

Gathering the Voices

Gathering the Voices

- What is testimony?
- What can we learn from testimony?
- Why is it important to preserve testimony?
- Why is it important to remember?

Gathering the Voices- What is testimony?

- Survivor testimony:
 - The telling of their life story
 - The sharing of experiences
 - First-hand evidence
 - Recollections and memoirs

Gathering the Voices- What can we learn from testimony?

- Groups and individuals who were targeted for persecution by the Nazis
 - Unique perspectives
 - The impact of the holocaust on individuals
 - The scale of the holocaust
 - Compassion
- Why they were targeted
- What they experienced
- How individual experiences were different

Gathering the Voices- Why is it important to preserve testimony?

- To give a voice to those who survived the holocaust
- To remember
- To bear witness
- So that we can ensure that the mistakes of the past are not repeated
- To preserve history

Gathering the Voices- Preparing to examine survivor testimony

- If you had the opportunity to talk to someone who had survived the holocaust, what questions would you want to ask them?
- Note down 3 questions you would like to find the answers to
- (share ideas/ questions with the class)

Gathering the Voices- Preparing to examine survivor testimony

- What do you expect the survivor to have experienced?
- What do you expect you will learn from examining survivor testimony?

Gathering the Voices- Examining testimony

- Collect your mini-biography
- After you have read the biography, add **three** more questions to your list that you would like to find answers to through examining the testimony

Gathering the Voices- Examining testimony

- Collect a copy of the full testimony
- Read through the testimony carefully
- Highlight or underline any words you don't understand, or any information that you think is important

Gathering the Voices- Examining testimony

- Did you find the answers to your original questions?
- If so, share your findings with your neighbour
- If not, what questions would you still like to find answers to?
- Homework task/ research task: Using internet resources, find answers to the questions.

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After pupils have examined testimony

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- What did you expect survivors to have experienced?
- Were you right?
- In not, in what way was the testimony different to what you expected?
- What stood out?
- What did you learn about the holocaust through examining survivor testimony?