

## Blizzard Bag Assignments: Kukay – Holocaust Literature

### Blizzard Bag Day 1:

You must use the recurring Reaction/Response assignment (included below) to respond to the film *Denial*. If you respond to *Denial*, part two should include your response to the following:

- How is the work related to problems in our present-day world?

**If you were absent for part (or all) of the film and do not believe you can adequately write a response to the film, then substitute the film with one of the documentaries we've viewed:**

- *Memory of the Camps* (57 minutes)
  - <https://www.pbs.org/video/frontline-memory-camps/>
- *One Day in Auschwitz* (48 minutes)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZYgzW2fS0o>

### Blizzard Bag Day 2:

You must use the recurring Reaction/Response assignment (included on the following page) to respond to one of the works in your manila folder of assigned readings (readings listed below). You may not write about the same reading more than once, so do not select a story you've chosen to respond to previously.

### Blizzard Bag Day 3:

Repeat the assignment from day two, using a different selection.

You must use the recurring Reaction/Response assignment (included below) to respond to:

- "Is It Necessary to Remember?"
- "A Horror Erased from Memory"
- "My Father's Shadow"
- "The Hell of Bergen-Belsen"
- "An American Soldier Writes Home"
- "Report on German Murder Mills"
- "Excerpts from Eyewitnesses"
- "Testimony of Alfred Wetzler and Walter Rosenberg"
- "Rosa Robota – Heroine of the Auschwitz Underground"
- Reminder: This list refers to the readings in your folder as of Feb. 14. Your course syllabus has a more complete list of assigned readings, and any additional readings you receive in class after Feb. 14 can be applied to the assignment.
- **Please note: this list does not include any chapters from your current book, *Night*, which is excluded from the list.**

\*Due dates will be announced in class.

\*25 points possible for each Blizzard Bag assignment.

## **REACTION/RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT**

Throughout the semester, you will be asked to read articles, short stories, testimonies, reports, etc. and to record your response or reaction to the material. In these reports—often referred to as response or reaction papers—you are expected to do two things: summarize the material and detail your reaction to it. The following pages explain both parts of a report. Your work should be organized and not simply a stream of consciousness, off-the-cuff response.

### **PART 1: A SUMMARY OF THE WORK**

*To develop the first part of a report, do the following:*

- Identify the author and title of the work in the first few sentences.
- Write a (brief), but informative summary of the material.
- Condense the content of the work by highlighting its main points and key supporting points.
  - Summarize the material so that the reader gets a general sense of all key aspects of the original work.
- If appropriate, use direct quotations from the work to illustrate important ideas.
- Do not discuss in great detail any single aspect of the work, and do not neglect to mention other equally important points.
- Also, keep the summary objective and factual. Do not include in the first part of the paper your personal reaction to the work; your subjective impression will form the basis of the second part of your paper.

### **PART 2: YOUR REACTION TO THE WORK**

*To develop the second part of a report, do the following:*

- **Focus on any or all of the following questions.**
- How is the assigned work related to ideas and concerns discussed in the course? For example, how does this relate to what you have learned/are studying in the course.
- How is the work related to problems in our present-day world?
- How is the material related to your life, experiences, feelings and ideas? For instance, what emotions did the work arouse in you?
- Did the work increase your understanding of a particular issue? Did it change your perspective in any way?
- Evaluate the merit of the work: the importance of its points, its accuracy, completeness, organization, and so on.
- You should also indicate here whether or not you would recommend the work to others, and why.

**The page length should generally never be less than one full page, minimum.**

**25 points possible.**