

## EDUCATOR SUBMITTED LESSON PLAN

### Role of Hebrew Language in the Identity of a Nation in Exile

#### SUBJECT AND GRADE LEVEL

Role of Hebrew Language in the Identity of a Nation in Exile; 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

#### AUTHOR(S)

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#### ENDURING UNDERSTANDING

- Language is a binding force that maintains identity (and can facilitate or be a component of redemption).
- Hebrew was never a dead language.

#### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- What helps a nation in exile maintain its identity?

#### OBJECTIVES:

Students Will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the role the Hebrew language played in maintaining Jewish identity in Egypt as well as in the diaspora leading up to the establishment of the State of Israel.

#### ASSESSMENT:

- Have students create a project surrounding the idea of the Hebrew language as a consistent and unifying force for Jews.
  - Examples: A collage (online or on paper), a story book, a timeline from Egypt to 1948

#### ACTIVITIES AND PROCEDURES

- I. Give students large oversized paper and ask them to:
  - a. List what defines them as Jews in the diaspora (or what makes them Jewish)?
  - b. List what do Jews living in different parts of the world have in common?
- II. Create a list of categories these elements fit into. Put up posters that contain texts with dates for when they were created (or use sections of the white board).
  - a. Midrash on Shmot
  - b. Picture of Dead Sea Scrolls
  - c. Text of Mishna
  - d. Poetry of Yehuda Halevi
  - e. Writing of Eliezer Ben Yehuda
  - f. Samples of Responsa and other Jewish texts in Hebrew
  - g. Hatikva
  - h. Technikum letter (language wars)