

Jan. 30, 2014

**Aim**: How is Elie being dehumanized at Auschwitz?

**Do Now**: How does this relate to dehumanization? - Explain...



From: *The Economist* (2011)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Turning Points for Elie

Hanging

1. What did the soup taste like after the first hanging?

!! "better than ever."

3 <sup>Weapons</sup> men hanged

starved + made to wait + watch a hanging

2. What does the soup taste like after the second hanging? Why?

"Soup taste like corpses."

\* boy suffers \*

→ young boy hanged \* didn't die right away \*

3. How has Elie's faith been transformed after witnessing the pipel's death?

"Where is God? This is where he is hanging from the gallow."

4. How do these hangings show the Nazis dehumanizing the prisoners? Have they achieved their goal?

\* Questions God's existence

\* At 1st they act like animals \* But they still care!

Death

1. Describe Elie's following quote, "...all that mattered to me was my daily bowl of soup, my crust of stale bread. The bread, the soup - these were my entire life. I was nothing but a body."

\* One Track Mind → Survival \* Instinct

What has happened to Elie physically and mentally?

\* Mentally → He can't focus on religion \* Starved Mad @ Dad

2. How does the Nazis' desire for inmates' gold teeth and crowns illustrate the ultimate goal of dehumanization?

\* They can't own anything of value!

\* Their value is the value livestock...

**Bombing**

1. How do the prisoners feel about the bombing? Why was no one fearful of being bombed?

They're happy and cheer!  
They are ready to die...

2. How does the scene with the soup illustrate how desperate the inmates have become?

Describe as a Shake → Dunks his entire head into boiling soup  
\* Shot

3. How have the prisoners been transformed mentally by their experience thus far at Auschwitz?

\* They don't care about escaping.  
\* They can only think of food...

**Mr. Wiesel's Beatings**

1. What was Elie's reaction to his father's first beating? How does this compare to the Mr. Wiesel's second beating?

#1 - Asks for bathroom → Beaten  
→ Shocked + upset

#2 - Lifting Truck engines → Mad @ Dad

2. Why does Elie react differently the second time his father is beaten in front of him?

\* Auschwitz has made him mean. → Agrees  
\* Dad didn't take them away...  
\* Terrified of losing Dad

3. How has Auschwitz transformed Elie and his father's relationship?

\* Tension: related to survival

\* Closer: Dependant on each other

### Elia's Beatings

1. How do Elia's beatings demonstrate the relationship between Kapos and prisoners? Why would Itsk have been chosen as a Kapo of a block?

\* Cruel; happy to beat people...

\* Big, Strong, intimidating...

2. Overall, using the Kapos to keep order creates a system of fear and distrust among the prisoners. How do these scenes exemplify this idea?

\* There's no help here!

\* You can't anyone here!

\* Survival of the Fittest

\* Criminals are here...