

# **SHEP ZITLER: KEY QUESTIONS**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer the following questions using information and quotes from the documentary:**

- 1. Describe Vilna and Shep's life there before World War II.**
- 2. Describe Shep's experience as a Polish soldier *before* the war.**
- 3. Describe the 'apple' incident in September 1939, when the Polish troops, including Shep and his friend Harry Sanders, were surrounded by the Germans.**
- 4. Describe Shep's experience when his unit surrendered to the Germans in September 1939. How long was he a prisoner of the Germans? How did he manage to survive?**
- 5. How did Shep's mother Beila try to get him released from a German POW camp? What was the tragic irony of that effort?**
- 6. What was Ponary Forest? Describe what happened there**

**when SS officer Martin Weiss confronted Shep's niece Sterna Morgenstern. What happened to Martin Weiss after the war?**

**7. Describe Shep's experience as a POW, including the two occasions when he narrowly avoided being executed. In these instances, how was he saved?**

**8. What were the "two things" that Shep (and other Jewish survivors) promised *not* to do after the war? Why did they make this promise? Why did they 'break' it?**

**9. Shep doesn't think another Holocaust of the Jewish people will occur. Why?**

**10. What is Shep's message to young people?**

