



My competition entry was about...

...contrasting my great-grandmother's life with the biography of the photographer who took her wedding photography. Therefore, I divided my research paper, inspired by their life periods, in four chapters:

- First World War
- The first Czechoslovak Republic
- Life in the 1930s
- Second World War



*1999

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How did you decide on your topic?

For my competition entry I wanted to focus on my ancestors' history. I realized that it could be interesting to use the oldest family photograph: a wedding picture of my great-grandmother taken during the First World War. The part of the topic "behind the lens" inspired me to also include the life of the photographer.



How did you react when you came upon surprising points during your research?

I was surprised about all the information I found in Ostrava's archives. Thanks to these sources, I learned so much more about my family and could complete missing details in my ancentors' past. My research also permitted me to amplify my knowledge and to learn how to detect a good story. Nevertheless, I had to face the difficulty that the archives do not contain any information about the photographer. But once I found a book about him and his family, I could go ahead with my work.



Did the research affect you personally?

Besides my amplified knowledge on history, I understood the connection between past and present. My research also affected my opinion about my hometown and in some way also about my family. After my participation in the EUSTORY History Competition, local and family history is much more precious for me than it was before.

)> If you want to understand the present, you have to know the past <</p>

Topic of history competition:

The Story of a
Photograph – Memory
and History in Front and
Behind the Lens

Year of participation: 2016

Title of your competition entry:

)> It all started on a wedding



I based my research

- ■...on source material
- ...on interviews
- ...on family history
- ...on literature
- ☑ ...on the internet
- ...on archive sources

