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**PDP British Lit - English I**  
**Required Summer 2018 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**  
**Teacher's Name: Ms. Chiganos & Mrs. Friedberg**  
**Teacher's Email: [cchiganos@pths209.org](mailto:cchiganos@pths209.org); [sfriedberg@pths209.org](mailto:sfriedberg@pths209.org)**

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.**
- ✓ Arrive to class ready to discuss and write an essay on the book.
- ✓ 5% deduction per day for any late assignments
- ✓ Number each category below (i.e. Setting, Characters, etc) and cite specific evidence from the text.

### **1. Setting**

- Define setting. Briefly describe and discuss the setting (place and time) of the novel. Include shifts that occur throughout, so there may be more than one. Be sure to support it with evidence from the novel.

### **2. Characters**

- Select your top three (3) characters from the novel. Thoroughly discuss each one by describing how they look, telling about their role in the story, and one example of conflict each character faced. Be sure to support this with evidence from the novel

### **3. Key Moments**

- On separate, attached pages, summarize **eight** (8) key episodes or events in the novel (conflict, epiphany, turning point, or moment of important insight). List them in the order they appear in the novel. For each, summarize the episode/event, explain the significance to the meaning of the work as a whole, and provide **one** (1) quotation that best illustrates this moment.

#### 4. Theme\*

- *Survivor's Club* has several examples of themes (central message). Think about a major theme that is represented in the novel. Once you have selected your theme, explain how it can be considered as a theme for the novel. Your response for this section should be one paragraph or more supported with specific information from the text.

#### 5. Reading Journal

- For each of the chapters, you will need to write journal entries. Each chapter needs to have at least four (4) comments/entries. At least two (2) of these entries need to be made while you are reading. Label these entries with the page number that inspires the thought. The others can be made after you are finished with the chapter. These entries should be labeled as "overall."
- Your notes/entries should NOT center on what happens in the story, but on deeper connections or thoughts, 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)

#### 6. Summary

- Write a summary of *Survivor's Club* in your OWN WORDS. This response should consist of three paragraphs.

#### \* Help for Theme

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

Every story, either short or in novel format, 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. A theme or themes in longer works are never stated as one or two words-these identifying words are theme categories or theme subjects, such as "love" or "fear" or "identification." Themes, when analyzed, must be written in statement format (one or two sentences) that explain the universal human experience-experiences commonly shared by humans regardless of race, nationality, or time period.

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?

After you have finished reading and have answered the above questions as you have read, ask yourself what are the main ideas or categories found within the story.

**\*\*Help for Quote Analysis**

So, what is this analysis "thing"?

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<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</p> <p>Contains no errors in grammar usage</p> <p>Exhibits logical order in it’s plot with a variety of transition words (e.g. excessive use of “then”)</p> <p>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</p> <p>Analyzes character(s), motivations,</p> <p>Discusses the central conflict</p> <p>Summarizes plot clearly and concisely</p> <p>Contains quote with an explanation of quotes significance</p>	

Total\_\_\_/60

When you analyze you break down the context and examine methodically and in detail the structure of something, typically for purposes of explanation and interpretation. You are making connections to the meaning of the quotation: why is it there? What comes before and after the quotation? How does it further the meaning of the story?

The quote analysis should be written in present tense; this is called "literary present tense" because literature never changes once it has been printed. Present tense is used when the action is NOW or when it is a truth (President Washington is the first President of the United States) or when writing about literature that always remains the same or true. In the explanation are blended quotations- these will be your analysis “friend” once you have learned the proper format. Such fun awaits!