

Student Worksheet: Familiar Words

Topic 2: Ghettos & Deportation and Topic 3: The Camps Questions: 4

- Cover up column C so you cannot see the descriptions
- Read the words in column A
- Now fill in column B. Jot down single words & phrases you associate today with words in column A
- Uncover column C and compare your word associations in column B to the meanings described in column C. These meanings explain the context of words in column A during the Holocaust

A	B	C
Words used by Survivors	Word Brainstorm: Associated Meaning Today	Meaning of Wording
Train		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deportation trains which transported Jews were usually cattle trains, used for carrying animal cargo. Trains were usually sealed with a small air hole covered with barbed wire. Often two buckets were provided, one containing water, the other for human waste. With overcrowded wagons, there was usually no room to sit down and the stench from the waste bucket and thirst was often intolerable.
Hot/Cold		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The heat in deportation trains could be suffocating in the summer and freezing in the winter. On arrival at the camps, prisoners slept in camp barracks, which were poorly heated. Their beds were overcrowded wooden bunks. The only insulation against the freezing temperatures in Winter, were the thin camp uniforms. Prisoners in camps were often punished by being made to stand in the

<p>Sorting</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inmates would collect the belongings of the new arrivals and sort them into piles to be distributed around Germany. • Victims would be "sorted " and told whether to go left or right. One way signified immediate death, the other life.
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A	B	C
Words used by Survivors	Word Brainstorm: Associated Meaning Today	Meaning of Wording
<p>Played Games</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivors here talk of playing games as children in the ghetto. Children developed unique tools to survive including fantasy, creativity and play. They adapted to the awful conditions they found themselves in and it became the norm to see children playing on carts and wagons used to carry the dead. Dolls were used as safe places to hide family valuables. Matchboxes were cut up and their tops used to make dealing cards
<p>Showers</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims were deceived into thinking they were going to take a shower after their terrible journey to the camps. They were told to undress, tie shoelaces together for easy identification, and sometimes given soap to aid the deception. Zyklon B gas pellets were released through

		the roof, releasing a deadly, poisonous gas
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