Think it out

The Plot Revisited: A Snapshot of Images

Chapter 7 (p 98-103)

Consider how a camera captures images through its lens. Can the photographer choose to include or exclude certain elements? Why? Sometimes authors provide readers with select images, much like a carefully composed photograph. *Night* is composed of a series of "snapshots" that allows the reader to see the experiences of Elie in his struggle to stay alive in the death camps. At some points, Wiesel provides the frame of an event but not the entire picture. At other times, he retells the experiences in shocking detail, making readers question how anyone could survive in such an inhumane environment.

Directions: Read the "snapshot" experiences below and <u>underline</u> examples of vivid imagery and wording.

- "He collapsed. His fist still clenched around a small piece. He tried to carry it to his mouth. But the other one threw himself upon him and snatched it. The old man again whispered something, let out a rattle, and died amid the general indifference. His son searched him, took the bread and began to devour it. He was not able to get very far. Two men had seen and hurled themselves upon him. Others joined in. When they withdrew, next to me were two corpses, side by side, the father and the son."
- 2. "The snow began to form a thick layer over our blankets. They brought us bread — the usual ration. We threw ourselves upon it. Someone had the idea of appeasing his thirst by eating the snow. Soon the others were imitating him. As we were not allowed to bend down, everyone took a spoon and ate the accumulated snow off his neighbor's back. A mouthful of bread and a spoonful of snow. The SS who were watching laughed at the spectacle."
- 3. "The head of our tent was a German. An assassin's face, fleshy lips, hands like a wolf's paws. He was so fat he could hardly move."



Directions: Choose one of the snapshots. Write a well-developed paragraph where you analyze what the images help the reader see as well as why Wiesel did not provide more description.

Use A.C.E. & embed citations