**“Toyland” (“Spielzugland”) Analysis**

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

1. What are your initial reactions to this film?
2. Why does Heinrich’s mother tell Heinrich that David and his family were going to Toyland?
3. List three ways the story have been different if Heinrich’s mother had told Heinrich the truth about “Toyland.”
4. What life lesson can be learned from Heinrich’s mother’s decision to claim David as her own son?
5. What life lesson can be learned from David’s parents’ decision to let David go with Heinrich’s mother?
6. Heinrich and David are shown sitting down to play at the same piano as kids and as older men. What does the piano symbolize? Explain.
7. At the end, there are old family pictures displayed on the piano. What do those photos help Heinrich and David remember? (Think thematically – what lessons and/or qualities do those photos help the two men retain?)
8. Think about what Elie Wiesel has said about remembering the Holocaust. Why is it important for us to remember?
9. What props, clothing, and other visual cues in the film signify the boys’ innocence and subsequent loss of innocence?
10. List three similarities you notice between “Toyland” and *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*.