



# UK-JHF Lesson

University of Kentucky-Jewish Heritage Fund  
Holocaust Education Initiative

## Lesson Title:

**Building Background Knowledge for the Holocaust: Content Stations & Literacy Strategies**

## Lesson Overview

<b>Suggested Grade Level</b>	10th-12th
<b>Time Required</b>	2-3 days, depending upon how big the class is and how long it takes all of the groups to rotate through the various stations
<b>Subject</b>	English/Language Arts
<b>Relevant Courses</b>	English 2, 3, or 4
<b>Kentucky Curriculum Standard(s) Addressed</b>	<p><b>RI. 11-12.1:</b> Cite relevant and thorough textual evidence to support analysis from the text as well as inferences drawn from the text</p> <p><b>RI.11-12.9:</b> Analyze documents of historical and literary significance, including how they address related themes and concepts.</p> <p><b>C.11.12.7:</b> Compose routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames for a variety of tasks, purposes and audiences.</p>
<b>Summary/Rationale</b>	The purpose of this 2-3 day lesson is to build background knowledge and practice literacy strategies before reading longer novels or texts.
<b>Featured Materials/Content</b>	<a href="#">Hyperdoc with all materials</a> Graphic Organizers Informational texts & videos
<b>Essential Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do we use humane language to reach across barriers to understanding?</li> </ul>
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<p><i>After this lesson, students will be able to . . .</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After this lesson, students will be able to define antisemitism.</li> <li>After this lesson, students will be able to define relevant Jewish terms.</li> <li>After this lesson, students will be able to explain information about Jewish culture in Kentucky.</li> <li>After this lesson, students will be able to explain the system of ghettos.</li> <li>After this lesson, students will be able to explain an overview of the concentration camp system.</li> </ul> <p><i>Skills-related objectives</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After this lesson, students will be able to read text closely, infer, and cite evidence.</li> <li>• After this lesson, students will be able to analyze historical documents.</li> <li>• After this lesson, students will be able to compose a synthesis paragraph.</li> </ul>
<b>Teacher Planning and Research</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read/watch the texts for each station in advance and determine potential discussion questions.</li> <li>2. Familiarize yourself with the handouts, topics, and literacy strategies.</li> <li>3. Arrange the classroom for station work (divide class into groups for 6 stations).</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson Created By</b>	<b>Renee Boss, Woodford County High School</b> <i>Woodford County School District</i>

# During the Lesson

## Instructional Sequence

1. Whole-class discussion about why we study the Holocaust
2. Explain the purpose and directions for the stations.
  - a. Explain to students how they will rotate through the stations. Each station is designed to take about 20 minutes to complete, depending on the students' needs. Use a timer on the board, if desired.
  - b. Before advancing to the next station, give students 3-5 minutes to sit quietly and reflect on their learning at that station AND time to write their one sentence summary of learning from that station.
3. After students have rotated through all the stations (after 1-2 days), guide them through the synthesis paragraph writing assignment.
4. Debrief learning as a whole group before beginning to read a novel, memoir, etc.

## Assessment(s)

- **Formative tasks:** One sentence summary for each station along with the task at each station
- **Summative task:** Synthesis paragraph/reflection

## Links to Necessary Resources and Handouts

- All handouts are linked in [this document](#)

# Following Up and Additional Resources

## Suggested Modification for Accommodation

- Scaffolding and teacher guidance could be provided at stations where students need assistance.

## Citations

Donahue, Arwen, and Rebecca Gayle Howell. *This Is Home Now: Kentucky's Holocaust Survivors Speak*. University Press of Kentucky, 2022.

*The Ghettos*, Yad Vashem, 2 May 2016, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sk0CPzfPKIw>. Accessed 23 July 2023.

"Summary of Anti-Semitism." *Echoes & Reflections*, [echoesandreflections.org/wp-content/themes/twentyseventenechoes/fileview.php?source=1&file\\_nm=2023%2F01%2FSummary\\_of\\_Antisemitism\\_v6.pdf](https://echoesandreflections.org/wp-content/themes/twentyseventenechoes/fileview.php?source=1&file_nm=2023%2F01%2FSummary_of_Antisemitism_v6.pdf). Accessed 23 July 2023.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. (n.d.). *Concentration Camp System: In Depth*. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/concentration-camp-system-in-depth>

"Virtual Jewish World: Kentucky, United States." *Kentucky Jewish History*, [www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/kentucky-jewish-history](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/kentucky-jewish-history). Accessed 23 July 2023.