

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Night*** Discussion Questions

1. What would be the considerations for your decision to warn others, keep quiet or take action in a similar situation?
2. Why does Madame Schachter scream? Is she a madwoman or a prophet?
3. Why are the prisoners so angry with the newly arrived Jews?
4. After prisoners are shaven, given tattoos and uniforms, what are they left with?
5. Why do Eliezer and the other prisoners respond so emotionally to the hanging of the child? Why were the SS "more preoccupied, more disturbed than usual?"
6. Discuss how Eliezer's relationship with his father changes throughout the book.
7. Why are the warnings of "horrible things to come" from Moshe the Beadle not taken seriously? Are there other warnings?
8. The Kaddish, the traditional Jewish prayer of mourning, does not mention the dead and instead praises God. In *Night*, what did it mean that living people recited it for themselves and why did this anger Eliezer?
9. What advice does the head of the block give to Eliezer on page 105? How does it compare to the advice given by the young Pole on page 38?
10. Wiesel concludes his work by writing, "a corpse gazed back at me, the look in his eye, as they stared at mine, has never left me." Discuss this statement.
11. From deportation from Sighet to murder at Birkenau, deception was often used to confuse the prisoners. How does deception dehumanize?
12. What is the symbolism of the word "night" in the book?
13. How is Wiesel's moral struggle an important element of *Night*?
14. Why do you think survivors often feel guilty?
15. What hints of hope does Wiesel offer us?
16. Why do you think Wiesel tells his story in the first person? If *Night* were written in the third person, would it be more or less believable?
17. Why is this book relevant today?
18. What Is Genocide?