

Key Vocabulary for Understanding and Talking about *Night*:

Section 1 (pp. 3-22)

1. **Kabbalah:** Mystical aspect of Judaism; seeks to define the nature of the universe and the human being, the nature and purpose of existence, and other deep philosophical questions.
2. **Torah:** The holy book of Judaism.
3. **Hasidic:** Orthodox, very religious sect of Judaism.
4. **Zohar:** Foundational text(s) of Kabbalah that discuss the origin and structure of the universe, the nature of souls, redemption, and the relationship between Darkness and Light, the universe and man.
5. **Sighet:** Eliezer's hometown; a small suburb in Hungary.
6. **Redemption:** The action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil.
7. **Talmud:** In Hebrew, the word means "instruction, learning, teach, or study"; the Talmud is a religious text that contains the commentaries and opinions of thousands of rabbis; it is a very important and holy book in Judaism.
8. **Maimonides:** Medieval Sephardic Jewish philosopher who became one of the most influential Torah scholars of the Middle Ages.
9. **Peril:** Extreme danger.
10. **Gestapo:** Secret police force developed in 1933 to undermine any opposition to the Nazi Government; managed the ghettos and organized the transportation/deportation of Jews to the Camps.
11. **Empathy:** Stepping into another person's shoes and understanding what they are going through; expressing concern and compassion in a genuine way for someone else.
12. **Apathy:** The state of not caring or failure to express compassion.
13. **Divinity:** The state of being divine, or holy.
14. **Pity:** To feel sympathy and sorrow for one's suffering; to show compassion for someone's struggles.
15. **Zionism:** National movement of the Jewish people that supports the establishment of a Jewish State (AKA Israel).

16. Anti-Semitic: The hatred of and discrimination/prejudice against Jews.

17. Anguish: Extreme pain, distress, or anxiety.

18. Ghetto: A quarter of a city in which Jews were forced to live in harsh, cramped conditions.

19. Synagogue: Jewish place of worship; often referred to as a ***shul***.