Teaching Guide for First Person: Conversations with a Survivor

GRADE LEVEL: Adaptable for grades 7–12

SUBJECT: Multidisciplinary

TIME REQUIRED: Watch the 2021 First Person series on YouTube Live once a month at 1:00 p.m. ET, beginning April 14.

Recordings of the conversations available on demand after broadcast.

OVERVIEW
Join Holocaust survivors for live First Person conversations as they share their experiences in their own words. In its 22nd season, this signature program features an hour-long discussion with a survivor and journalist Bill Benson, followed by a question-and-answer session with the audience. This guide provides scaffolding to integrate the First Person conversations into your classroom.

By viewing First Person testimony students are exposed to the diversity of experiences of Holocaust survivors.

First Person 2021 schedule
Program airs Wednesdays at 1 pm ET on USHMM YouTube Channel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Survivor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 14, 2021</td>
<td>Peter Feigl</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12, 2021</td>
<td>Theodora (Dora) Klayman</td>
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<td>June 9, 2021</td>
<td>Albert Garih</td>
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<td>July 7, 2021</td>
<td>Irene Fogel Weiss</td>
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<td>August 4, 2021</td>
<td>Rachel (Rae) Goldfarb</td>
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<td>September 1, 2021</td>
<td>Estelle Laughlin</td>
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<td>October 13, 2021</td>
<td>Esther Starobin</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 17, 2021</td>
<td>Frank Liebermann</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 15, 2021</td>
<td>Nat Shaffir</td>
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PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM
1. Share with students the definition of the Holocaust.
2. Students then read the biography of the featured survivor. On the student interactive, students answer the following:

ASK THE STUDENTS
- What was life like before the Holocaust for the featured survivor?
- What are three characteristics of their experience during the Holocaust?
- How did they survive?
- What was life like for them after the war ended?
- What questions do you still have about the survivor’s experience?

DURING THE PROGRAM
3. Using the student interactive, students fill in details of the survivor’s story before, during, and after the Holocaust.

AFTER THE PROGRAM
3. As a class, discuss the student interactive:
   - What are the particular characteristics of the survivor’s experience before, during, and after the Holocaust? How did hearing the story in the survivor’s words add to your understanding of their particular experience?
   - What were the survivor’s final words for us today?
   - How does hearing from a survivor add to your understanding of how and why the Holocaust happened?

Students can explore the collections of the survivor to find primary sources to link to the survivor’s experience before, during, and after the Holocaust.

ASSESSMENT/EXTENSIONS
- Students can create personal story cards for the survivor using information from the student interactive and primary sources from collections to add to the USHMM Timeline Activity.
- Students can view additional First Person programs and create a timeline showing similarities and differences in individual experiences.