

Cities and Shtetls: Life Before World War II in Central Europe
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## Overview

This is an introductory lesson that may be used to begin a unit on Pre-War to Early War Eastern Europe. It is to familiarize and help students understand the landscape of how people lived prior to and during the Interwar years. Most students are familiar with the distinction and characteristics of cities, towns and villages. However, especially in American classrooms, the term *shtetl* is not a typical term taught, except within the confines of a Holocaust Studies course. Students will use maps, primary and secondary source readings, film excerpts and graphic organizers to understand the role and context of the shtetl in comparison to cities

Course(s)	European History, Holocaust Studies, Modern American History, World Literature, Geography
Lesson Category	History, Literature, Human Geography, Holocaust Studies,
Grade Level(s)	6 - 12
Academic Level	Can be adapted to any ability level
Length (Day/Mins.)	2 – 5 days (age and length of class may determine time frame)

Lesson Objectives	The student will explain the daily life and characteristics within cities, villages and shtetls.
Learning Outcomes	The student will be able to distinguish from descriptors the differences between cities, villages and shtetls. The student will be able to understand the importance of the place of shtetls in Eastern European life.

Lesson Phase	Activities	Learning Experiences	Resources
<i>Engage</i> Create Reveal	Brainstorming Concept Maps Question Modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole Group: Students participate in creating a <b>WORDLE</b>.</li> <li>• Small Group: Brainstorm the characteristics of a city, village, shtetl on large paper divided into 3 columns.</li> <li>• Individual: Students brainstorm on handout the characteristics of a city, village, and shtetl on handout.</li> <li>• The teacher will use guiding questions to assist students as needed to discover the characteristics exclusive to a shtetl.</li> </ul>	SmartBoard Large Paper Markers Handouts  <a href="http://www.wordle.net/">http://www.wordle.net/</a> (free ware)  CENTROPA Film: Maps, Central Europe and History (7:38) <a href="http://tinyurl.com/pagv5vb">http://tinyurl.com/pagv5vb</a>

<p><i>Explore</i> Test Ideas</p>	<p>Dump &amp; Clump Vocabulary Cloze Readings Map Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will complete a vocabulary activity sheet for the age and ability level of the class.</li> <li>Students will complete a map indicating cities, villages and shtetls in Prewar Europe.</li> </ul> <p>Note: Explain to students that this is a demographic region predominantly found in Eastern Europe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exit Slips</li> </ul>	<p>Video: Leben im Shtetl (3:38) <a href="https://youtu.be/rWWdICsZoJ0">https://youtu.be/rWWdICsZoJ0</a></p> <p>Map and Vocabulary Resources <a href="http://shtetle.co.il/index_eng.html">http://shtetle.co.il/index_eng.html</a> <a href="http://swietokrzyskiszetl.pl/en/">http://swietokrzyskiszetl.pl/en/</a></p>
<p><i>Explain</i> Compare Ideas Construct Explanations Justify Observations</p>	<p>Sticky Notes Summary Readings 2-Column Comparisons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small Group readings of select CENTROPA biographies. Comparison Charts of life in cities and shtetls according to reading material</li> <li>Individuals or Partners complete 2-Column Notes.</li> </ul>	<p>VIERA SLESINGEROVA <a href="http://tinyurl.com/of9pks8">http://tinyurl.com/of9pks8</a></p> <p>MARK DERBAREMDIKER <a href="http://tinyurl.com/ortzmy8">http://tinyurl.com/ortzmy8</a></p> <p>NACHMAN ELENCAJG <a href="http://tinyurl.com/ncfd4m8">http://tinyurl.com/ncfd4m8</a></p> <p>HENI SZEPESEI <a href="http://tinyurl.com/pw48dfx">http://tinyurl.com/pw48dfx</a></p>
<p><i>Elaborate</i> Apply concepts in new contexts</p>	<p>Research Web Quests Paideia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual &amp; Small Group Projects</li> <li>Internet Quests</li> <li>Philosophical Questioning</li> </ul>	<p>Shtetl Woes: Life in 18th Century Russia <a href="http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=206471">http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=206471</a></p> <p>Melamad's Task <a href="http://tinyurl.com/q2sflpc">http://tinyurl.com/q2sflpc</a></p>
<p><i>Evaluate</i> Evidence of changes in student's ideas, belief, and skills</p>	<p>Gallery Walk Shadows Reflection Writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnered Art Activity (Shadows)</li> <li>Individual Interpretive Project</li> <li>Individual Writing Assignment</li> </ul>	<p>CENTROPA Film: LEONTINA ARDITI -- AN ACTRESS LOOKS BACK (7:38) <a href="http://www.centropa.org/node/47432">http://www.centropa.org/node/47432</a></p>

Lesson Prepared By:

Jacek Jaros, Poland, VI Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Juliusza Słowackiego

Zoryana Obidina, Ukraine Educational Establishment "SEL"

Andrea Baumannova, Czech Republic, High School and BA Hodonin

Brenda Most, NC, USA, Washington High School

Caroline Slifkin, U.K., Freelance Holocaust Educator