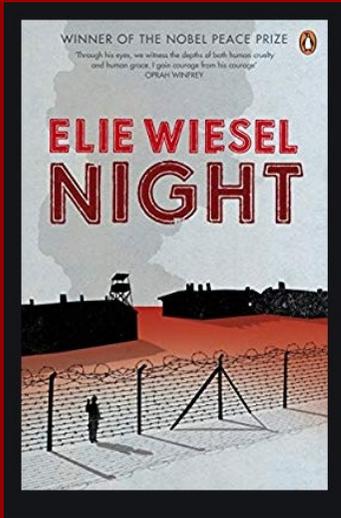


Year 9- Module 3

Night by Elie Wiesel



List of People:

Eliezer- the memoir is written from Wiesel's perspective over a decade after the end of the Holocaust. He was 15 years old when he was taken to Auschwitz. Some slight changes are made so that the author (Elie Wiesel) can somewhat distance himself from some of the horrors of the real-life atrocities he faced. Wiesel's not only concerned about the historical events of the Holocaust but also focuses on the emotional impact of victims both during and after the Holocaust.

Eliezer's Father (Shlomo)- we do not hear from his perspective, instead, he acts as a point of support and stability for his son, also depending on him due to his old age. The lack of Shlomo's perspective reminds the reader that this story is subjective, meaning we are learning about the Holocaust only from one perspective. Shlomo also shows another cruelty of the Nazis towards older generations. Shlomo is a reminder to Eliezer that there is a life outside of the Holocaust and reminds him why he needs to survive.

Moishe the Beadle- is the first character introduced in the text, is important because he is symbolic of the Jewish religious faith. This faith is something that Eliezer struggles with throughout his experiences, even with Moishe the Beadle's strong guidance for the whole of Eliezer's childhood. Moishe the Beadle teaches lessons to both Eliezer and the reader. Eliezer's choice to put him first in the story expresses his guilt for not having listened to Moishe the Beadle's warning and reinforces that events such as the Holocaust were caused by silence and people ignoring truths they didn't want to face.

Summary (3 Acts):

Pre- Concentration Camp

Section One- Eliezer is 12 years old living in Sighet and begins to witness and experience the persecution because of his Jewish faith.

Section Two- Jewish people are being exiled out of their home countries onto cattle trains unaware of where they are going.

Concentration Camp

Section Three- Arrival at **Auschwitz** Concentration camp where families are separated into groups of people, some will work, some will be killed.

Section Four- Eliezer is brought to another Concentration Camp, **Buna**. He is immediately thrust into the brutality and cruelty of this new world.

Section Five- Eliezer experiences a loss of his religious faith and wonders how God could punish so many people for no reason. They move camps during a harsh winter.

Section Six- The prisoners must run to their next camp on foot over days with little food and clothing, they will be shot if they stop moving. Nazis are trying to avoid the Russian Invasion.

Section Seven- Train moved to **Buchenwald** Concentration Camp. Passengers are ordered to throw dead from trains, many people have lost a reason to live.

Section Eight- Eliezer struggles with his guilt and keeping himself alive over others.

Section Nine- Prisoners wait for liberation, they fight back against the S.S. and wait to be rescued by outside

Setting(s):

Sighet: The story begins in the setting of Romania in Wiesel's hometown of Sighet (which was occupied by Hungary at the time). Sighet changes from a familiar to unfamiliar place as the Jewish people's rights are taken away.

Trains- represent a sense of the unknown dangers ahead and not being told anything before their journeys. The conditions on the trains reinforce their dehumanisation not just from Nazis but to each other.

Auschwitz- one of the largest Concentration Camps during the Holocaust. 1.1 million people were murdered here.

Buna- Labour Camp where able prisoners were able to stay alive by forced labour.

Buchenwald- Concentration Camp that were liberated by American soldiers, people learned of the Holocaust through this camp.

