

My Most Precious Possessions



The Nazis permit Elie and his family to take only their most precious possessions or what they can carry to the ghetto. When the Nazis evacuate the Jewish families from the ghettos and force them to board the cattle cars for “work camps,” they again tell them to take only what they can carry. Elie does not mention what he and his family took to the ghetto or what they left behind to board the train for Auschwitz. By making a list of items that are precious to you, perhaps you can understand the conflict Elie had in choosing what he could take with him and what he must leave behind.

Directions: If you were in a similar situation and were told only to bring those items you could carry to the ghetto, what would you bring? Make a list of the items you would bring with you, but remember, **they must be items you can carry with you**. You have little space in the ghetto and very little privacy.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Using the paper provided to your team, list each item in order of importance starting with the most important.

Next to each item, explain why you chose these items and justify their significance/use.