**Hanka and Leon Kent Memorial Family Film Project 5775**

**Resistance and Rescue**

**FILM Planning CHECKLIST**

**1 Select your Subject –** The goal is to connect our theme of Resistance and Rescue from our Shoah unit to our Family Films – this is resistance and rescue in the broader sense – not just connected to the Shoah. Think about our first definitions of these words and all the ways that people resist negative forces or rescue people from difficult situations in life. I am happy to discuss possible story choices with you. If you do not have a family member whose story fits into this category, but it is compelling and interesting, you may choose that story. **Subject should be decided on by March 18th so that you can begin planning your film and doing research in class that day.**

**2 Research your story.**

Once you have identified the story you want to tell, gather as much information as you can. Your film will tell the story visually with static images, so gather photos, documents, and other mementos that can be photographed and included in your film. Interview family members – the more the better so you get a fuller version of the story. Ask questions while looking at the photographs. Draw a family tree so that you can see who fits where. If you are interviewing someone, this might be a good time to take a short audio clip – no more than 30 seconds or so.

Make a folder in your documents called film unit – Save EVERYTHING in it. You will email images to yourself so you can open them on the iPad.

**Gather material – cite as you go. Open a word document and add every site you use. Copying the URL for a webpage is the easiest way to document.**

3 **Write a Summary**

Write a detailed bullet summary – as many details as you can.

**4 Short story template**

Find a title for your story

Write a theme statement – important – YOU MUST HAVE THIS OR IT WON’T HANG TOGETHER

Pick your quote – this will be easiest after you know the theme or message of your story

Plot your story on the story template

Make sure your story makes clear what was resisted or what rescue was done or a conflict or obstacle with which your character wrestles

Pay attention to the setting(s) and describe these, both the physical setting and the time, including main issues of the time. [When you do visuals be sure to have pictures and a map]

**5 Include History**

Research background general history of the era – Aim for half a page to a page of research – this information will provide context to your story **and is required in your film**.

**6 Write a script for your voiceover.** **Remember to tell a story** rather than simply bombard your viewer with multiple facts without context. Read your script aloud so that you can see how it sounds. Be sure to have me edit this for you. Be sure you are using inflection to show the emotion of the story.

**7 Story Board**

You will plot your story on a story board at this point. A story board plots each shot and syncs visual with the audio. When thinking about your shots, make sure there is variety for interest (close-ups, long shots etc.)

If you have text you want to include – the easiest way is to make a document with it on it and how you want it to look and then take a photo or a screenshot of that document.

Make all the writing slides, including titles and credits so that I can edit these for errors before you start. Once you have those, use the story board sheet to sequence your visuals with text underneath or text boxes.

**8 Narrate your voiceover**

Rehearse your script until you read it beautifully, smoothly and with appropriate pacing and emotion, then start recording in sections. Redo this as many times as is necessary until you get it right. It is ok to get someone else to do voiceover for you if you would like.

**7 Visuals**

By now you will have collected pictures and documents and film clips either from your family collection or from the internet or books. Scan what you need ahead of time. When start to make the film, you will import all the visuals.

**8 Choose Music**

Choose music that fits with your theme. For example, if you write about emigration to America for example, Bruce Springsteen has the perfect song. The music must not overwhelm your film, so choose carefully. If you want to publish your movie – and you probably do, you will need to get copyright free music.

**9 One or Two Quotations**

Find a quote from a scholar or critic about the time period, or an inspiring quote you like that fits with your story.

**8 Reflection Piece**

Write a reflection concerning the story itself. This could be part of the conclusion. Try to understand what the story teaches you or how this might make me think differently about the world or live your life differently. You can’t just stop – you must clearly wrap with a conclusion.

**Deadlines Due dates Check List**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **1 Bullet summary** |  |  |
| **2 Short story template** |  |  |
| **3 Insert History Jewish and general** |  |  |
| **4 Write voice-over and get it checked** |  |  |
| **3 Story Board if you like** |  |  |
| **4 Visuals** |  |  |
| **6 Choose Music** |  |  |
| **7 Quotations** |  |  |
| **8 Reflection** |  |  |
| **9 Titles, credits, sources** |  |  |

We will spend about a week of class time putting everything together with our editing software – If you have everything ready, this is totally realistic.