

The Holocaust

Assignment

Directions: **Source #3**-Excerpt from *The Diary of Anne Frank*-

Question: Read the excerpt below. What would be the physical, emotional, and psychological effects that Anne's Jewish friends would be facing? (3 sentences)

October 9th 1942: "Today I have nothing but dismal and depressing news to report. Our many Jewish friends and acquaintances are being taken away in droves. The Gestapo is treating them very roughly and transporting them in cattle cars to Westerbork, the big camp in Drenthe to which they're sending all the Jews. Miep told us about someone who'd managed to escape from there. It must be terrible in Westerbork. The people get almost nothing to eat, much less to drink, as water is available only one hour a day, and there's only one toilet and sink for several thousand people. Men and women sleep in the same room, and women and children often have their heads shaved. Escape is almost impossible; many people look Jewish, and they're branded by their shorn heads..."

Reaction:

Source #4: : Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, Holocaust Survivor- taken from <http://virtualjerusalem.com/news.php?Itemid=16568>

Question: Read the excerpt below of an eight year old boy at the time his camp was liberated by the Allies. Write a 3 sentence response to what impacts you from it.

"I remember the looks of horror on the faces of the American soldiers when they came in and stared around them. I was afraid when I saw them..." Rabbi Herschel Schachter was the Jewish chaplain of the division. I saw him get out of a jeep and stand there, staring at the corpses.

He has often told this story, **how he thought he saw a pair of living eyes looking out from among the dead.** It made his hair stand on end, but slowly and cautiously he made his way... and then, he clearly remembers coming face-to-face with me, an eight-year-old boy, wide-eyed with terror.

In heavily-accented American Yiddish, he asked me, 'How old are you, mein kind?' There were tears in his eyes. "What difference does it make?' I answered, warily. 'I'm older than you, anyway.'

"He smiled through his tears and said, 'Why do you think you're older than me?'

"And I answered, **'Because you cry and laugh like a child. I haven't laughed in a long time, and I don't even cry anymore. So which one of us is older?'**"
