

Night by Elie Wiesel
Pacing Guide

This pacing guide is intended to facilitate your understanding of Culture and Belonging, The Holocaust, and the novel *Night*. It is highly suggested that you use this to guide your summer reading to stay on track. When you begin school in August, you will be given a summative assessment that will count as one of the first grades of the quarter.

As you read each chapter, please complete the following:

- Spend at least twenty minutes a day reading.
- Highlight unknown vocabulary and use the internet to determine the meaning. This can be applied to the guiding questions as well.
- Take margin notes to help with comprehension.
- Respond in writing or discuss with parent/guardian each set of guiding questions. Use evidence from *Night* to support your response.

June 5-June 9: Before Reading

- Use the internet to research Elie Wiesel & The Holocaust (Be aware that the stories and images you find will be graphic, but they are TRUE stories and a major part of history). You can use the webquest at www.questholocaust.weebly.com to guide your research.

June 12-June 16: Chapter 1

1. Describe the setting of *Night*.
2. Who was Moshe the Beadle? Why was he an important figure in Mr. Weisel's life?
3. What is significant about the ghettos?
4. What were the conditions in the cattle car?
5. In what ways were the Jews made to feel that they didn't belong in their home country as a result of their religion and culture?
6. Describe Elie in Chapter 1. What is he like? What is his perspective on the world?

June 19-June 23: Chapter 2

1. What happened to Mrs. Schachter to make her behave as she did? What did she continually shout about to the Jews?
2. When they reached a station, where were they? What would they do there?
3. What did Mrs. Schachter's cries foreshadow?

June 26-June 30: Chapter 3

1. When they arrived at Auschwitz, why was Elie Wiesel apprehensive when the women went one way and the men went the other? Were his fears realistic?
2. Why did Elie claim to be eighteen, not fifteen?
3. Who was Dr. Mengele and what was his role at Auschwitz?
4. Beginning with giving up their clothes, what process did all new prisoners have to go through when they came to a camp?

July 3-July 7: Chapter 4

1. When Elie was summoned to the dentist, what was odd about the way the dentist looked?
2. What did the French girl do that surprised Elie? How was she able to pass as Aryan?
3. What happened to the pipel, the one with the face of an angel in distress?

July 7-July 14: Chapter 5

1. How do Elie's thoughts show he is losing faith in God?
2. What would have happened to Elie if he had stayed in the hospital after his surgery?
3. How were the men at the camp seen? What was the last act performed by the men an hour before leaving the camp? Why?

July 17-July 21: Chapter 6

1. Why were the men forced to run? If they stopped, what was their fate?
2. As Rabbi Eliahu came looking for his son, what did we learn about his son? How do you think this connects to Elie Wiesel and the relationship with his father?

July 24-July 28: Chapter 7

1. What story did Wiesel compare his story of Germans throwing bread into the cattle car? Why was this upsetting to him?
2. Of the one hundred who had started the journey, how many climbed down from the train at Buchenwald?

July 31-August 4: Chapter 8

1. What did Elie do that made him feel ashamed forever?
2. What was most likely the contributing factor in Elie's father's death?

August 7-August 11: Chapter 9

1. Where was Elie sent to live?
2. Although an order to assemble came over loudspeakers, some told the children to go back. Why?
3. Coincidentally, what took place at 6:00 that evening before the Final Solution?
4. What was ironic about Elie's incident with food poisoning shortly after liberation?
5. At the end of *Night*, Wiesel writes, "From the depths of the mirror, a corpse was contemplating me" (p. 115). What parts of Eliezer died during his time in the concentration camp? What replaced them? In other words, in what ways did Elie change throughout the book? (Refer to Chapter 1, #5)
6. Once liberated, what was Elie's perspective on what had happened? How was his perspective shaped by his experiences?

After Reading: Additional Questions for Thought & Reflection

1. What scenes from *Night* do you remember most vividly? How have they affected the way you see your life, your family, or the world?
2. The Nazis' program of persecution against the Jewish was carried out in gradual steps (p. 9). First, the German officers moved into their homes. They closed the synagogues, arrested Jewish leaders, forbade the Jews from owning any valuables, and forced them to wear the yellow star. They couldn't visit restaurants, travel by train, attend synagogue, or be on the streets after 6pm. Then, they were forced to leave their homes and move into ghettos. From the ghettos, the Jews were deported to the concentration camps. How do you think the Jews felt as the persecution increased? Why do you think they followed the Germans' rules? Should they have taken a stand? Would you have reacted differently?
3. Why is the book titled *Night*?
4. What does reading *Night* and studying the Holocaust help us understand about culture and belonging?