

Night

Chapters 6–9

by Elie Wiesel

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: apathy, contemplating, devour, diminish, extinguished, grudgingly, mauling, poignant, prostrate, transcended

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz (use after reading, or skip):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–3 · A devout boy in Sighet

Section 2 · Chapters 4–5 · The work camp at Buna

Section 3 · Chapters 6–9 · A forced march through the snow

***Bold = this section.** Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.*



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

Night

Chapters 6–9

by Elie Wiesel

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

1. By Friday, a heavy **apathy** had settled over the class.

- A. feeling of quiet dread
- B. lack of interest or concern
- C. mood of cheerful calm

2. She stood quietly **contemplating** the painting on the wall.

- A. studying thoughtfully
- B. openly admiring
- C. quickly sketching

3. The hungry hikers **devour** their lunch in minutes.

- A. eat greedily
- B. save for later
- C. prepare carefully

4. Steady practice can **diminish** a player's fear of failing.

- A. put off until later
- B. bring into the open
- C. make smaller or less

5. A sudden gust **extinguished** the lantern in the hall.

- A. swung back and forth
- B. put out; snuffed out
- C. knocked over

6. He **grudgingly** lent his brother the car keys.

- A. reluctantly; unwillingly
- B. secretly; quietly
- C. carelessly; thoughtlessly

7. The grizzly was **mauling** its prey by the river.

- A. clawing and tearing at
- B. quietly stalking
- C. dragging off

8. The old photo was a **poignant** reminder of lost days.

- A. oddly amusing
- B. vague and distant
- C. deeply moving and sad

9. Exhausted, the soldier was **prostrate** in his tent.

- A. curled up tightly
- B. propped up on one arm
- C. lying stretched out flat

10. The artist's work **transcended** the styles of her era.

- A. borrowed heavily from
- B. rose above or went beyond
- C. helped to define

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Night

Chapters 6-9

by Elie Wiesel

#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	A
4	C
5	B
6	A
7	A
8	C
9	C
10	B

Vocabulary in Context

Night

Chapters 6–9

by Elie Wiesel

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “We were the masters of nature, the masters of the world. We had transcended everything—death, fatigue, our natural needs. We were stronger than cold and hunger, stronger than the guns and the desire to die, doomed and rootless, nothing but numbers, we were the only men on earth.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “transcended” most nearly suggests that the marchers felt they had...

- A. been physically transformed
- B. gone beyond all human limits
- C. crossed into another place

2 “Death, which was settling in all around me, silently, gently. It would seize upon a sleeping person, steal into him and devour him bit by bit.”

The passage most strongly suggests that death overtakes a sleeping victim by...

- A. striking all at once
- B. startling him awake
- C. slowly consuming him

3 “A terrible thought crossed my mind: What if he had wanted to be rid of his father? He had felt his father growing weaker and, believing that the end was near, had thought by this separation to free himself of a burden that could diminish his own chance for survival.”

According to the passage, the son believed that staying with his weakening father would...

- A. reduce his own chance of surviving
- B. guarantee his own survival
- C. hasten his father's death

4 “His whole being was gliding over the strings. His unfulfilled hopes. His charred past, his extinguished future. He played that which he would never play again.”

Describing Julie's future as “extinguished” primarily serves to stress that it was...

- A. something he chose to give up
- B. ended before it could unfold
- C. left uncertain and open

5 “When I awoke at daybreak, I saw Julie facing me, hunched over, dead. Next to him lay his violin, trampled, an eerily poignant little corpse.”

The passage suggests the narrator finds the trampled violin poignant mainly because it...

- A. was crushed beyond any repair
- B. was a rare and costly instrument
- C. is all that remains of Julie's music

6 “I woke from my apathy only when two men approached my father. I threw myself on his body.”

Which statement about the narrator before the men approached is best supported by the passage?

- A. He had sunk into numb indifference.
- B. He was fighting others for food.
- C. He was alert and watching his father.

7 “Men were hurling themselves against each other, trampling, tearing at and mauling each other. Beasts of prey unleashed, animal hate in their eyes.”

The author most likely describes the men “mauling” one another in order to...

- A. show their loyal cooperation
- B. portray them as savage beasts
- C. stress their weak exhaustion

8 “I gave him what was left of my soup. But my heart was heavy. I was aware that I was doing it grudgingly. Just like Rabbi Eliahu's son, I had not passed the test.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the narrator gave his father the soup even though he...

- A. expected praise in return
- B. had plenty of soup to spare
- C. inwardly resented parting with it

9 “... suffering from dysentery, my father was prostrate on his cot, with another five sick inmates nearby.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “prostrate” most nearly suggests that the father was...

- A. lying stretched out, helpless
- B. kneeling in desperate prayer
- C. pacing in feverish distress

10 “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.”

Which choice best describes how the narrator portrays the corpse's gaze in the mirror?

- A. lingering and quietly searching
- B. hostile and accusing
- C. fleeting and indifferent

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Night

Chapters 6–9
by Elie Wiesel

#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	Wiesel uses 'transcended' with bitter irony; the literal sense — to rise above or go beyond — is still what the word means here.
2	C	
3	A	
4	B	
5	C	Event comprehension. The violin moves him because of Julie's farewell concert earlier in the section, not shown here.
6	A	
7	B	
8	C	
9	A	
10	A	

Teacher Context: Chapters 6–9

Driven on a death march through the snow and then by train to Buchenwald, the prisoners suffer terribly, and Eliezer's father weakens and dies. The section runs through liberation to the end of the memoir. It begins at the evacuation because the death march, the camps, and liberation form one continuous final movement.