English 9 Survey Honors Summer Reading Assignment 2016
Due: Monday, September 19, 2016
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Your summer assignments entails:
● **reading** the novel *Night* by Elie Wiesel
● crafting thoughtful, text-based, hand-written **responses to the 10 assignments** below
  ○ write on one side of the paper in blue or black pen
  ○ in a composition (lab) notebook or on loose-leaf paper bound/stapled neatly together

The purpose of our study of the novel is to become more familiar with the features of this memoir in comparison to fiction texts and to practice thoughtful responses to a variety of topics. Your project will serve as a writing sample and baseline measurement for your ability to think deeply. Put careful thought into your answers, use the text (direct quotes) as a reference, and write to the best of your ability.

Text for the Summer Reading Assignment: *Night by Elie Wiesel*

**Recommended Edition:** The Hill and Wang Edition, 2006. Using this edition will be the easiest way to get the page numbers correct, unless you can find the corresponding page numbers in your own edition based on the notes below. Although you are **not required to purchase the book,** you must have it available to use for both your assignment and any in-class work once school starts (including the first day!). (ISBN 978-0-374-50001-6, $6 on amazon.com)

- Label each entry with Assignment #, Title of Assignment, and page numbers: ex. **Assignment #2, SETTING, pp 1-24**
- For each Assignment, you are provided an explanation and tasks (labeled A, B...). Use this assignment sheet as a kind of check-off list. Be sure to complete all components of each Assignment.

### Assignment #1:
PREREADING:

A. Create an **MLA BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY** for the book, using a citation generator from Tremper’s Library Resources (trempers.kusd.edu) or the Purdue OWL ([https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/)) as your resource.

B. After the bibliographic entry, read the front and back cover of the novel and then write a well-organized, thoughtful paragraph about what you expect from the book (consider multiple elements such as content, style, tone, theme, plot, characters). Use your imagination.

### Assignment #2 Pages 3-22 (section ending “A prolonged whistle pierced the air. The wheels began to grind. We were on our way.”)

**SETTING:** For many novels, the first few pages help to establish a concrete picture of the setting. This novel shows a constant shift in the setting or “home base” for Elie and his family. There is no returning to their previous homes.

A. Using bullets points (yet still writing in complete sentences), list a minimum of 5 key descriptions (EXACT QUOTES) that identify the setting of the novel—you should include references to time, place, region, and atmosphere.

B. Cite the page # for each description in MLA format (use the Purdue OWL information on in-text citations).

C. Once you have your list, answer the following question in a well-planned, coherent paragraph: What aspects of the shift in setting (home base) might influence the characters, their behavior, and the future events that might happen to them? Be thorough and specific.

### Assignment #3 Pages 3-22 (section ending “A prolonged whistle pierced the air. The wheels began to grind. We were on our way.”)

**POINT OF VIEW:** Authors make a conscious decision about how they will tell the story. Wiesel tells the story from his own point of view but needs to achieve a certain balance between his childhood innocence (the character in the novel) and his experience and knowledge as an adult. Nevertheless, it is autobiographical; there are a series of deliberate, chronological flashbacks that convey a reflective or contemplative attitude on this topic.

A. Write a paragraph commenting on the effect of flashbacks and the presence of both Wiesel’s childhood and adult voices in the narrative.

### Assignment #4 Pages 23-28 (section ending “We had arrived. In Birkenau.”)

**MINOR CHARACTER:** Authors often use supporting characters to accomplish various purposes within their novels. In this section, Elie describes his horrific experience of the cattle car transport. Here, the readers meet Mrs. Schachter.

A. Using two direct quotes as supporting evidence, craft a paragraph analyzing the specific role and function of Mrs. Schachter as a supporting or minor character.
Assignment #5 Pages 29-46 (section ending “After four hours, we arrived at the new camp: Buna. The iron gate closed behind us.”)

KEY PASSAGE: Choose a striking or key passage from this section that is important to character development, plot development, or meaning. A passage may be a line, quote, or any excerpt from the novel.

