

Night Argumentative Essay Prompt

Pick A Side

Elie's religion helps him survive the camps.

Elie's religion hinders his survival in the camps.

Some may believe Elie's religion hindered him from surviving the camps because

Some may believe Elie's religion helped him to survive the camps because

However, this is untrue/false/illogical because

However, this is untrue/false/illogical because

Clear evidence that Elie's religion helped him survive include

and

Clear evidence that Elie's religion hindered his survival include

and

REMINDER: ESSAY NO NO's

Please Don't Ever...

- say "in this essay," "my argument," or "this quote shows"
- include a quote without a proper MLA citation (Wiesel #).
- use the personal pronouns I, me, or we
- provide a quotation that is not integrated

As you are writing, use the rubric on the back to see how your essay will be graded.

Introduction (15 points)				
5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 points
Hook grasps reader's attention in a sophisticated way.	Hook is somewhat engaging, but may be simplistic	Hook is simplistic, but is somewhat engaging	Hook is simplistic and not engaging	Hook is off-topic or is not included
Provides ample contextual info about the text	Provides adequate contextual info about the text	Provides some contextual info about the text	Provides little contextual info about the text	Provides no contextual info about the text
Includes a sophisticated thesis statement that identifies a counterclaim & 2 strong claims	Includes a simplistic thesis statement that identifies a counterclaim & 2 strong claims	Includes a thesis statement that does not identify both a counterclaim & 2 strong claims	Includes a thesis statement that does not identify a counterclaim & 2 strong claims	Thesis statement is fragmented, vague, or incomplete
Body Paragraph 1 (35 points)				
10 points	8 points	7 points	5 points	3 points
Includes a sophisticated topic statement that clearly identifies the direction of the paragraph	Includes a simplistic topic statement that clearly identifies the direction of the paragraph	Includes a topic statement that vaguely identifies the direction of the paragraph	Includes a topic statement that does not identify the direction of the paragraph	Does not include a topic statement or includes one that is off-topic/irrelevant
Includes two well-integrated quotes that are properly cited and provide room for deep analysis	Includes two quotes, but they may lack integration, citation, or are too simplistic for analysis	Includes one well-integrated quote, properly cited OR includes two quotes that lack both integration & citation	Includes one quote, but it may lack integration, citation, or is too simplistic for analysis	Doesn't include any quotes, or includes quotes that are too shallow for any analysis
Includes commentary for both quotes that is sophisticated & builds on the paper's thesis	Includes commentary for both quotes that is adequate & builds on the paper's thesis	Includes commentary for both quotes that is overly simplistic or doesn't build on the paper's thesis	Included sophisticated commentary for only one quote	Provides little relevant or sophisticated analysis of quote(s)
5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 points
Concluding sentence wraps up paragraph or transitions to a new paragraph in a sophisticated way	Concluding sentence wraps up paragraph or transitions to a new paragraph in an adequate way	Concluding sentence wraps up paragraph or transitions to a new paragraph in a simplistic way	Concluding sentence does not wrap up paragraph or transition to a new paragraph	Concluding sentence is not included or is not relevant to the paragraph's topic
Body Paragraphs 2 & 3 (35 points each)				
10 points	8 points	7 points	5 points	3 points
Includes a sophisticated topic statement that clearly identifies the direction of the paragraph	Includes a simplistic topic statement that clearly identifies the direction of the paragraph	Includes a topic statement that vaguely identifies the direction of the paragraph	Includes a topic statement that does not identify the direction of the paragraph	Does not include a topic statement or includes one that is off-topic/irrelevant
Includes two well-integrated quotes that are properly cited and provide room for deep analysis	Includes two quotes, but they may lack integration, citation, or are too simplistic for analysis	Includes one well-integrated quote, properly cited OR includes two quotes that lack both integration & citation	Includes one quote, but it may lack integration, citation, or is too simplistic for analysis	Doesn't include any quotes, or includes quotes that are too shallow for any analysis
Includes commentary for both quotes that is sophisticated & builds on the paper's thesis	Includes commentary for both quotes that is adequate & builds on the paper's thesis	Includes commentary for both quotes that is overly simplistic or doesn't build on the paper's thesis	Included sophisticated commentary for only one quote	Provides little relevant or sophisticated analysis of quote(s)
5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 points
Concluding sentence wraps up paragraph or transitions to a new paragraph in a sophisticated way	Concluding sentence wraps up paragraph or transitions to a new paragraph in an adequate way	Concluding sentence wraps up paragraph or transitions to a new paragraph in a simplistic way	Concluding sentence does not wrap up paragraph or transition to a new paragraph	Concluding sentence is not included or is not relevant to the paragraph's topic
Conclusion Paragraph (15 points)				
10 points	8 points	7 points	5 points	3 points
Provides sophisticated summary of paper's content	Provides adequate summary of paper's content	Provides simplistic/repetitive summary of paper's content	Provides very little summary of paper's content	Provides no summary of paper's content
5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 points
Concludes with a sophisticated statement that connects the paper to the real world	Concludes with a statement that connects the paper to the real world	Concludes with a simplistic statement that connects the paper to the real world	Concludes with a statement that doesn't connect the paper to the real world	Does not include a concluding thought

