DISCUSSION POINTS

## **CENTROPA** TEACHER

Please type-in your First name

Last name

## Kurt Brodmann Country: Austria (Vienna)

Kurt Brodmann tells the story of his family: how his father Leopold, an actor, fell in love with Franzi Goldstaub, who was sitting in the audience. Franzi came from an orthodox family and her parents would not let her marry an actor.

Because he was so much in love, Leopold gave up his acting career and went into business.

Leopold and Franzi raised two sons. During the war, one son, Harry, fled to England; Kurt emigrated to Palestine, while their parents found refuge in Shanghai. There, Franzi opened a cafe and Leopold became an actor once again. After the war, the family was reunited in Vienna.



I. Which town was Kurt Brodmann's mother from?

- Krakow
- Lemberg/ Lviv
- Brody
- Czernowitz



2. Write a short summary about her hometown!

3. Since his orthodox parents-in-law disapproved of his job, Kurt Brodmann's father was forced to give up his profession. Look up the meaning of the term "orthodox Judaism" and write a short definition! (2-3 sentences)

4. Then, discuss which influence that different levels of religious observance can have on a partnership. If you cannot think of any examples yourself, you may use the Centropa interview with Rosa Rosenstein as a stimulus. Go to the Centropa film list, select the film on Rosa Rosenstein, and then click the biography icon (about 5 sentences)



5. Kurt Brodmann talks about his school days in Vienna during the 1930s. Which political events shaped the First Republic of Austria at that time? Write a short text!



6. Kurt Brodmann talks about the time of the "Anschluss" when Austria was merged into Nazi Germany. When did this event take place?

- in September 1939
- in March 1938
- in November 1938
- in March 1939



- 7. Use the weblinks in Centropa's online study guide as well as other resources to find out how Austrian people have dealt with the topic of the "Anschluss" to Nazi Germany! (3-5 sentences)
- 8. Kurt Brodmann's brother was taken on a "Kindertransport" to England. What does this expression mean? Write a short definition and explain why and when these Kindertransports occurred. (3 sentences max.)



9. During the Second World War, Kurt Brodmann's parents emigrated to China. Use the weblinks in the Online Study Guide on centropastudent.org and write a short summary of the Jewish community in Shanghai! (5-7 sentences).



10. In 1954, Kurt Brodmann returned from Tel Aviv to Austria. In the following year, the Austrian State Treaty was signed, which re-established Austria as a sovereign state. Find out more about the post-war period and the consequences the Second World War had for Austria! (about 5 sentences)