A. Copy the entire passage accurately and cite in MLA format, using the correct method of in-text citation.
B. Thoroughly explain your choice. Use the following questions to guide you in your brainstorming: Why is this a key passage? What is the author trying to achieve or say at this point? What does this passage reveal about development of a character (a significant change or description)? Does it cause a significant development in the plot? Does it add to the meaning of the work as a whole? How is this passage typical of the author’s style? What is unusual or striking about the passage?

Assignment #6 Pages 47-65 (section ending “That night, the soup tasted of corpses.”)

Imagery: Authors use imagery to create vivid sensory experiences, not just the visual sense, but all five, in the minds of their readers. Locate an excerpt of text that creates a vivid image in your mind, appealing to multiple senses.

A. Copy the entire passage accurately and cite in MLA format, using the correct method of in-text citation.
B. Write a paragraph detailing the impact of the image on your understanding of the story, a character, the theme, or the setting.

Assignment #7 Pages 77-97 (section ending “The SS shoved us inside, a hundred per car: we were so skinny! When everybody was on board, the convoy left.”)

Dehumanization: In literature, motifs are generally viewed as “building blocks” for a larger thematic idea. The author chooses words to craft an idea or message (motif) that reinforces a larger theme. In this novel, dehumanization is one such motif. Dehumanization is the psychological process of degrading the value of the enemy, making them seem less than human and hence not worthy of humane treatment. Locate at least two specific events demonstrating the dehumanization of Jews in WWII.

A. Copy the passages accurately and cite in MLA format, using the correct method of in-text citation.
B. Write one paragraph speculating about why the Nazis needed to dehumanize the Jews, and finally, why the Jews in the novel were so passive in their response.

Assignment #8 Pages 98-112 (section ending “… I might have found something like: Free at last!”)

Relationships: Wiesel shows that there is a destructive power in hatred. To balance that, he shows the readers that in the face of hellish situations, people rely on others for support and strength during times of suffering. Locate at least two situations when relationships made life in the camp a “little” more bearable.

A. Copy the passages accurately and cite in MLA format, using the correct method of in-text citation.
B. Write a paragraph demonstrating how humanity overcomes the evil of the camps.

Assignment #9 Pages 3-9 and 113-115 (section ending “The look in his eyes as he gazed at me has never left me.”)

Character Evolution: Demonstrate (from the beginning, middle and end of the novel) how Elie has changed over the course of Night.

A. Carefully choose 15 words that Elie uses to describe himself as he evolves throughout the text: 5 from the beginning (pgs 1-28), 5 from the middle, (pgs 29-65) and 5 from the end (pgs 66-the end). Write them in three lists and include page numbers.
B. Using your three lists, demonstrate your understanding of Elie’s change in identity as he characterizes himself throughout the novel. Show your understanding by writing one paragraph titled: The Change in Elie. Use proper paragraph structure including a topic sentence and supporting sentences. Consider some of the following: faith, curiosity, relationship with his father, personality, innocence, compassion for others, and hopefulness as topics for your paragraph.

Assignment #10 (entire novel)

Creative Writing: It should be expected that Elie would need support after his horrific experiences in the war.

A. Write the transcript of a counseling session with the 16 year old narrator Elie after the war in a dialogue format. He should describe his experiences and feelings, and the counselor should give advice. Research advice a counselor might give to someone who once had both great faith in humanity and in a divine
Sample Entry:

**Counselor:** How did you feel when you decided not to believe that Moshi, who was a mentor figure for you, was telling the truth about his traumatic experiences?

**Patient Elie:** Moshi’s words were so frightening, so incredible, that I could not believe them. He had opened my eyes to “truths,” yet the truest thing he may have ever told me, I thought was a lie. I had to think it was a lie. I couldn’t believe in a world where men did that to other human beings, or in a world where the God I learned about would let it happen. I wake up some nights in cold sweats thinking: what if we had all believed him?