

Sample Informational Brainstorming Page: Day 1

Prompt: In an informational essay, explain how the individual you researched resisted the Nazis by taking significant action to save lives during the Holocaust.

Identity: What was this person's background?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japanese diplomat (Yad Vashem)• sent to Lithuania to get info for Japan (YV)• had wife and three children (YV)
Actions: What specific actions did they take to save lives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jewish refugees asked for transport visas to leave Lithuania (YV)• began issuing the visas even before Japanese gov't responded to his question about doing so (YV)• distributed visas even after Japanese gov't said not to (YV)• provided between 2100 and 3500 visas (YV)• stamped passports until the moment he left Lithuania (YV)
Motivations: What inspired their decision to take action?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• groups of Jewish people were desperate and begged him for help (YV)• saw the people lined up in front of his house looking miserable with no other options (YV)
Consequences: What risks did they face if they were caught?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japanese gov't warned him not to issue visas (YV)• knew he could lose his job upon returning to Japan. Was fired in 1946 (YV)• made living doing odd jobs after being fired (YV)
Other questions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• people he saved → held important gov't positions; established Jewish schools elsewhere; kept Jewish tradition alive (YV)