

Hannah Senesh

1. Pioneer, poetess,  
at 17 - becomes interested in zionism  
Had been born into a wealthy, Budapest Hungry,  
assimilated family.  
Moves to Eretz Yisrael Pioneer - Halutz  
Learns Hebrew  
Goes to an agricultural school  
settles on Kibbutz Sdot Yam

2. Poetess

3. Parachutist

Parachutes unto Yugoslavia to warn Jews -  
makes her way to Hungary - which was Nazi hands  
Once in Hungary -  
She is captured  
tied and torched  
Nazi's wanted to know her secret  
redo code - she does not break -  
Then - Nazi's find her mother  
Say they will kill her mother unless  
But, Chana still does not talk  
Chana eventually tried and pleads guilty  
Nov. 1944  
Prosecutor enters her cell and asks "Chana Senesh, you are condemned to death.  
Well you plead for mercy?"  
Chana:  
Mercy from you? No, I beg no mercy from the hands of hangmen.  
"Then write your final letters for in an hour you will be shot.  
Writes a letter to her mother and to a friend who had been in jail with her, Joel  
Nussbacher  
to Joel she writes  
"Continue, never retreat, carry the battle to the day of freedom.

A poem

Blessed is the match consumed  
in kindling flame.  
Blessed is the flame that burns  
in the secret fastness of the heart.  
Blessed is the heart with strength to stop  
its beating for heaven's sake.  
Blessed is the match consumed  
in kindling me.  
Chana Senesh as a blessed match -  
unconsumed - lighted forever.