

## *Night* Close Reading Introductory Passage

Read the following passage from *Night* by Elie Wiesel and answer the questions that follow. Use TEXT to answer the open ended response.

Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed.

Never shall I forget that smoke.

Never shall I forget the little faces of the children, whose bodies I saw turned into wreaths of smoke beneath a silent blue sky.

Never shall I forget those flames which consumed my faith forever.

Never shall I forget that nocturnal silence which deprived me, for all eternity, of the desire to live.

Never shall I forget those moments which murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to ashes.

Never shall I forget these things, even if I am condemned to live as long as God Himself. Never.

(Wiesel 34)

1. What mood is the speaker of this passage conveying? How does he do this?
2. Circle three words that have a specific meaning in the passage (diction). Why do you think the author chose these words?
3. The author starts each line with the phrase “Never shall I forget...” What do you think is the purpose of this repetition?
4. Which image created by the author do you believe is the most powerful? Why?
5. Answer the following prompt in TEXT format on the reverse side of this paper:  
**Using your analysis of one literary device (diction, imagery, repetition, hyperbole, or point of view) in Wiesel’s passage, make an inference about his state of mind by composing a well-organized paragraph.**  
Make sure you use the academic language handout to choose an effective sentence starter.