



## Video Toolbox: Student Reflection Questions

The [Video Toolbox](#) resource from Echoes & Reflections may be assigned to students to give context and information about a variety of Holocaust topics. The questions below can help guide students through independent viewing of these videos and serve as an opportunity for student reflection or assessment. Please click the headers for a link to the video on the Echoes & Reflections website.

### **Video Toolbox: Antisemitism**

1. What examples of stereotypes or accusations against Jews repeat themselves throughout history? How do they manifest today?
2. What antisemitic views were new in Nazi ideology?
3. How did this ideology become accepted by so many Germans? What methods were used to spread antisemitism?
4. Reflect on the nature of antisemitism and hatred. Why is it so dangerous? How should we, as individuals and communities, respond to hatred?
5. 3-2-1: What are three things you learned? Two questions you have? One thing you found interesting?
6. While You Watch: What visual images stand out to you, and why? Alternatively, choose one word or phrase and explain why it connects with you.

### **Video Toolbox: Ghettos**

1. Describe life in the ghettos. What methods were used to oppress the Jews? What was their purpose?
2. Why is it important to understand life in the ghettos? Why are primary sources essential for understanding life in the ghettos?
3. How do the lives of the Jews in the ghettos show the human spirit? How did Jews resist and ultimately defeat the Nazi attempt to dehumanize and destroy Jewish life?
4. While You Watch: Write down five descriptive adjectives describing the ghettos that come to mind as you hear the information, see the images and watch the testimonies. Compare with your classmates.

## **Video Toolbox: The Final Solution**

1. How do the photographs from the Auschwitz Album add to your understanding of Ellis Lewin's testimony about his arrival at Auschwitz?
2. Jews struggled to maintain their dignity in a world of dehumanization and murder. Which of the stories here most resonates with you? Why? In what ways does it show how Jews maintained their humanity on the brink of death?
3. While You Watch: Choose a specific object or artifact that stands out to you. What is meaningful about this object, and what story does it tell? Why did you choose it? Is this an essential part to understanding The "Final Solution"? Explain your answer.

## **Video Toolbox: Jewish Resistance**

1. Before you watch, jot down your definition of the word 'resistance', what does this word mean to you? What examples come to mind?
2. We often ask, "Why didn't the Jews resist?" instead of "How was it possible for them to resist?" What is the difference between these two questions?
3. Abba Kovner, the first to call for armed resistance against the Germans, was the head of a youth group. Why did he turn specifically to the youth to encourage armed resistance?
4. How were the deportations from Warsaw that began on July 22, 1942, a catalyst for armed resistance?
5. How do the various ways Jews resisted the Nazis add to our understanding of human nature?
6. While You Watch: What are 2-4 examples of how Jews resisted the Nazis? What does this teach you about dignity and the human spirit? Why are these essential aspects of studying the Holocaust?

## **Liberators and Survivors: The First Moments**

1. Why are the liberator testimonies so important?
2. What steps did General Eisenhower take when he became aware of the Nazis' atrocities? Why is it so important that the world be aware of what happened?
3. For many survivors, liberation was the saddest day of their lives. Shouldn't it have been the happiest day of their lives? Why wasn't it?
4. In what ways did liberators revive the victims at first contact? How did these initial encounters inform and impact the future lives of both?
5. While You Watch: What is striking to you about the relationship between the survivors and the liberators? What does this tell you about human nature?