

Mini Lesson: Listening and Speaking

Henrietta Altman on Respect

Subject Area: ELA

Grade Level: 5 – 6

Duration: 30 minutes

Standard Addressed: CCSS.ELA–LITERACY.CCRA.SL.2

Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

CCSS.ELA–LITERACY.CCRA.SL.3

Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

Learning Aim: Students will recognize manifestations of respectful behaviors through close reading of Holocaust survivor testimony and through an examination of their own experiences.

Testimony:
Henrietta Altman
Jewish Survivor



(3:54)

CONSIDER

- Write the word “respect” on the board or project it on the screen.
- In a whole group discussion, ask students:
 - ◊ *What is your definition of respect?*
 - ◊ *What does respect look like in your home or community??*
 - ◊ *How did you learn about respect or from whom did you learn to be respectful?*
 - ◊ *Why is it important to show every person respect?*
- Tell students that they will watch a selection of testimony from Henrietta Altman in which she describes how she saw her family respect others when she was growing up in Poland. Be sure to provide background on Henrietta’s life and explain why you are using Holocaust survivor testimony in this lesson.
- Tell students that they will be asked to practice their ability to listen to a text, reflect on it, and generate ideas about it.

COLLECT

- Tell students that they will watch a clip of testimony and that will be the “text” that they are reading.
- Distribute the Student Handout with Henrietta Altman’s biography or project it onto the board.
- Viewing 1: Play Henrietta’s clip all the way through as a class.
- Viewing 2: Play the clip a second time and direct students to identify examples of respect discussed in the clip. Students should use the T-Chart on the handout to record the examples.
- Direct students to write in the second column why the examples they wrote in the first column show respect.

CONSTRUCT

- Explain to the class that they will use their T-charts as the basis for a guided class discussion on respect.
- In pairs or small groups, direct students to discuss the following questions, using the T-Charts as a guide:
 - ◊ *Why are these examples of respect significant for Henrietta?*
 - ◊ *How did Henrietta learn about how to treat others respectfully?*

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COMMUNICATE

- As a wrap up discussion, transition back to personalizing respect for the students. Ask:
 - ◊ *Why is it important for you to treat others respectfully?*
 - ◊ *Why is it important for you to be treated respectfully?*
 - ◊ *How do you learn to show respect? Whose examples do you follow?*
 - ◊ *What are some ways that we can build respect in our class community? In our school community?*
- Using the examples generated by the class, write a definition of the word “respect” for your class.
- Write the class definition of “respect” on a poster and keep visible in the classroom.
- Take a picture of the poster and share on your favorite social media platform using the hashtags #100Days4Respect and #BeginsWithMe. You may want to encourage your students to post a photo on their preferred social media platforms if appropriate.

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Student Handout

Henrietta Altman Biography

Henrietta Altman was born on March 1, 1922 in Bedzin, Poland and was known by the pet name Kitia. She grew up in a large family home with her parents, brother and her mother's brother and sisters. Hers was a traditional Jewish family and she attended a private Jewish school. Her father spoke German, had real estate in Germany and respected German culture while Kitia was growing up. In 1935, with the increase of anti-Jewish laws in Germany, Kitia's father started to go to Germany less frequently. Her father had suggested that her family move to Palestine, but she wanted to finish her education at her school. She and her family believed they had nothing to fear from German laws, as they lived in Poland.

Life changed drastically following the Nazi invasion of Poland in September 1939. Her family was forced into the Bedzin ghetto. In the ghetto, the Bedzin Jews faced restrictions on where they could live and lived under curfew. On August 1, 1943, the ghetto was "exterminated," and closed down. Kitia's family was one of the last to leave the ghetto. She stayed in Bedzin until June 1944 when she was forced to the labor camp Annaberg before being transferred to Auschwitz.

Following liberation, she traveled from Germany to Denmark and then to Sweden, where she was put into quarantine. She made efforts to locate her family, and moved to Paris to find her aunts and uncles. There she met her husband, with whom she moved to Australia.

She was interviewed on November 1, 1995 in Caulfield, Victoria, Australia.

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Student Handout

Name: _____

CONSIDER:

What do you think “respect” means? What are some examples of respect in your life?

COLLECT: Listen to Henrietta Altman’s testimony.

<i>Example of Respect from the Testimony</i>	<i>Explanation of Respect</i>

CONSTRUCT:

What are some of the different forms of respect? Think about how a person might show respect verbally or physically, or how a person might show respect towards another person or to an idea or concept.