

LESSON PLAN

PREPARATION FOR A MEMORIAL VISIT



English



Austria



Education



13-19 years



50 min

LESSON PLAN

Preparation for a Memorial visit



OBJECTIVES

1. Prepare Students for the visit of a concentration camp memorial (or similar site)
2. Ensure they know the historical context and basic facts
3. Get them thinking about what they want to see and what they might experience on site



LESSON PLAN

The lesson uses short videos to prep students for visiting a historical site. The lesson consists of group work where videos are used as introductions for short tasks and finally the teacher can run through some practical information concerning the upcoming trip. Optionally with a task for the students to complete on site.

Group Work

 20 min

Students split into groups of max. 4. Each group watches the same 3 Videos. They are giving questions to answer for each video. (Video can be shown on projector in the classroom – students are then given time (5min each) to do a task.)

Video 1 is about who the Nazis persecuted or about Mauthausen Memorial. Students should have a basic understanding of what the historic site they are visiting was. Their task then is to write down questions they look to answer when visiting the memorial. e.g. Questions for the tour guide. One or two questions should be written down on a piece of paper with the names of the students. The teacher collects the papers and brings them along on the trip. (10min)

Video 2 is about commemorative practices. Students should then talk amongst themselves and share what they bring with them when visiting a cemetery/grave and what experience they have in visiting cemeteries. (5min)

Video 3 is about the practical side of visiting a memorial site and things to bring along. Student should note down a little packing list for themselves of things to not forget when visiting. (5min)

Plenum

 5-10 min

Practical Information on Visiting and answering open questions or addressing insecurities about visiting. (What? Where? When?)

Optional

 5 min

Giving students a specific task for their visit. For example:

- Take a photo/video of something you find important or that moves you.
- Bring a candle/stone/letter along to place somewhere at the memorial.



During the visit:

Teacher gives back the questions the students wrote down to the groups whilst on the bus. Therefore, students are reminded of the questions they want answered whilst visiting. These can be specific questions to ask the tour guide, or places to visit or more abstract questions.

LINKS: KURZVIDEOS

1. Video 1 Basics
Neuengamme Memorial (english)
<https://www.tiktok.com/@neuengamme.memorial/video/7524005467698253078>
Keine Erinnerungskultur Zahlen gesamt (german)
<https://www.tiktok.com/@keine.erinnerungskultur/video/7405223647696276769>
2. Video 2 Totengedenken
Bergen-Belsen Memorial
<https://www.tiktok.com/@belsenmemorial/video/7062653278630317318>
3. Mauthausen Memorial: Summer / Winter Visits
Cold: <https://www.tiktok.com/@mauthausenmemorial/video/7442685218785479958>
Warm: <https://www.tiktok.com/@mauthausenmemorial/video/7385525112176512289>