Glossary of Terms

Night by Elie Wiesel

- Appelplatz: place or area for roll call
- Auschwitz: Auschwitz concentration camp was a network of German Nazi concentration and extermination camps built and operated by the Third Reich in Polish areas annexed by Nazi Germany during World War II
- Birkenau: one of the camps in Auschwitz, sometimes referred to as Auschwitz II
- Blockälteste: block elder, inmates in charge of a single concentration camp barrack
- Buchenwald: a German Nazi concentration camp established near Weimar, Germany in July, 1937
- Buna: the largest Auschwitz sub-camp
- Dr. Mengele: Josef Mengele was an officer and physician in Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II, a notorious doctor responsible for the selection of victims to be killed in the gas chambers and for performing deadly human experiments on prisoners
- Fascist Party: Italian political party, created by Benito Mussolini, authoritarian & nationalistic government
- Gestapo: abbreviation of Geheime Staatspolizei, the Secret State Police of Nazi Germany
- Gypsy: racial slur for Romani people
- Jewish Police: auxiliary police units organized within the Jewish ghettos of German-occupied Eastern Europe by local councils under the ultimate authority of the Nazi occupiers
- Kabbalah: method, discipline, and school of thought that originated in Judaism
- Kaddish: a hymn of praises to God found in the Jewish prayer service
- Kapos: prisoners in Nazi concentration camps assigned by the SS guards to supervise forced labor or carry out administrative tasks in the camp
- Kommandos: the basic unit of organization of slave laborers in German concentration camps
- Lagerälteste: implemented camp commandant’s orders, ensured that the camp’s daily routines ran smoothly
- Lagerkapo: prisoner serving as head of the camp
- Maimonides: Jewish philosopher and astronomer lived 1135-1204
- Muselman: deemed unfit to work, a condemned prisoner of a Nazi death camp
- Nyilas: members of the Hungarian Nazi party
- Oberkapo: prisoner assigned as chief foreman
- Pipel: among Nazi concentration camp detainees, an attractive male child who received special privileges by maintaining a relationship with another detainee who had been granted some authority over other detainees
- Phylacteries: small leather boxes containing Hebrew texts, worn by Jewish men at prayer
- Raus!: Out!
- Rebbe: a rabbi, especially a religious leader of the Hasidic sect
- Red Army: common name for the Russian National Military Forces
• Reichsführer Himmler: Heinrich Himmler was the head of the SS and a leading member of the Nazi Party
• Rosh Hashanah: Jewish New Year
• Shavuot: festival of Shavuot marks the end of the seven-week counting period between Passover and Shavuot
• Shekhinah: the dwelling or settling of the divine presence of God
• shtibl: small house for Jewish prayer
• Sonder-kommando: work units made up of German Nazi death camp prisoners who were forced, on threat of their own deaths, to aid with the disposal of gas chamber victims during the Holocaust
• SS: Schutzstaffel, paramilitary organization in Nazi Germany
• Stubenälteste: senior member of a block
• Synagogue: building where a Jewish assembly or congregation meets for religious worship and instruction
• Talmud: central text of Rabbinic Judaism
• Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement, holy day in Judaism, a day to atone for sins of the past year
• Zionism: philosophy which supports Jews adhering to religious Judaism and the return of Jews to Israel as a means for Jews to be a majority nation in their own state
• Zohar: the foundational work in the literature of Jewish mystical thought known as Kabbalah

**Night Characters:** Write this list of characters in your notebook, skipping a line or two in between each where you will write a description of that character.

1. Moishe the Beadle (p. 3-8)
2. Hilda (p. 4, 8)
3. Bea (p. 4)
4. Tzipora (p. 4, 19)
5. Eliezer
6. Malka (p. 7)
7. Tobie (p. 7)
8. Moishe Chaim Berkowitz (p. 9)
9. Mrs. Kahn (p. 10)
10. Ezra Malik (p. 12)
11. Stern (p. 12, 37)
12. Tzipora Reich (p. 14)
13. Uncle Mendel (p. 20)
14. Maria (p. 20)
15. Mrs. Schächter (p. 24-28)
16. Béla Katz (p. 35)
17. Yehiel (p. 36)
18. Stein (p. 43-45)
19. Reizel (p. 43-45)
20. Akiba Drumer (p. 45, 51, 76)
21. Hersh Gend (p. 45)
22. Juliek (p. 49, 61-62, 93-95)
23. Louis (p. 49)
24. Hans (p. 49)
25. Franek (p. 49, 55-56)
26. Idek (p. 50, 56-58)
27. Yossi (p. 50, 71-72)
28. Tizi (p. 50, 71-72)
29. Alphonse (p. 51)
30. Zalman (p. 86)
31. Rabbi Eliahu (p. 90-91)
32. Meir Katz (p. 102-103)

In your notebook, you will create notes on your own. There are nine sections in the novel *Night*. You will need summarizing notes for each section.

1. pages 3-22
2. pages 23-28
3. pages 29-46
4. pages 47-65
5. pages 66-84
6. pages 85-97
7. pages 98-103
8. pages 104-112
9. pages 113-115