



But I Live Educational Resources

Handout: Their Story of Survival

Building a Historical Graphic Narrative – Holocaust Testimonies

Project Overview

Using Holocaust survivor testimonies, you will create a comic book in a collaborative **group project** (4 people) demonstrating life during World War II. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate how history is a story created by **consensus**. This project requires collaboration, and as a group you need to **form a consensus** on what parts are significant and history accurately from the historical testimonies. As student's you will be responsible for telling the story of a Holocaust survivor by bringing it their story to life on the page. Looking at testimonies, primary and secondary sources, the political landscape, and the different perspectives of the people living through WWII, you will **choose key significant events** from your assigned testimony and put them together to create your historical narrative in comic book form. Upon completing your comic book, you will then share it with the class in small **literary circles** highlighting your key significant events and explaining why your group chose them.

MY ASSIGNED TESTIMONY IS:

MY GROUP MEMBERS ARE:

Names	Contact Information
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Starting the project checklist:

- I know which testimony I am assigned to
- I have connected with my group mates and shared contact information
- I have accessed my assigned testimony (Ex. <https://collections.vhec.org/Testimony/Index>)



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Creating the Graphic Narrative

For the purpose of this activity, you are going to create a non-fiction graphic narrative based on historically significant events that you have chosen by listening to survivor testimonies. Building a historical narrative is the process of putting these significant events together. Non-fiction comic books use the visual medium as a way to share knowledge in a way that is accessible. Your group can build your comic book **either** through a **hand drawn format** or through a **digital media platform**. I am not assessing your artistic abilities, but I am assessing your ability to accurately put together a narrative that demonstrates your understanding of the Holocaust.

Optional Digital platforms you can use:

- Book Creator: <https://bookcreator.com/>
- Pixton: <https://www.pixton.com/>
- Paper by WeTransfer: iPad app
- Autodesk Sketchbook: App available on multiple different platforms
- Canva: online platform

Resource for you:

- YouTube video: *How to Build a Graphic Novel Comic! My Step-by-Step Process*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9b3JOUVrfA>

You will be given feedback on your comic book as we progress through, as well as classes with historical comic book examples and skill building opportunities to produce quality work.

Criteria

1. Your graphic narrative needs to have a creative cover page that clearly includes:
 - Your topic and group members
2. Graphic Narratives should include approximately **10-12 pages** of content (not including your cover)
 - Need to include **a minimum of 5** different historically significant events
 - You must be able to justify why you chose each event
3. Your group should integrate **more than one** perspective or lens when covering historical events
 - Examples could include, both the survivor and the artist, other marginalized groups i.e., racial minorities or LGBTQIA+
4. Include a **MINIMUM of 5 sources**, in addition to testimony accounts, should be used when constructing your narrative
 - Including at least **1 primary source** needs to be integrated into your graphic narrative
5. Include a citations page of all the research you used to build your graphic narrative



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Important Dates

1. Primary source Library day: _____
2. Graphic Narrative storyboard outline: _____
 - This is a rough draft of the graphic novel using the storyboard handout. Images are meant to be rough sketches, with text written below to help plan and form your narratives.
3. Group conference with Teacher: _____
4. Peer Review: _____
5. Final submission: _____