



Holocaust-Education

Kurt and Ilse. 1938–1945. Life and survival in Vienna (ages 14 to 19), Dorotheergasse 11

Diary entries and notes, photos, favorite songs, flight warning signals – pupils approach a Viennese Jewish story with the help of selected archive material. They get to know Kurt and Ilse Mezei and their everyday lives: meeting friends, falling in love, going for walks, being afraid, but also having hopes and dreams...

Lilli (ages 10 to 19), Dorotheergasse 11

A box full of things and a story of survival and remembering. A Viennese Jewish girl is rescued on the last possible Kindertransport to England; her parents are murdered. Thinking about a possible or impossible return in the years after 1945 leads us, among other things, to a discussion about the question of how memories can be displayed. Pupils consider what they would take with them or what they would pack in, what a person needs in order to remember something, as well as to whom Jewish history belongs.

Letters to the present, (ages 14 to 19), Dorotheergasse 11

"Memory Map," a work of art by Nikolaus Gansterer created as part of and on behalf of "The Vienna Project" in 2014, shows a map of "Our City!", which is made up of copies of private letters written by Jewish women and men from the Vienna of persecution and from the countries of exile. Proceeding from this map of memories, we invite pupils to write letters to the museum. As fictional great-grandchildren, great cousins, neighbors and friends, they react to selected objects in the Jewish Museum that tell of Viennese people who once lived here.

Write to yourself! (ages 14 to 19), Judenplatz 8

To start off, pupils write themselves a postcard – with a picture of the Shoah memorial on Vienna's Judenplatz. Then the vestiges of the medieval synagogue, the history of Vienna's first Jewish community and its brutal end in 1421 are linked to Rachel Whiteread's memorial, which commemorates the obliteration of Vienna's third Jewish community as of 1938. The post you have sent to yourself will now be reread. It leads us to a conversation about the possibilities and limits of remembering the Shoah.

How does remembrance work? (ages 14 to 19). Judenplatz 8

Based on the Shoah memorial initiated by Simon Wiesenthal and created by the British artist Rachel Whiteread on Judenplatz, an examination of current possibilities and issues of the culture of remembrance is to be stimulated. The conversation on Judenplatz segues into a discussion, which we then want to lead in the Jewish Museum's permanent exhibition, "Our City! Jewish Vienna – Then to Now," at Dorotheergasse 11: How should remembrance go on? Pupils discuss this question in the context of the objects presented in the museum. Is remembrance possible with diaries, films, everyday objects, contemporary witnesses or art? Or with something completely different?

We recommend:

The ORF TVthek video archive "Schicksalsjahr 1938" ("The Fateful Year 1938") recalls the events of 1938 – from March 12th to the November pogroms – with articles and broadcasts in the form of interviews with contemporary witnesses, historical recordings and historical documentation. The new offer is part of the "ORF-TVthek goes school" campaign, which provides video archives especially suitable for integration into the classroom. It is available without restriction and for an unlimited period at <http://TVthek.ORF.at/archive> and can also be conveniently viewed on a smartphone or tablet using the ORF TVthek app.