

English 10 Honors Summer Reading 2017

Overview: Your first assignment for English 10 Honors is to read two memoirs, Jeanette Walls' *The Glass Castle* and Elie Wiesel's *Night* (List A). After you finish reading, complete all 6 short response questions (List B). There are 3 questions for each novel. Additionally, you will have an in-class reading test on *The Glass Castle* and *Night* during the first week of school.

List A- Complete the summer reading assignments

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls

Night by Elie Wiesel

List B- Answer 6 Short Essay Questions

Point Value: 60 points

Due Date: Due on the first day of school to Turnitin.com on 1 Microsoft Word document.

Instructions:

Answer all 6 of the following short response questions. **Each** response must be a **minimum of 200 words** and include 1-3 cited quotations to support your commentary. Make sure that you lead into each quote correctly and cite the quote in MLA format. For example: (Walls 78). Use Times New Roman 12 with one inch margins. The 6 questions must be typed into 1 Microsoft Word document that will be submitted to Turnitin.com on the first day of school.

The Glass Castle

1. Mom's big dream is to be an artist and she spends all of her time and the little money the family has on art supplies. Throughout the book we hear Rosemary's complaint: "I'm a grown woman now, why can't I do what I want to do?" (Walls 74). She never gives up on her dream. Should Rosemary be able to do what she wants, or was there a point when it was time to give up on her dream? At what point can adults do whatever they want, if ever? Is there a point when individuals must give up their dreams? If so, what is that point?

2. Throughout the book, Jeanette refers to her father as doing things "Rex Walls style." In fact, Rex often uses these words to describe his own actions. Is doing things "Rex Walls style" exciting or irresponsible? What traits about Rex do you find admirable? Repulsive? Ultimately, do you like this man or think he is unfit to be a parent? Why/ why not? Provide specific textual support for evidence.

3. On one hand Jeannette Walls describes the squalor she and her family lived in: hunger, poverty, garbage, lack of basic necessities. On the other, she describes the rich intellectual world her parents imparted: discussions of geology, math, literature, art. In light of the fact that three out of the four Walls children became successful, productive members of society, what do you think was more important to the Walls children's development: comfortable living conditions or an enriching intellectual environment? Explain your answer with support from the text.

Night

4. Dehumanization is the process by which the Nazis gradually reduced the Jews to little more than "things," which were a nuisance to them. Discuss **at least three** specific examples of events that occurred which dehumanized Elie, his father, or his fellow Jews.

5. At the end of the narrative, Wiesel closes by saying, "One day when I was able to get up, I decided to look at myself in the mirror on the opposite wall. I had not seen myself since the ghetto. From the depths of the mirror, a corpse was contemplating me. The look in his eyes as he gazed at me has never left me." What does he mean by this statement? Explain what you believe Wiesel is saying through these haunting words. Support what you say with other examples from the text. Remember to thoroughly explain and/or expand your thoughts in regard to this passage.

6. At the beginning of *Night*, the reader learns that Elie Wiesel was hungry for knowledge – especially religious knowledge. He pursued Moishe the Beadle, hounding him with questions and asking him to teach the "the secrets of Jewish mysticism." However, throughout the narrative, Wiesel's religious zeal changes. Explain how Wiesel's character changes throughout the novel, especially in regard to the Jewish religion and toward God. Use specific examples from the narrative to support what you say.