Gifted English 10: World Literature and Composition Elie Wiesel's *Night*

Section 1: pages 3-28 Section 2: pages 29-65 Section 3: pages 66-97 Section 4: pages 98-115

For our class discussions of the text, you will work as a group to develop your own questions based upon your reading for the day and lead the conversation.

To prepare to lead discussion, compose at least nine questions for discussion, three of each kind. Certainly consider the unit's essential questions as you prepare your questions. The sample questions below are for the Preface and Foreword to *Night*.

Questions of Fact

- Focus on details from the text.
- Ask about people, places, and things.
- Choose surface questions for others to answer.

Examples:

- Why did Wiesel have trouble finding a publisher for *Night?*
- What two reasons does Wiesel give for writing this book?
- What does Mauriac say first drew him to Wiesel?

Questions of Interpretation

- Focus on meanings that the text communicates.
- Ask about symbols, themes, and underlying messages.
- Choose deeper questions for others to answer.

Examples:

- Why did Mauriac find it impossible to imagine what happened to the Jewish children his wife saw?
- Why does Mauriac believe that the dream conceived in the 18th century dies with the trainloads of Jewish children?
- How do Wiesel and Mauriac think that reading *Night* can help ensure that the Holocaust will never happen again?

Questions That Are Open Ended

- Focus on moving beyond the text.
- Ask about future effects and implications.
- Choose open-ended questions for others to answer.

Examples:

- Why do some people today deny that the Holocaust ever happened?
- Which do you feel is worse—the death of the body or the death of the soul? Why?