**Night Vocabulary and Allusions**

**Chapter 1**

**Vocabulary**

* Beadle – n. in Judaism refers to the caretaker of the synagogue
* Hasidic – adjective form of Hasidism, describes a branch of orthodox Judaism originating in Eastern Europe which focuses on the Rabbi as the conduit of God
* Cabbala – n. a system of Jewish teaching about God and the world based on mysticism and miracles
* Talmud – n. the authoritative body of Jewish tradition
* Mysticism – n. the belief that knowledge of God, spiritual truth, and ultimate reality can best be understood through subjective experience such as insight or intuition
* Zionism – n. an international movement originally for the establishment of a Jewish national or religious community in Palestine and later for support of modern Israel.
* Fascism/Fascist – n/adj. a political movement that puts the nation and often race above the individual and that stands for an autocratic government led by a dictator and characterized by strict economic and social regulation.
* ghetto – n. comes from the Venetian word for “slag” and was originally used to refer to a foundry where slag was stored on the same island where the Jewish community lived. During the Holocaust, Jews in Nazi-occupied territory were forced to live in segregated portions of town known as ghettos. Today, it refers to portions of a city where minorities live, especially because of social or economic pressure.
* Encumbered – (adj.) held back; hindered; weighed down by something heavy
* Anecdotes– (n.) short, entertaining, personal stories
* Expound – (v.) explain or interpret; clarify
* Farce– (n.) exaggerated comedy; something ridiculous

**Allusions**

* Horthy – the reigning leader of Hungary before and during WWII
* Nyilas – Hungarian Nazi Party
* Gestapo – German secret police
* Passover – a holiday held during the first month of Jewish calendar, celebrating the Israelites liberation from the Egyptians after God sent the plagues upon the Egyptians, the tenth of which was the slaughtering of the first-born of each household. Passover, then, refers specifically to the Angel of Death passing over the homes of the Israelites.
* Maimonides – the preeminent medieval Jewish scholar, also known as Rambam.
* Boches – n. an offensive slang word used to refer to German soldiers during WWI and WWII.

**Chapter 2**

**Vocabulary**

* Pestilential – adj, of or relating to pestilence, which is something harmful or deadly
* Truncheon – n. club, as in a police officer’s billy club
* Hermetically (p. 22) – (adv.) sealed in a completely airtight way
* Monotonous (p.23) – (adj.) tiresome (because of little or no variation)
* Pestilence (p. 24) – (n.) fatally contagious or infectious disease
* Stench (p.24) – (n.) offensive smell or odor
* Abominable (p. 25) – (adj.) nasty and disgusting; highly unpleasant; very bad

**Allusions/References**

* Birkenau – the German translation of the name of a small Polish village destroyed during the German invasion of Poland. Birkenau was part of Auschwitz (Auschwitz was divided into three parts; Birkenau was part II), and was the largest extermination camp. It was the site of the deaths of 960,000 Jews, 75,000 Poles, and some 19,000 Roma.
* Auschwitz – the largest of the concentration and extermination camps during WWII. The camp was part of land that Germany claimed after invading Poland. Auschwitz I was the administrative area of the entire camp and Auschwitz III was a labor camp.

**Chapter 3**

**Vocabulary**

* Noncommissioned officer – a low ranking officer who was appointed from among the enlisted men (as opposed to a commissioned officer, rank of second lieutenant of higher)
* Unremittingly -- constantly
* Antechamber – a waiting room
* Convalescent home – a place where people go to recover from illness
* Colic – an acute attack of abdominal pain
* Compulsory – required, mandatory
* Wizened – shrunk, wrinkled
* Lucidity (p.34) – (n.) clarify; clearness; purity
* Leprous (p.36) – (adj.) having a progressive infectious disease
* Congealing (p. 42) – (v.) thickening; solidifying
* Blandishments (p. 43) – (n.) flattering statements

**Allusions/Reference**

* SS – elite police and military units kept who fought alongside the German military. The SS was based on racist Nazi ideology and was fiercely loyal to Hitler. The SS was responsible for the vast majority of the crimes against humanity committed during WWII
* Dr. Mengele – An SS officer and physician at Auschwitz-Birkenau, known for supervising selection and for performing human experiments in the camps
* Kaddish – Jewish prayer for the dead
* Sonder-Kommando – concentration camp prisoners made to work in the crematories
* Kapos – privileged prisoner in the camp in charge of supervising other prisoners and/or leading work details
* Gypsy – this term is now considered derogatory. It refers to the Roma people from Central and Eastern Europe who often lived a nomadic life, travelling from place to place. Like the Jews, they were targeting by the Nazis for “extermination”
* Buna -- a sub-camp of Auschwitz

