

Bringing History to Life: A Centropa-Inspired Lesson Journey

Lesson title: To Kill a Ghost: A Kindertransport Story - Paul	School:
Teacher Name(s): Yahel Ox	Subject: EFL or native English speakers
Grade level: 9-12 grade	Number of students:
 I Can Statements: I can understand and analyze a historical podcast I can identify key details about the Kindertransport I can express emotional responses to personal historical narratives 	Student background (social, cultural, religious, learning needs): Israeli JHS & high school students with intermediate to advanced English skills
Centropa Resource Information - Centropa resource pack or item(s) used: "To Kill a Ghost" podcast episode 1 - Geographical context of the resource: Vienna, Austria and London, UK	Historical background: - Time period: 1938-1947 - Key events or developments: • March 1938: Nazi Germany annexes Austria (Anschluss) • November 1938: Kristallnacht in Germany and Austria • December 1938: Kindertransport begins • May 1945: Nazi Germany surrenders, WWII ends in Europe



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Emotional-Social-Pedagogical Notes

- Specific student needs or circumstances to consider:
 - Students with family Holocaust history
 - Various English proficiency levels
 - Emotional sensitivity to challenging historical content
- Strategies to support social-emotional learning:
 - Create safe discussion environment
 - Allow moments of quiet reflection
 - Provide emotional support when needed

Lesson Objectives

- What is the main goal of this lesson? Students will understand the human experience of the Kindertransport through Paul's story.
- What specific skills, knowledge or values will students gain?
 - Historical understanding of Kindertransport
 - Digital literacy with AI tools
 - Descriptive writing skills
 - Emotional intelligence and empathy
 - Create an AI-generated image of Paul based on the podcast story

Assessment

- Formative assessments:
 - Class discussions
 - Vocabulary comprehension
- Summative assessment(s):
 - Final AI-generated image and presentation
 - Written description of chosen moment
- Student self-assessment and peer assessment
 - Peer feedback on descriptions
 - Self-reflection on learning process

Reflection & Evaluation

- What went well?

- What changes would you make to improve the lesson?

- Analysis of exit ticket responses:



To Kill a Ghost: A Kindertransport Story - Paul

Time:	Brief Description:	Class Setup
15 minutes	 Pre-listening: Write "Kindertransport" on the board Ask students what they know about children refugees during WWII Pre-teach key vocabulary: internment, deportation, naturalization, collective apartment Provide historical context about Austria in 1938 	Whole Class
5 minutes	Listening preparation: • Ask students to find a comfortable position around school • Suggest closing eyes while listening • Set listening purpose: focus on Paul's journey	Individual
15 minutes	listening: • Play Chapter 1 of the podcast • Students listen with eyes closed	Individual
30 minutes	 Post-listening discussion: What emotions did you experience while listening? What details about Paul's story stood out to you? Imagine being 15 and having to leave everything behind - what would you take with you? What skills did Paul use to help himself? (typing, languages, willingness to work) How did Paul's identity change through his journey? (Viennese teenager → refugee → internee → soldier → British citizen) Have you ever been in a situation where you had to start over? What helps people stay strong when everything around them changes? 	Small Groups or Whole Class
20 minutes	Portrait of Paul: AI Image Creation Activity See the worksheet attached	Individual or Pairs
5 minutes	Exit ticket: Write 3 things you learned and 1 question you still have	Individual



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Portrait of Paul: AI Image Creation Activity

Instructions:

1. Choose one moment from Paul's life:

Paul's Life Journey



- 2. Write a detailed description of Paul for that moment (physical appearance, clothing, facial expression, background, historical accuracy 1930s-40s style)
- 3. Create your AI image:
 - Choose one of these AI image tools and sign up to an AI image tool using your email
 - Writing your prompt: Clearly describe what you want to see, add important details (colors, size, environment), choose a style: realistic, comic, animation, or painting and keep your sentence simple

Scan or Click:







Adobe Firefly Ideogram

Bing

4. Class presentation:

- Show your AI-generated image
- Explain why you chose this particular moment
- Share how the image compares to what you imagined while listening



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LESSON PLAN CHECKLIST:



Centropa resource is well-integrated
Emotional-social-pedagogical notes consider specific student needs
Lesson objectives cover knowledge, skills and values; align with standards
Materials and resources are prepared and accessible for all learners
Lesson procedure table is filled out with timing, activities, and class org.
Exit ticket planned to assess understanding and reflection
Differentiation strategies address diverse learning needs, styles, choice
Relevance and connections made to students' lives and current issues
Opportunities for student choice, collaboration and active learning
Inclusive environment with clear expectations and social-emotional support
Time is budgeted realistically; pacing is appropriate for learning goals