

## LESSON: Teaching with Survivor Testimony

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

### WORKSHEET: Gerda Weissmann Klein Testimony

Gerda Weissmann was born on May 8, 1924 in Bielsko, Poland. In 1939, her brother was deported for forced labor, and in June 1942, her parents were deported from the Bielsko ghetto to Auschwitz, and Gerda was sent to the Gross-Rosen camp system, where for the remainder of the war she performed forced labor in textile factories. Gerda was liberated after a death march. She would later marry her American liberator, Kurt Klein.

1. What event does Gerda Weissmann Klein describe in this [testimony](#) clip? Refer to the [timeline](#). What does she describe that helps you place this event on the timeline? Who is involved, and where does the event take place?

2. How would you describe the interviewee's speaking style (personal, formal, polished, hesitant, emotional)? What words does Gerda use that illustrate or reinforce her speaking style?

3. *How* does she describe her experience? What adjectives does she use? How does she feel about the events she describes?

4. Why do you think the interviewee chose to share this detail of her experience?

5. What does this testimony reveal, if anything, about the decisions and actions of the interviewee and/or other people involved in the Holocaust?

6. What questions does this testimony raise for you that you would like to learn more about?