

Name: _____

Annotation Guide for *Night* by Elie Wiesel

In order to facilitate critical reading, **annotation of the book is required**. Although this book is literary non-fiction, it still utilizes many of the elements and literary techniques of fiction.

What to Annotate

As you read, label the following. You may write in your personal copy of the book, or if you are using a borrowed or digital copy, you will write Cornell style notes on notebook paper.

- If writing in your book, underline or highlight the example then label it in the margin.
- If using notebook paper, note the device and page number in the left margin, then write the example (direct quote or your own words) in the center section of your paper.

Motifs/Symbols

Motifs are repeated thematic elements throughout a work of fiction. Label the following motifs in your copy of the book or list them on notebook paper, Cornell Notes style, with the page number and explanation.

- hope/optimism: ☺
- light: ☀
- dark: ☾

Literary Devices

Label any and all literary devices with which you are familiar, noting specifically the following:

- similes
- metaphors
- vivid imagery
- irony

Pay attention to *why* the author uses specific literary devices.

Emotional Reactions

In the margins or on your Cornell Notes, indicate your personal reactions with emoji-type responses (smiley faces, sad faces, exclamation points, question marks, etc.) or words that describe your feelings about a character or incident.

Characters

On the Character Chart, write descriptions (both personality and physical) for each character. Also note the places mentioned in the book at the bottom of the character chart.

Summaries

For each chapter, write a TEN-POINT BULLETED summary of the chapter's events. Write the summaries on notebook paper, clearing labeling each chapter.

Night Vocabulary/Glossary

This is a glossary of vocabulary from the book related to the Jews and the Holocaust. You are not expected to memorize all of these terms; simply use it as you read to facilitate your understanding of the book.

1. **anti-Semitism** – prejudice against early Jews
2. **Aryan** – see *master race*
3. **Beadle** – caretaker of the temple or synagogue
4. **boche** – slang term for German guards – “blockhead”
5. **Cabbala** – book of speculative theology and number symbolism dealing with mysticism
6. **Captivity of Babylon** – exile of tribes of Judah into slavery
7. **deportation** – expulsion from a country or region
8. **Fascism** - unchecked rule of a class of the privileged, or relatively rich, in power—a full-scale assault on poor and working people.
9. **fortnight** – fourteen nights (two weeks)
10. **gestapo** – Secret German State Police – civilian secret police
11. **Hasidic Jews** – “The pious ones” the strictest sect
12. **holocaust** – destruction or slaughter on a mass scale, esp. caused by fire or nuclear war
(*historical*: a Jewish sacrificial offering that is burned completely on an altar)
13. **Holocaust** – the mass murder of Jews under the Nazi regime during the period 1941–45.
14. **Judaism** – religion based on belief of one God and the holy Scripture
15. **Kabbalah** – see *Cabbala*
16. **Kaddish** – Jewish hymn in praise of God – used as a prayer for the dead
17. **Kapo** – Jewish people who served as prison guards
18. **lorry** – low, flat wagon without sides
19. **Maimonides** – 12th Century philosopher who simplified the 63 books of the Talmud
20. **master race** – plan to create a superior race of purely Aryan descent (blond hair, blue eyes)
21. **Messiah** – the Deliverer, the Savior of the Jews promised by God
22. **Menorah** – candelabra used during Hanukkah
23. **Nazi** – shortened from Nationalsozialistische, official name of German Party
24. **Palestine** – region in Middle East where Jews lived – now Israel
25. **Passover** – holiday of 7-8 days commemorating the Jews’ deliverance from slavery
26. **resistance** – activities aimed at opposing or fighting deportation efforts
27. **S.S.** – Shultz staffed – the elite bodyguards of Hitler
28. **selection** – process for choosing prisoners for death or work; Dr. Mengele often leader of selection process
29. **Semites** – The term “Semitic” refers to the descendants of Shem, a common ancestor of Middle Eastern peoples, but is now used specifically to refer to Jews.
30. **Spanish Inquisition** – persecution for heretics in Spain
31. **star of David** - symbol of the Jewish faith
32. **swastika** – ancient religious symbol used as an official Nazi symbol of victory
33. **Talmud** – interpretation of the Scriptures as they apply to everyday life, written so that a boy can understand
34. **Torah** – first five books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)
35. **truncheon** – a club, essentially a short stick, usually made of wood, and wielded as a weapon
36. **Yiddish** – language made up of German and Hebrew
37. **Zionism** – the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people
38. **Zohar** – a book within the Cabbala dealing with the secrets of Jewish mysticism

Character Chart

Write descriptions (both personality and physical) for each character. Not all bulleted points will be used. Also note the places mentioned in the book at the bottom of the character chart. The first few are started for you (but not complete). Adjust the page numbers as needed for your copy of the book.

Name	Basic Description	Physical Traits	Personality Traits	Page(s)
Eliezer "Elie" Wiesel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● almost 13 ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● very religious ● ● ● 	3-4
Sholomo Wiesel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elie's father ● runs a store ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	4
Moishe the Beadle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● no last name ● jack of all trades ● poor ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● awkward as a clown ● dreamy eyes ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● makes himself invisible ● shy ● sings/chants ● very religious 	3
Hilda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elie's oldest sister ● ● ● 			4
Bea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elie's older sister ● ● ● 			4
Tzipora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elie's youngest sister ● ● ● 			4
Madame Schachter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	
Dr. Mengele	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	
Idek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	
French girl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● ● ● 	

Pipel	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
Juliek	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
Rabbi Eliahou's son	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
Tibi and Yosi	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
Akiba Drumer	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
Franek	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
Meir Katz	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	

Places

Name of Place	Significance to Book	Page
Sighet, Romania	Elie's hometown	3
Birkenau, Poland		
Auschwitz, Poland		
Buna, Poland		
Gleiwitz, Poland		
Buchenwald, Germany		