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| Themes: | Key Vocabulary/Spelling: | Context: | Subject Terminology: |
| <p>Religion/Faith: What were people's religious faith like before the Holocaust? How does something like the Holocaust change your religious belief?</p> <p>Death/Survival: Human instinct is to fight against death, how does peoples' attitudes change about death when faced with it on a continuous basis? How do you continue to value human life when death surrounds you? What are</p> | <p>Holocaust: destruction or slaughter on a mass scale, especially caused by fire.</p> <p>Genocide: the deliberate killing of a mass group of people, especially those of a particular ethnic or religious group.</p> <p>Extermination: killing of an entire group of people or animals.</p> <p>Hebrew: language spoken by people who are Jewish.</p> | <p>World War I/The Great Depression: were both leading factors to World War II. Germany had badly lost World War I and had to pay huge financial penalties which left them an impoverished country. In combination with the worst economic recession globally leaving 22% of the population unemployed, Germany was demoralised and desperate.</p> <p>Rise of the Nazi Party: After World War I, Germany's political landscape became very unstable. The Nazis were an extreme right wing party that created the nationalistic idea of an Aryan race (perfect race) and blamed Jewish people (among others) for the demise of Germany.</p> | <p>Non-Fiction: a story based on real events.</p> <p>Memoir: like an autobiography but focused on a particular time instead of someone's whole life.</p> <p>Preface: an author's reflection of their own writing.</p> |

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| <p>people willing and not willing to do to stay alive?</p> <p>Inhumanity/Cruelty: What does it mean to be human? How does that change if people stop treating you as if you are human? What impact does this have on yourself and others?</p> <p>Guilt/Inaction: What impact does guilt have on people? How does guilt grow or how is it established? What do people do about their feelings of guilt? Are they right in feeling guilt?</p> <p>Family/Relationships: How does the idea of family change in conditions that test your relationship? How do circumstances force role reversal or maybe even the rejection of family?</p> | <p>Anti-semitism: the hatred and prejudice against people of the Jewish faith.</p> <p>Ghettos: a part of a city, especially a slum occupied by a segregated group of people</p> <p>Concentration Camp: a place in which large numbers of people, are deliberately imprisoned in a relatively small area with inadequate facilities, sometimes to provide forced labour or to await mass execution.</p> <p>Rosh Hashan/Passover: Important Jewish religious holidays</p> <p>Kabbalah: ancient Jewish interpretation of the Bible</p> <p>Shekinah: religious symbolism of light</p> <p>Rabbi: a Jewish religious leader</p> <p>Sabbath: day without work within Jewish/Christian faith to practice their religion.</p> <p>Messiah: a religious saviour expected to come and save its believers.</p> | <p>Initially, they were not the popular political party having had to form collations with the winning political party. Hitler was brought in as a temporary leader to rule while the conservative party gained momentum, but Hitler used undemocratic methods to secure his power to become a fascist dictator.</p> <p>Nazi treatment of Jewish People: The Nazi party created propaganda about Jewish people that they spread first across Germany (later most European cities) to make Jewish people a common enemy. They then created a police force that moved all Jewish people to Jewish neighbourhoods called 'ghettos'. During this time Jewish rights were stripped (unable to work, spend their own money, etc.), they were forced to display their religion on their clothing and passports, and they were bullied into moving away from their home countries (although many other countries wouldn't accept Jewish refugees). Jewish people were then transferred out of cities to Concentration Camps, where they were separated from their families and forced to work for no money. This eventually led to the Nazi's idea of The Final Solution. This was a planned extermination (genocide) where they would kill the European Jewish population through death camps bringing the population from 9.5 million to 3.5 million Jews. The Nazis killed 10 million people, 6 million of these victims were Jewish.</p> | <p>Forward: is a short piece written by another person, not the book's author to tell some kind of connection or interaction between the author and the foreword writer.</p> <p>Foreshadowing: hints about future events</p> <p>Perspective: hearing of an event from a particular point of view.</p> <p>Symbolism: when particular objects hold a larger meaning, for example fire and night are symbols of death in the text.</p> <p>First person narration: a story that is told from someone's own perspective focusing on their thoughts/feelings.</p> |
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