

**Resources for Teaching about the Challenges to Immigrate**

**Challenges of Escape Lesson Plan**

1. <https://www.ushmm.org/teach/teaching-materials/americans-and-the-holocaust>
2. Lesson Plan PDF

<https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/USHMM-Challenges-of-Escape-Lesson.pdf>

1. Steps to Immigrate to the United States

<https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/USHMM-Challenges-of-Escape-1938-1941.pdf>

1. Klaus Langer Diary Excerpts

<https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/USHMM-Challenges-of-Escape-Langer-diary.pdf>

**December 19, 1938**

Regarding the emigration of my parents I have the following to report. First came two refusals from Argentina for lack of letters of credit. The rich uncle in America is unable to assume such a financial responsibility. We don’t have an affidavit for the U.S. India requires firm employment there, or a contract. Father is now trying to make connections in India to obtain a contract. He also wrote to Peru and he was told to go to the Uruguayan consulate. Allegedly the Dominican Republic would take ten thousand Jews and provide them with visas. However, nothing further is known about that. It probably makes no sense to turn to them. However, with a Dominican Republic visa it is possible to get a half-year visa for Palestine. Shanghai also accepts Jews, even without a visa, but it is questionable how one can live there. The mail also brought no news from Palestine. We had submitted a request for a “commercial certification.”

- Klaus Langer, Essen Germany; aged 14

(Zapruder, Alexandra. Salvaged Pages: Young Writers’ Diaries of the Holocaust. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002)

**Resources for Teaching the Diary of Elizabeth Kaufmann (Koenig)**

Zapruder, Alexandra (ed). (2004). *Salvaged Pages: Young Writers Diaries’ of the Holocaust.* (Vol. 2). New Haven, CT. Yale University Press.

1. Holocaust Encyclopedia Article: Austria

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/austria>

1. Holocaust Encyclopedia Article: France

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/france>

1. Holocaust Encyclopedia Article: Children’s Diaries during the Holocaust

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/childrens-diaries-during-the-holocaust>

1. Elizabeth Kaufmann Koenig Collection

<https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn78512>

1. Elizabeth Kaufmann Koenig Oral Testimony:
2. Family’s attempts to flee Austria before the War:

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/oral-history/elizabeth-kaufmann-koenig-describes-her-familys-attempt-to-flee-austria-before-the-war>

1. Pastor Andre Trocme and Magda Trocme (Le Chambon):

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/oral-history/elizabeth-kaufmann-koenig-describes-pastor-andre-trocme-and-his-wife-magda-trocme>

1. Helping Refugee Children in Le Chambon:

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/oral-history/elizabeth-kaufmann-koenig-describes-helping-refugee-children-in-le-chambon>

1. The Children Sheltered in La Guespy, a Children’s Home in Le Chambon:

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/oral-history/elizabeth-kaufmann-koenig-describes-the-children-who-were-sheltered-in-la-guespy-a-childrens-home-in-le-chambon>

**Elizabeth Kaufmann Koenig**

Elizabeth Koenig (1924-2003) was born Elizabeth Kaufmann in Vienna to journalist Fritz Kaufmann and nurse Helen (Berggruen) Kaufmann. Fritz was put on trial in Germany for his anti-Nazi work and fled to Paris via Prague before the Anschluss in 1938. After several failed attempts to join him, Elizabeth finally arrived in Paris in November with her mother and brother, Peter, and attended art school. Fritz and Peter were interned as enemy aliens following the outbreak of World War II. Helen and Elizabeth fled south with other refugees as the Germans advanced on Paris, but were separated en route. Elizabeth found her brother in Toulouse, was reunited with her mother in Pau, and then joined Fritz near Limoges. Elizabeth found work in Le Chambon-sur-Lignon caring for the children of Pastor André Trocmé and then helping Dr. Juliette Usach care for German Jewish refugee children at the Secours Suisse aux Enfants home, La Guespy. Varian Fry of the Emergency Rescue Committee offered Fritz a non-quota American visa as an endangered, anti-Nazi European refugee intellectual caught in Vichy France, and helped secure visas for his family. The family was reunited in Lyon, traveled to Portugal in December 1941 via Marseilles and Spain. They sailed from Lisbon to the United States, arriving in February 1942.