



The Sunflower by Simon Wiesenthal excerpt Paideia Discussion



Paideia

Paideia (py-dee-ah) from the Greek “pais, paidos”: the upbringing of child (related to pedagogy and pediatrics). • In an extended sense, the equivalent of the Latin “humanitas” from which “the humanities” is derived. • In short, the learning that should be possession of all human beings



Paideia Seminar

a collaborative, intellectual dialogue facilitated by open-ended questions about a text or topic to expand and increase understanding of ideas, concepts, and values. ...




Letter your paragraphs
Number your sentences



Read the text through without marking it or talking



Read the text a second time & mark one short phrase that is the most important phrase in your opinion



Read aloud your one short phrase. It's perfectly fine (and even expected) that you might select the same phrase as others. Read it anyway. While your classmates read, mark how many times a phrase is read.



Rules of discussion

1. Set a personal goal to meet
2. Talk only when it's your turn, but no need to raise your hand. I will NOT call on you--the conversation is up to you.
3. Respect silence
4. Respond to others and build on their ideas
5. Cite evidence from the text to support your statements & use paragraph numbers to direct others to your statements



Individual Goals (Select 1 & write it at the top of your paper)

To speak at least three times

To refer to the text

To ask a question

To speak out of uncertainty

To build on others' comments



Group goal for today

--close reading of text

--**textual evidence**

--class participation (use each others' names)

--speak out of uncertainty

--build on the ideas of others

Essay Prompt



In the excerpt from *The Sunflower*, Wiesenthal discusses the harsh realities faced by children in the ghetto during the Holocaust. Analyze the ways in which the author conveys the despair and desperation of these children. How does the author use symbolism to emphasize the children's struggles? What does the author's portrayal of Eli, the child who survived despite the odds, say about the human capacity for hope and resilience in the face of unimaginable adversity? Consider how this essay contributes to our understanding of the Holocaust and its lasting impact on society.

Essay Rubric

5 – Exceeds Expectations: The essay demonstrates a thorough understanding of the text and presents clear and well-developed ideas that are supported by specific evidence and examples from the text. The writing is highly coherent, with strong analysis and interpretation of the text, and shows creativity and originality.

4 – Meets Expectations: The essay demonstrates a good understanding of the text and presents clear ideas that are supported by evidence and examples from the text. The writing is generally coherent and shows some analysis and interpretation of the text.

3 – Partially Meets Expectations: The essay demonstrates some understanding of the text and presents some ideas that are supported by evidence and examples from the text. The writing may lack coherence in places and show limited analysis and interpretation of the text.

2 – Below Expectations: The essay demonstrates a limited understanding of the text and presents ideas that are not well-supported by evidence or examples from the text. The writing lacks coherence and shows little analysis or interpretation of the text.

1 – Poor: The essay demonstrates a poor understanding of the text and presents ideas that are not supported by evidence or examples from the text. The writing lacks coherence and shows no analysis or interpretation of the text.