When asked why he became a writer, Elie Wiesel responds by speaking of those who did not survive to tell their stories.

“I owe them my roots and memory. I am duty-bound to serve as their emissary, transmitting the history of their disappearance, even if that disturbs, even if it brings pain. Not to do so would be to betray them, and thus myself”

1. Why does Elie Wiesel feel so strongly that he has an obligation to bear witness? What lesson does he want us to learn from his story?
2. Reflect on your identity box, journals from this unit, and other writings you’ve done in the past. Does your story reflect these ideas/identities? Why or why not?
3. How is this story important to who you are as a person?
4. In what ways is your story believable and memorable? (Show vs. Tell)

Peer editing

1. Writer verbally answers the question
2. partner reflects what they heard back to writer
3. Writer, jot down notes about places to clarify or emphasize
4. Then move on to the next question
5. Switch when all questions have been answered and reflected