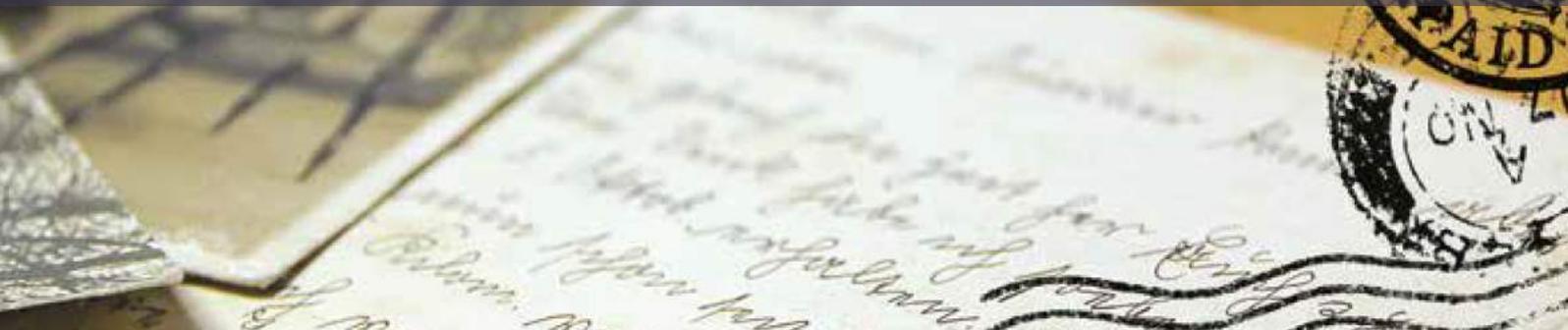


ACTIVITY FACTSHEET

PART ONE



TITLE

17 letters – for the last time and forever

ENQUIRY QUESTION

What do letters and notes written by people caught in the storm of the Second World War and of the genocide of European Jews tell us about the years between 1941 – 1944?

SHORT DESCRIPTION

This practice helps students in learning how to critically analyse primary sources in order to determine their context, content, and historical value. It is based on the analysis of 17 letters written between 1941 and 1944 by people caught in the storm of Nazism and the genocide of European Jews during the Second World War. Students analyse the letters basing on a five step critical process, which can be used to analyse any written historical document.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

What will students learn as a result of doing this activity?

Students will:

- Develop a clear knowledge of the impact of the Nazi regime on the lives of Jews in Europe and of the Holocaust
- Learn how to approach primary sources
- Understand the historical value of primary sources
- Increase their critical thinking skills

KEYWORDS

- Remembrance education and/or history education
- Antisemitism
- The Holocaust and/or other genocides
- Critical thinking

TEACHING CHALLENGES

- Making the past relevant
- Using primary sources

DEVELOPED SKILLS RELATING TO HISTORICAL THINKING

- Applying knowledge of the past
- Analysis of historical sources
- Presenting the past

PART TWO

INDICATIVE AGE

Age of the students who you expect to work with.

14 - 18

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED FROM STUDENTS

Teachers are asked to discuss the Second World War with their students before implementing the practice, so that students have some general knowledge of the key events.

APPROXIMATE TIME

1 lesson (45 min – 1 hour)

PART THREE

STUDENT MATERIALS

17 letters written between 1941 and 1944 by people caught in the storm of Nazism and the genocide of European Jews during the Second World War. – This material is available online.

TEACHER MATERIALS

ONLINE MATERIALS

17 letters – for the last time and forever – available in English and French

<https://museeholocauste.ca/en/activities/17-letters-holocaust>

Student glossary and questionnaire - Teaching with Primary Sources in the History Classroom

<https://museeholocauste.ca/app/uploads/2018/10/primary-sources-in-history-classroom.pdf>

PART FOUR

AUTHORS

Montreal Holocaust Museum

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LICENSE

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MORE HELP

Where can a teacher get more help with this activity?



FRANCE
ÉDUCATION
INTERNATIONAL



ידישער **JEWISH**
היסטאָרישער **HISTORICAL**
אינסטיטוט **INSTITUTE**



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