



## LESSON GOALS

- ◆ **Students will identify words and phrases that signify broader themes of the oral history narration.**
- ◆ **Students will deconstruct an oral history text and reconstruct it to produce a creative work.**

## MATERIALS

Printed oral history transcripts: available for download at [muslims.brooklynhistory.org](https://muslims.brooklynhistory.org).

For *Collage Poetry*, students will need **scissors, glue or tape**, and if desired, **additional images or materials** to add to their work.

For *Black-Out Poetry*, students will need **thick black markers**. To mount the poems, you'll want **construction or other thicker stock paper** along with **glue** and **scissors**.

## OVERVIEW

This lesson is a culminating activity for use with printed transcripts of the oral histories. Students construct either a word collage or black-out poem using a transcript of an oral history clip. This activity gives students an opportunity to engage with the words of the document while making a creative product that may offer new insights into one oral history or a collection of oral histories that have been organized around a particular theme.

## SEQUENCE

- 1 First, students should listen to an oral history narration without the transcript.
- 2 Next, students listen to the same oral history narration, this time reading along with the transcript.
- 3 Then, instruct students to reread the transcript and circle words and phrases that reflect important ideas. Try to avoid circling an entire sentence.
- 4 For black-out poetry, students should then black out all the words that they have not circled. There are many examples of black-out poetry that can be found on the web to provide students with examples.
- 5 To make collage poetry, students cut out the words and phrases they have circled and paste them into an arrangement on a new piece of paper. They can then add additional images or materials to their collage, if desired.
- 6 Students should then share their poems. Students can organize a poetry reading, or they can post their creations around the classroom and do a gallery walk, or they can share with their group members. Use your imagination!