

The Holocaust: Notes



What can you learn?

History _____ just “happen.” It occurs because

Define the term “Holocaust”: The _____
of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945.

Why did this happen?

- The Holocaust was not _____
- The Holocaust took place because individuals, groups, and nations made decisions to act or not to act.

Pre-War

- Approximately _____ Jews
- Jews could be found in all walks of life: _____, factory workers, business people, _____, teachers, and craftsmen

Anti-Semitism



- Jews have faced prejudice and discrimination for over 2,000 years.
- Jews were scapegoats for many problems. For example, people blamed Jews for the _____ that killed thousands in _____ during the Middle Ages.



Totalitarian State

- The _____ stripped Jews of their German citizenship. They were prohibited from marrying or having sexual relations with persons of “German or related blood.”
- The Nazis used _____ to promote their anti-Semitic ideas.
- One such book was the children’s book, _____.

Persecution

- The Nazi plan for dealing with the “Jewish Question” evolved in three steps:



1. _____: Get them out of Germany
2. _____: Put them all together in one place – namely ghettos
3. _____: Annihilation

- *Kristallnacht* was the “Night of _____” on November 9-10, 1938 when Germans attacked synagogues and Jewish homes and businesses



Final Solution

- The Nazis aimed to control the Jewish population by forcing them to live in areas that were designated for Jews only, called _____.
- Many ghettos were closed by _____ or walls and were guarded by SS or local police.
- Life in the ghettos was hard: food was _____; several families often shared a _____; disease spread rapidly; heating, ventilation, and sanitation were limited.
- There were six death camps: Auschwitz-Birkenau, _____, Chelmno, _____, Majdanek, and _____.
- Each used _____ to murder the Jews. At Auschwitz prisoners were told the gas chambers were “showers.”
- Most of the gas chambers used _____ from diesel engines.
- After the gassings, prisoners removed _____, _____ and _____ from the Jews before the bodies were burned in the crematoria or buried in mass graves.



Aftermath

- Soviet soldiers were the first to liberate camp prisoners on July 23, _____, at Maidanek in Poland.
- Most prisoners were _____ to the point of being skeletal.
- Many camps had _____ lying in piles “like wood.”
- How many times would 9-11 need to occur to equal 6,000,000 deaths?