Outline

I: Introduction

A. **Attention Getter** (Hook your reader; think about a general commentary on religion or the Holocaust):

B. **Controlling Idea** (how did religion play an important role in life in the camps IN GENERAL, NOT specifically for Elie)

C. **Introduction of Text** (In one or two sentences, introduce the memoir, author, and the general plot line)

D. **Thesis Statement** (Include the title/author of the novel, include a counter-argument and 2 arguments)

Though some may argue that Elie's religion (the opposite of your argument) _____ because
(what other people might think) _____, evidence such
as _____ and
_____ more
strongly support the argument that his faith (your argument) _____.

II. Body Paragraph I (refuting the counter-argument)

A. **Topic Sentence** (Identify the counterclaim)

There may be a misconception that _____ based on
_____. However, this is
untrue/false/illogical.

Evidence from here on should prove YOUR point!

B. **Quote #1** (evidence to refute counterclaim)

For example, _____
“ _____

_____” (Wiesel _____).

C. **Commentary #1** (how does your quote refute the counter-claim)

D. **Quote #2** (evidence to refute counter-claim)

Additionally, _____

“ _____

_____” (Wiesel _____).

E. **Commentary #2** (how does your quote refute the counterclaim)

F. **Closure** (recap why the counterclaim is wrong/illogical)

It is clear to see that _____

III. Body Paragraph 2 (your first argument!)

A. **Topic Sentence** (Identify your claim)

A more logical conclusion to draw from the text is that Elie's faith _____ because

B. **Quote #1** (concrete evidence of claim)

This is illustrated when _____

“ _____

_____” (Wiesel _____).

C. **Commentary #1** (how does your evidence prove your claim)

D. **Quote #2** (concrete evidence of claim)

Similarly, _____

“ _____

_____” (Wiesel _____).

E. **Commentary #2** (how does your evidence prove your claim)

F. **Closure** (reiterate how the evidence proves your overall argument)

Based on the evidence, it would be logical to conclude that _____

IV. Body Paragraph 3

A. **Topic Sentence** (Identify your claim)

Perhaps the strongest evidence of the affects of Elie's religion _____

B. **Quote #1** (concrete evidence of claim)

The reader sees this when _____

“ _____

_____” (Wiesel _____).

C. **Commentary #1** (how does your evidence prove your claim)

D. **Quote #2** (concrete evidence of claim)

Further evidence of this is when _____

“ _____

_____” (Wiesel _____).

E. **Commentary #2** (how does your evidence prove your claim)

F. **Closure** (reiterate how the evidence proves your overall argument)

This evidence thoroughly supports the argument that _____

V: Conclusion

A. **Restate the Thesis Statement** (do not do this word-for-word; rather, rephrase it)

Though some may believe that Elie's faith _____, in reality, it

B. **Recap** (what makes your argument strong?)

When analyzing the events of the novel, it becomes clear that though some argue _____

_____, the more compelling evidence includes _____

_____ and

C. **Closing Thought** (Commentary on religion, survival, Holocaust, etc.)
