tasted of corpses" (Wiesel 65)

What do these lines show us about Elie Wiesel's changed character?

Reading Three: Pages 66 - 97

Chapter 5
1. Revisit pgs. 66 – 68. Summarize what's happening for him. How has Wiesel's faith changed since the beginning of the book? Explain and give examples.

2. More than once, after renouncing God, Wiesel has said a prayer. Find an example of a prayer and write it, with the page number, below. What does this moment show the reader about Wiesel?

3. Reread the vignette about Akiba Drumer (p.76 - 77). Summarize the story. Why does Wiesel choose to include this little story? What does it show the reader?

4. Name one decision Wiesel made during the chapter that could have helped/hurt his chances of survival. What does this show the reader (about survival in the camps)? Explain.

Chapter 6

1. How do Wiesel and his father rely on each other during the "march" out of the camp? Find one example, and write it below, with the page number. How has Wiesel's relationship with his father changed since the beginning of the book?

2. Revisit the story of Rabbi Eliahu and his son (p.90 – 91). Describe what happens. Why do you think Wiesel includes this vignette?

3. Reread the vignette about Juliek – pgs. 93 – 95. Why does Wiesel include this story? What's the deeper meaning behind the words? How can you tell – which words/descriptions/the *way* its told show you this?

Reading Four: Pages 98 - 115

1. There are several moments where Elie Wiesel focuses our attention to family relationships, usually in regard to fathers and sons. Give ***two*** such examples. Why does he do that? What do the different examples show us about the relationship between Elie and his father?

2. Describe Elie Wiesel's reaction to his father's deteriorating health, what was his own internal struggle during this time?

3. Explain the significance of the last words in this chapter: “free at last.”

4. What do you think that among the men liberated along with Elie, no one “thought of revenge”?

5. What does Elie Wiesel see in the mirror after liberation? Explain.

1. Go back and read the Preface and Forward to Night.
    a. How do they add to your understanding of the memoir?

    b. Do you agree or disagree with the decision to omit (leave out) that parts that they did? Why or why not?

6. Summarize your response to the book as well as you can. What aspects of the story had the greatest impact on your thoughts or feelings? Did it change or confirm the way you look at the world in anyway? What lasting questions are you left with? Using all these questions as prompts, **fill in the remainder of this page** with a thoughtful response to the book.