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**PDP British Lit**  
**Required Summer 2019 Reading Assignment**  
**Due Date: Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> (first full day of school)**  
**Point Value: 60 points**

**Book Title: *Survivors Club: The Story of a Very Young Prisoner of Auschwitz***  
**by Debbie Bornstein Holinstat and Michael Bornstein**

For your summer reading assignment, you will need to purchase and read the novel above. We will be using this book during the first few weeks of class, so you must bring it with you on the first day of school.

- ✓ This assignment **must be typed in Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1" margins.**
- ✓ 5% deduction per day for late work.
- ✓ Number each category below (i.e. Setting, Characters, etc) and cite specific evidence from the text.

**1. Setting**

- Briefly describe the setting (place and time) of the novel. Keep in mind that the setting may shift during the course of the novel, so be sure to include those shifts in place and/or time. s

**2. Characters**

- Select **three** characters from the novel that stood out the most to you.
  - A) Describing their physical appearance.
  - B) Elaborate on each character's role in the story.
  - C) Provide one example of conflict that each character faced.

**3. Key Moments**

- Summarize **eight** key episodes or events in the novel (e.g. conflict, epiphany, turning point, or moment of important insight).
  - A) Arrange your key moments according to the order in which they occur in the book.
  - B) For each key moment, provide one (1) quotation that best illustrates this moment.
  - C) Include the page number for your quotation.

**4. Theme**

- *Survivor's Club* has several examples of themes (i.e. the central message). Think about a major theme that is represented in the novel. Once you have selected your theme, explain how this theme evolved within the novel. Your response for this section should be at least one

paragraph, and it should be supported with specific information from the text. In other words, use specific examples to establish how the theme manifests.

### **Help for Evaluating the Theme of a literary work:**

Themes help readers answer the question: What does a story present about the universal human experience?

Every story has at least one theme. A theme is a revelation shown through the characters' struggles and triumphs about life. A theme in a short story may occasionally be revealed in a direct sentence through a character's thought or declaration, but most often, a reader must infer the theme of the work after considerable thought.

How does a reader infer a theme from a story? Always ask questions as you read:

- Why is this situation included in the story?
- What is the main idea about this situation? Does it show fear? Or love? Or change? Or strength?
- Is this a central conflict throughout the story or in just one situation?
- Why is this character important? Why is this symbol important?
- What are the changes from the beginning to the end of the story?

### **5. Reading Journal**

- Choose 10 chapters from the book that you will write journal entries for. Each journal entry should be about one paragraph in length.
- Arrange your entries in ascending chapter order.
- Label each entry with the page number(s) that inspires the thought.
- Your notes/entries should NOT center on what happens in the story, (i.e. plot), but instead they should focus on deeper connections such as:
  - Ideas that the reading inspires or makes you think of
  - Connections that you can make to other books, stories, or culture
  - Thoughts regarding what is happening to the character(s) - their actions, their words, their emotions
  - Ideas regarding the themes of the book and what the author's message could be
  - The language – the tone, the meanings, the way the author writes
  - Culture connections – thoughts on how the play comments on society,
  - Patterns in either the language or the concepts (or both)

## Grading Rubric

PDP British Literature: Summer 2019 Reading Assignment Rubric			
<b>REFLECTION</b>	<p>The student's writing indicates a clear, thorough insight and apt observations.</p> <p>The student pays particular attention to analyzing the function of figurative/rhetorical strategies at work in the passage.</p> <p>The student recognizes patterns and identifies complicated themes at work in the text</p>		
<b>MECHANICS/ VOCABULARY</b>	<p>Mechanics Contains few errors in the correct usage of mechanics (i.e., italicizing, quotation marks, commas, semi-colons, apostrophes, capitalization, and spelling) that do not detract from overall delivery Contains no errors in grammar usage Exhibits logical order in it's plot with a variety of transition words (e.g. excessive use of "then") Contains precise and vivid language (grade-level vocabulary or above) (e.g. use of appropriate synonyms for words, ex. "bring" instead of "get.")</p>		
<b>CONTENT</b>	<p>Specifically discusses setting Analyzes character(s), motivations, Discusses the central conflict Summarizes plot clearly and concisely Contains quote with an explanation of quotes significance</p>		

Total\_\_\_/60