Elie Wiesel and Oprah Winfrey Visit to Auschwitz

Discussion Questions

1. Elie Wiesel has said, “For the dead and the living, we must bear witness.”
   1. Why is it important to bear witness for those who died in the Holocaust?
   2. What value is it for the living that the Holocaust is taught?
2. How would you respond if someone says that studying the Holocaust is too depressing and too gruesome for students?
3. Why do you think Elie Wiesel has returned to Auschwitz, a place with so many horrible memories for him?
4. Some have said Wiesel should talk more about the genocides that are happening today, such as Bosnia, Rwanda, and Darfur, instead of the Holocaust in the 1940’s. He said, “I do not believe in analogies, I do not compare tragedies, but I believe ours can serve as a reference point.” What does he mean?
5. Wiesel has said, “…there is one thing that is very clear, that Auschwitz would not have happened without anti-Semitism [hatred of Jews].” It is when person hates that he or she can be cruel to another. What can you do when you see your fellow students acting in cruel ways?