



Please type-in your

First name

Last name



Kitty and Otto Suschny
Country: Austria (Vienna)

Kitty and Otto Suschny both grew up in Vienna, only a couple of streets away from each other, but they never met while growing up. After the “Reichspogromnacht” in November 1938, both fled Austria for their lives; Kitty went to England, while Otto emigrated to Palestine. After the war, they returned to Vienna, desperate to find out what had happened to their parents. That’s where they met, and they never separated again...



I. Which political group did Otto Suschny’s father join after the First World War?


- + Communists
- + Social democrats
- + Monarchists
- + Anarchists

2. Which reasons may there have been that Otto Suschny's father chose to join this political group?

3. Otto Suschny's father printed illegal posters against the Austro-Fascist government at that time. Find out more about the political situation in Austria between 1933 and 1938 and write a brief summary (about 3 sentences).

4. Kitty and Otto Suschny grew up in the 1930s, right in the middle of the Great Depression. Give a definition of "Black Thursday" (1929) and the "Great Depression" of one sentence each!



5. The film mentions that Otto Suschny's father tried to make a living in the Soviet Union. Read Otto Suschny's biography to find out why his father finally came back to Austria. (You will find the link to his biography in the Study Guide to the film on www.centropastudent.org). 



6. Kitty Suschny tells us about the anti-Semitic remarks by her school teacher after Austria had been merged into Nazi Germany in the course of the "Anschluss in March 1938. Use the Centropastudent study guide to find out more about how the Austrian society reacted to the Nazi takeover.



7. Kitty tells us that she stopped going to the Vienna Augarten park, since they were signs forbidding Jews to sit on park benches. Can you think of any similar situations in the US (or elsewhere), or do you think such an exclusion of a minority is unique in history?



8. In the film, Otto Suschny talks about the pogroms of November 9th & 10, 1938. Use the Study Guide links to find out more about what happened at that time and write a short summary. (3-5 sentences)



9. Which country did Kitty Suschny's brother flee to?

- + Switzerland
- + Liechtenstein
- + Turkey
- + Great Britain

10. Why do you think did he choose this country? Find out more about the political situation in that country in the late 1930s! (2-3 sentences)



11. Kitty Suschny was taken on a "Kindertransport" to Great Britain. Write a short definition of "Kindertransport" by using the links in the Study Guide! (2-3 sentences)



12. Otto Suschny spent the first two years in a kibbutz in Palestine. What does “kibbutz” mean?

- + summer language school
- + collective community based on agriculture with some basic democratic structure
- + collective community based on industry with some basic democratic structure
- + scout's camp



13. In 1943 Otto Suschny joined the military. Name the places where he was stationed during and after the Second World War.



14. After World War II, Otto Suschny worked for the “Jewish Historical Documentation Center” in Vienna which had been set up by Simon Wiesenthal in 1947. Find out more about Simon Wiesenthal and write a short text on his achievements! (3-5 sentences)