



AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY ACTIVITY

LESLIE MEZEI

Instructions: Use information gathered from recollections to fill in the blanks and answer the questions on the worksheet. Each fill-in-the-blank and question has an answer in the recollections. Each time you use a recollection to answer a question, add it to *My Collection* by tapping or clicking *Collect*. You should end up with ten recollections in *My Collection*.

You can find additional information about each recollection, including location, date and glossary terms, by tapping or clicking *More Info*.

The recollections are in chronological order, and the questions are in chronological order.

1. Leslie has fond memories of his life before the war, when his family lived in the town of _____, Hungary, where Jews were a minority of the population. What does he remember about his father's character and his attitude toward Hungary?

2. What is antisemitism? How was Leslie's school life affected by antisemitism?

3. The Germans invaded Hungary in March 19____, when Leslie was ____ years old. What was Leslie's reaction to the arrival of the Germans, and why did his family leave the countryside for the capital city of Budapest?

4. In Budapest, Jews and the apartment buildings in which they were forced to live were marked with a yellow star. Why did the Nazis mark Jews in this way, and how did Leslie avoid capture when he was spotted by a Nazi?

5. The Siege of Budapest lasted from _____ 1944 to _____ 1945. What was the Siege of Budapest, and what risks did Leslie face during this period?

6. Leslie was liberated by the _____ army in January 19____. What were his impressions of his liberators?

7. Why was Leslie sent away from Budapest immediately after the war, and where did his surviving family go once they decided to leave Hungary?

8. In July 1947, Leslie and some of his surviving family members boarded the ship called _____, along with other Jewish refugees attempting to leave Europe for British Mandate Palestine. What happened to the ship and the people on board?

9. Leslie arrived in Canada in January 19____ as one of the _____ (number) young Jewish survivors admitted as part of the War Orphans Project. What does Leslie remember about life in Montreal as a war orphan?

10. Why does Leslie tell his story?
