

## Night: A Jewish Legend and Essay Prompt

An ancient rabbi once asked his pupils how they could tell when the night had ended and day had begun.

"Could it be," asked one student, "when you can tell whether the animal in the distance is a sheep or a dog?"

"No," answered the rabbi.

"Could it be," asked another, "when you can look at a tree in the distance and tell whether it is a fig or a peach tree?"

"No," answered the rabbi. "This is how you can tell. It is when you look into the face of any human creature and see your brother or sister there. Because if you cannot do this, then no matter what time of day it really is, night and darkness are still with us."

What does this mean? What does it mean to you? Write a personal essay on what you believe it means to see the face of your brother or sister in any human creature and how this can be achieved. This essay is a three paragraph minimum and is due at the end of the period.

### Informative Rubric:

<p><b>Focus:</b> The text focuses on a topic to inform a reader with ideas, concepts, information, etc.</p>			
<p><b>Development:</b> The text presents relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, and examples. The conclusion ties to and supports the information/explanation.</p>			
<p><b>Audience:</b> The author anticipates the audience's background knowledge of the topic.</p>			
<p><b>Cohesion:</b> The text uses appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, creates cohesion, and clarifies the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.</p>			
<p><b>Language and Style:</b> The text presents a formal, objective tone and uses precise language and topic-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic.</p>			
<p><b>Conventions:</b> The text demonstrates standard English conventions of usage and mechanics along with disciplinespecific requirements (i.e. MLA, APA, etc.).</p>			