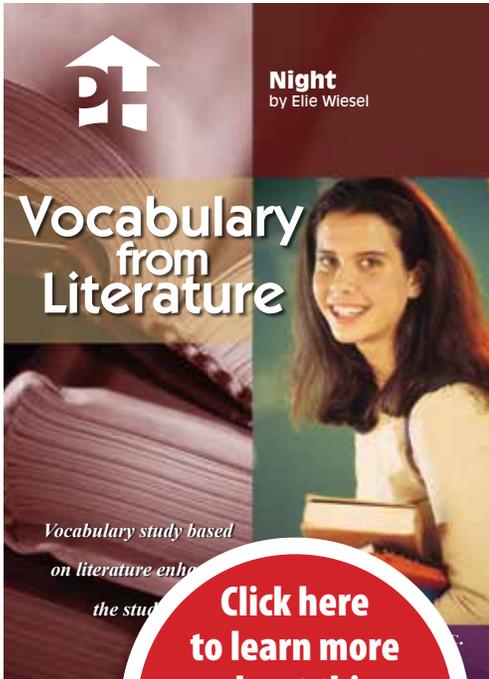




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*Vocabulary From Literature for...*

# *Night*

*by Elie Wiesel*

written by Jeanne Qvarnstrom

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*Night*

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## Vocabulary From Literature

### Information for Instructors

The activities in this Unit are designed to help students increase their vocabulary by studying the meanings of words selected from Elie Wiesel's novel *Night*. All definitions provided in these activities are based on the contexts in which the vocabulary words appear, which may not always convey the words' conventional usage.

It is the goal of this Unit to familiarize students with vocabulary words that they will re-encounter in life and in other readings. The words are carefully selected to meet this goal. Many unfamiliar words not covered by the Unit are defined in a Glossary following the Activities section; the Glossary may also contain slang expressions and proper nouns.

Rather than matching *Night* chapter-for-chapter, we have divided the book into segments depending on the number of vocabulary words from each chapter. While all of the activities may be completed by students individually, we have had the best results when students worked on them in pairs or small groups. The following activities are provided for each segment.

While the words in this reproducible do represent those necessary for a better understanding of the text, our primary concern is that we select words not only pertinent to the literature, but also useful in other aspects of the students' lives.

In addition, activities may vary slightly among the various chapters.

All page references come from the Hill and Wang edition of *Night*, published 2006.

#### Activity I

Objective: Using a dictionary to find definitions and interpret them

#### Activity II

Objective: Deciphering the meaning of vocabulary words using context clues  
Replacing the vocabulary word with appropriate definition or synonym(s)

#### Activity III

Objective: Writing definitions, synonyms, and/or sentences based on context clues

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*Vocabulary From Literature*

**Activity I**  
**Matching Definitions**  
**Pages 3-28**

**Directions:** Match each of the following words with its definition based on the context in which the word appears in the book. Use the page numbers in parentheses to locate the word. Then, look up the word in the dictionary and change any answers that are not correct.

abstract (9)	abyss (25)	anecdotes (12)	annihilate (8)
apparatus (12)	conflagration (21)	delusion (12)	diplomacy (8)
disquieting (9)	divinity (5)	edict (10)	emigration (8)
exterminate (8)	hermetically (24)	indiscriminately (16)	

- \_\_\_\_\_ an official order; a decree
- \_\_\_\_\_ a large, uncontrolled fire
- \_\_\_\_\_ tightly; in a way that is closed completely
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating to interactions between government
- \_\_\_\_\_ short, interesting, and often amusing true stories
- \_\_\_\_\_ (figuratively) an approaching threat or disaster; (literally) a seemingly dark and bottomless pit
- \_\_\_\_\_ randomly; without a method or plan
- \_\_\_\_\_ a fantasy; a thought that is not based on reality
- \_\_\_\_\_ to destroy completely
- \_\_\_\_\_ a move to another country
- \_\_\_\_\_ to murder; slaughter
- \_\_\_\_\_ a system of organization
- \_\_\_\_\_ the nature of religion; relating to God or a sacred being
- \_\_\_\_\_ a complex idea or concept
- \_\_\_\_\_ worrisome; troubling

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*Vocabulary From Literature*

Activity III  
Writing Definitions and Sentences  
from Context Clues  
Pages 3-28

**Directions:** For each highlighted word, write a definition that fits the context of the passage. Then, check your answers by looking the words up in the dictionary. Finally, write a sentence using each word.

1. He sang, or rather he chanted, and the few snatches I caught here and there spoke of divine suffering, of the Shekhinah in Exile, where, according to Kabbalah, it awaits its **redemption** linked to that of man. (Pg. 3)

Definition for **redemption**:

---

---

Sentence for **redemption**:

---

---

2. One evening, I told him how unhappy I was not to be able to find in Sighet a master to teach me the Zohar, the Kabbalistic works, the secrets of Jewish mysticism. He smiled **indulgently**. After a long silence, he said, "There are a thousand and one gates allowing entry into the orchard of mystical truth. Every human being has his own gate. He must not err and wish to enter the orchard through a gate other than his own." (Pg. 5)

Definition for **indulgently**:

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Sentence for **indulgently**:

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*Vocabulary From Literature*

- II. The word *oppressive* is made up of two parts: a prefix, *op-*, meaning “against,” and a root, *press*, meaning “push or press.”

Define each of the following words. Then, use the prefixes listed to form four new words that include the root *press*, and define them.

1. express \_\_\_\_\_
2. impress \_\_\_\_\_
3. compress \_\_\_\_\_
4. repress \_\_\_\_\_

**Prefixes**

*super-* “above”  
*de-* “down,” “off”  
*ex-* “out,” “from”  
*mis-* “wrongly”

**New Words and Definitions**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Activity V  
Roots and Prefixes  
Pages 29-65

I. The Latin word for “true” is *verus*. The root *ver* comes from this word. Read the following sentences that include words formed with the root *ver*. Then, answer the questions.

1. President Ronald Reagan once said about a treaty that the U.S. should “trust but *verify*!” What do you think that statement means?
2. Some people do not want to be on a jury because they do not want the responsibility of determining a *verdict*. What does it mean when a jury gives a *verdict*?
3. Because the newspaper would not reveal its sources, I questioned the *veracity* of the article. What is being questioned?
4. Nate said his grandparents’ attic is a *veritable* gold mine of antique furniture and collectible items. What does he mean?

II. *Corpor* is the Latin root meaning “body.” The vocabulary word *incorporated* means “united or combined.” This means that whatever has been incorporated has been formed into one body. The following words all relate to the word *body* in some way. Look up each word in the dictionary and write the definition to see how the concept of body is used to define it.

1. corporation: \_\_\_\_\_
2. corps: \_\_\_\_\_
3. corpse: \_\_\_\_\_
4. corpulent: \_\_\_\_\_
5. corpus: \_\_\_\_\_
6. corpuscle: \_\_\_\_\_