**Outline for *Night* Thesis Paragraph**

|  |
| --- |
| **First sentence lists author, title (italicized or underlined), any necessary context, and thesis claim:**  **Within the novel *Night***, by Elie Wiesel, most characters, including Elie, are at the brink of losing their faith throughout their stay in Auschwitz, particularly after they witnessed the death of the one *Oberkapo’s* young *pipel*. |
| **Introduce your first quote/detail by providing context from the story and a signal phrase:**  **While the prisoners were walking past the dying *pipel*, as he hung on the gallows, Wiesel illustrates how he and his fellow inmates began losing faith in their God.** |
| **First quote (not a cause of the main idea, but something that supports it), in quotation marks with citation:**  **“[A]nd so he [pipel] remained for more than half an hour, lingering between life and death, writhing before our eyes. And we were forced to look at him at close range. He was still alive when I passed him. His tongue was still red, his eyes not yet extinguished.**  **Behind me, I heard the same man asking:**  **‘For God’s sake, where is God?’**  **And from within me, I heard a voice answer:**  **‘Where He is? This is where—hanging her from this gallows…’” (65).** |
| **Provide analysis (explain how the specific elements of the quote prove one or more elements of your thesis):**  **\*\*Remember—this is possibly the most important part of this essay, as it’s your thoughts.** |
| **Provide transition:**  **Another point in the story that demonstrates a decline in Elie’s (and the other inmates’ faith) is** |
| **Introduce your second quote/detail by providing context from the story and a signal phrase:**  **During the Rosh Hashanah celebration, Elie again shows how his faith is diminishing in light of all the atrocities he has already witnessed, especially the little boy’s death.** |
| **Second Quote (not a cause of the main idea, but something that supports it), in quotation marks with citation:**  **“Why, but why would I bless Him? Every fiber in me rebelled. Because He caused thousands of children to burn in His mass graves? Because He kept six crematoria working day and night, including Sabbath and the Holy Days? Because in His great might, He had created Auschwitz, Birkenau, Buna, and so many other factories of death? How could I say to Him: Blessed be Though, Almighty, Master of the Universe . . . ” (67).** |
| **Provide analysis (explain how the specific elements of the quote prove one or more elements of your thesis):**  **\*\*Remember—this is possibly the most important part of this essay, as it’s your thoughts.**  **The questions that Elie is asking himself, specifically, “[w]hy but why would I [Elie] bless Him [his God]?,” demonstrates that an ever-widening lack of faith is developing between him and his God. Anyone who questions why they should worship their God, even in times of trouble, is not only showing a lack of faith in their God’s ability to help them through that trouble, but he is also showing a rebellion against their God’s handling of the universe, the ordering of things—even those things that seem to be destructive and evil. This lack of faith is re-emphasized when Elie questions how he could bless his God.** |
| **Clincher Statement (reconfirms the claim in the thesis and leaves a lasting impression on the reader):**  **By the time Elie has witnessed the death of several members of his family and some of the more “innocent” people within the camp, particularly the young *pipel***, **his faith in his God in waning. He is no longer the devote student and mentor of his Almighty. He has become engrossed in a “night” within his own soul.** |