

# Introduction to Worksheet

Olga was born August 30, 1906 in Olmutz, a part of the Austrian Hungarian Empire. Olga was one of three children. As a child, she was interested in grammar and essay writing, but her interests changed once she reached high school. She became interested in science, astronomy, and eventually mathematics.

In 1925 she began studying at the University of Vienna. In 1930 she received her Ph.D. with a dissertation on number theory supervised by the number theorist Philip Furtwangler. While serving as an assistant to Richard Courant at the Mathematics Institut in Gottingen, she worked on the publication of the first volume of the collected works of David Hilbert.

In 1937 she moved to the University of London and there met John Todd who would become her husband. They were married at the end of 1938.

During World War II, Olga was employed by the British Ministry of Aircraft Production at the National Physical laboratory. After the war, in 1947, Olga and her husband moved to the United States and went to work for the National Bureau of Standards. In 1957, they left

the NBS and took positions at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. Olga had some trouble at Caltech because she was a woman. Her husband John was hired as a professor. However, because of nepotism laws she couldn't be hired as a professor also, so she was hired as an assistant. She later became a professor here. Olga Taussky-Todd died October 7, 1995 in Pasadena, CA.