1) Ask the student if they watched the news and if anything particular stood out for them, especially in relation to the book we are reading at the moment (Refugee by Alan Gratz). Direct the students towards the news regarding the shooting in Pittsburgh, where 11 Jewish people were shot dead and 6 others severely injured while visiting a Synagogue. In order to give the students an idea of what was going on, show a video about this event. Example: https://edition.cnn.com/2018/10/27/us/pittsburgh-synagogue-active-shooter/index.html (5 minutes)

2) Ask the students how they can connect this news item with the book, hereby in specific the story of Josef. Lead the student towards the word: anti-Semitism and write this on the board. (5 minutes) (Meaning of anti-Semitism: Semitic people referred to people who spoke the Semitic languages, which have their roots in the Middle East. Hebrew is one of them. However, the term Anti-Semitism originated in Germany around 1880 to articulate hatred against Jews).

3) In groups of 3, students are going to read 3 different texts and bring the information regarding the texts back together. The text describes the history of anti-Semitism by touching upon different times in history. The text is from Britannica adapted by Newsela: https://newsela.com/read/lib-anti-Semitism/id/29346/. The students have 8 minutes to understand their text and being able explain it to the rest of their group. After 8 minutes, the students discuss the different texts together by creating a mind map around the word anti-Semitism. The students have about 5 minutes to do this (15 minutes).

4) Ask the students to share what is on their mind map by adding their suggestions to the mind map on the board. (10 minutes)

5) Give the students an exit ticket according the following strategy: S- I- T (coming from Facing history and ourselves https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/teaching-strategies/s-i-t-surprising-interesting-troubling)

- One surprising fact or idea
- One Interesting fact or idea
- One troubling fact or idea

If time allows: let the students share the answers on their cards, otherwise collect their responses.
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<th>S-I-T</th>
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Anti-Semitism means hostility toward Jews or prejudice against them as a group. Semites are people from southwestern Asia, and includes both Jews and Arabs. Anti-Semitism, however, usually refers only to discrimination against Jews.

Jews have been discriminated against as a religious group for 2,000 years. Starting in the 1800s, a new form of anti-Semitism appeared. People claimed that Jews belonged to a different, inferior, race. In the 1930s and 1940s, the Nazis persecuted and killed millions of Jews because of their supposed race, even Jews who had converted to other religions or whose parents converted.

**Origins of Christian anti-Semitism**

In the ancient world, anti-Semitism emerged because of religious differences. Although Jesus and his followers were Jews, Judaism and Christianity became rivals soon after Jesus was killed.

The rivalry between Judaism and Christianity was both religious and political. Christians blamed Jews for Jesus' death and wanted Christianity to replace Judaism. By the 300s, Christians saw Jews as an alien people because they did not accept Jesus Christ as the Messiah.

**Anti-Semitism during the Middle Ages**

The Middle Ages took place from the 400s to 1400s. During this period, Jews were denied citizenship and rights in much of Europe. Jews were not allowed to have government jobs. They were also kept out of the trade guilds that craftsmen and merchants belonged to, and helped them to find work. In some places, Jews were forced to wear special clothing, such as a yellow star. At times Jews were attacked and killed. Towns and cities began to require Jews by law to live in separate areas known as ghettos. This segregation lasted until the 1800s and early 1900s in large parts of Europe.

In the late Middle Ages, some Jews became successful in business. Others began envying them. Several countries expelled, or forced out, the Jews. Among the countries that expelled them were England, France, Germany, Spain and Portugal.

But where they were needed, Jews were allowed. Christianity at the time did not allow money lending for interest, and Jews generally were not allowed to own land. For these reasons, Jews played a vital role as moneylenders and traders.

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Anti-Semitism in modern Europe

Even in modern Europe, there was much anti-Semitism and Jews continued to be seen as outsiders.

In 1882, Russia took away land owned by Jews. They were forced to live in the towns and cities in the western part in the country. In addition to the anti-Semitic laws, violent mobs attacked Jews—called pogroms—in the Russian Empire in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Over the next 40 years, more than a million Jews left the Russian Empire, mainly for the United States.

In the 1900s, the so-called “scientific racism” emerged in Europe. This claimed that Jews were inferior to so-called Aryan (white) “race.”

Nazi anti-Semitism and the Holocaust

Under the leadership of Adolf Hitler from 1933 to 1945, the Nazis tried to murder all Jews—men, women, and children. They wanted to wipe Jews off the face of the earth.

In Germany anti-Semitism based on race became official government policy and was taught to children in school. Jews from all over Nazi-occupied Europe were sent to concentration and death camps. They were either killed or forced into slave labor. About six million Jews and millions of others were killed by Nazi Germany.

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**Anti-Semitism since the Holocaust and outside Europe**

After the Nazi defeat in World War II in 1945, anti-Semitism was not acceptable in western Europe and the United States. Even people who were anti-Semitic were hesitant to express it. In the years after the war, American Jews became part of the culture and society in the United States. Violence against Jews became much less, but still occasionally happened. Recently in Europe, Jewish schools, stores and synagogues have been attacked and Jews, including children, have been killed.

In the late 1900s, the Roman Catholic Church and other Christian churches changed their teachings about Jews. They said Jews were not responsible for killing Jesus and condemned anti-Semitism. Nevertheless, anti-Semitism has persisted in many parts of the world.

For hundreds of years, Islamic societies treated Jews much like other non-Muslims. During the Middle Ages in Muslim Spain, Jews were philosophers, physicians, poets, and writers. They took part in a rich cultural and intellectual life with Muslims and Christians.

**State of Israel created in 1948**

In 1948, the State of Israel was created in Palestine as a homeland for the Jews. Many Muslims lived in the area where Israel was created. Also, places that are important to Muslims were on the land that is now Israel. This stirred up rage toward Jews within the Arab world. Jews were attacked in Muslim countries through the Middle East. In response, most of the Jewish residents of those countries went to Israel. Today, the Muslim world often does not distinguish between Israelis and Jews who live in other parts of the world. There is still much anger toward Israel, and this often is expressed as anti-Semitism toward Jews as a group.