

Questions, week 10 (Primo Levi)

1. Why is the title of Levi's book anomalous? What is the form of the poem used as an introduction?
2. Why was it Levi's "good fortune to be deported to Auschwitz ... in 1944"? (p. 9)
3. Who was Levi working for when captured?
4. What were the German aims in the arrivals of Jews at Auschwitz? Why did Levi include the anecdote about the guard in the truck? (p. 21)
5. Why are all belongings subject to immediate theft if left alone?
6. What was Steinlauf's message? (p. 41)
7. Why and how could markets emerge in the Lager? What was the currency?
8. What determined who survived for long in the Lager? (Some examples, Chap. 9)
9. (Dawidowicz) What makes the Holocaust unique?
10. (Dawidowicz) Why does Dawidowicz argue it is wrong "that Auschwitz would become a metaphor and a paradigm for evil"? (p. 15)