**Night Chapter 4**

**Vocabulary**

* Emigrate (p. 48) – (v.) to leave on country or region to settle in another
* Immigrate – (v.) to come into a new country or region
* Sanctity (p. 48) – (n.) saintliness or holiness
* Reprieve (p. 50) – (n.) postponement of a penalty; temporary relief from
* **Imperceptibly (p.56) – (adv.) slightly; gradually; subtly; difficult to understand; obscure**

**Allusions/References:**

* Haifa—the largest city in Northern Israel
* Aryan—Hitler called anyone who was white and of Christian descent part of the “Aryan race,” which he considered to be superior.
* Lagerkapo –head of a camp
* Oberkapo –someone who oversaw work crews in a camp
* Pipel—an attractive male child who received certain privileges in exchange for maintaining a sexual relationship with someone in authority at the camp.

**Night Chapter 5**

**Vocabulary**

* Lamentation--an expression of extreme sadness
* Mirage—something that seems to be real or true but is not really so.
* Countenance—your face or the expression on your face; to approve of something
* Atonement—the act of making up for a wrong
* Reprieve—to stop of delay something bad that is going to happen
* Interminable—continuing for a long time
* Emaciated—extremely thin especially from lack of food.
* Crucible—a container used for heating substances; an environment that is very dangerous
* Decisive—making a decision quickly and firmly
* Fortnight—two weeks
* Stricken (p. 63) – (adj.) struck down; having pain or suffering
* Afflicted (p. 63) – (adj.) affected with something painful or distressing
* Din (p.72) – (n.) a loud, continuous noise
* Balm (p.75) – (n.) something healing or soothing to the mind or temper
* Summarily (p. 77) – (adv.) hastily; arbitrarily; quickly

**Allusions/References**

* Rosh Hashanah—the holiday celebrating the Jewish new year.
* Adam and Eve—according to the Bible, Adam and Eve were the first people, but they were cast out of the Garden of Eden because Eve ate the apple of knowledge and shared it with Adam.
* Noah—according to the Bible, God decided to flood the world because people had grown so wicked. God tasked Noah with building an ark to preserve two of each animal and members of his family.
* Sodom—according to the Bible, this was a city where people had grown so wicked that God destroyed the city.
* Yom Kippur—an extremely important Jewish holiday. It means “Day of Atonement.”
* Musulman—in some languages this means someone who is Muslim, but in some texts “Musselman” refers to someone who has lost hope and faith, so I’m not sure on this one! Use some context to figure out which is more likely.
* Auchtung –German for “Pay attention! Alert! Warning!”
* Calvary—soldiers mounted on horseback

**Night Chapter 6**

**Vocabulary**

* Automatons (p. 81) – (n.) something that operates automatically in response to instructions
* Entities (p.81) – (n.) beings
* Stifled (p. 82) – (adj. or v.) suffocated or smothered
* Famished (p. 83) – (adj.) weakened from hunger
* Encumbrance (p. 87) – (n.) hindrance; obstruction

**Chapter 7**

**Vocabulary**

* Indifference (p. 93) – (n,) lack of concern, interest, or feeling; apathy
* Livid (p. 93)- (adj.) discolored as from a bruise
* Avidly (p. 94) – (adv.) eagerly and enthusiastically
* Grimace (p. 96) – (n.) a twisting or distortion of the face expressing pain, contempt, disgust, etc.
* Tether (p. 97) – (v. or n.) a rope or chain fastened to something so as to keep it in certain bounds;
* to fasten or confine with a tether.

**Allusions/Reference**

* Buchenwald—another concentration camp

**Night Chapters 8 - 9**

**Vocabulary**

* Hillock (p. 100) – (n.) a small hill; mound
* Plaintive (p. 101) – (adj.) sad; mournful
* Beseeching (p. 101) – (v.) earnestly, eagerly asking someone for something
* Riveted (p. 103) – (adj. or v.) secured or fastened firmly; also can mean fixed or held (eyes, attention, etc.)
* Spasmodically (p. 106) – (adv.) violently; fitfully; intermittently . Idleness (p. 107) – (n.) inactivity; laziness
* Truncheon (p. 108) – (n.) a short; thick club; like a policeman’s stick
* Liquidated (p. 108) – (v.) eliminated, disposed of, as by killing
* Innumerable (p. 108) – (adj.) too numerous to be counted; very many
* Deportees (p. 108) – (n.) person sentenced to be banished