

# The Holocaust

## An Internet Research Project

75 pts.

Adapted by Mr. Jeff Loffing

**Directions:** This research project will take between 2½-3 total hours of class time, but must be done in **a very focused manner**. You **must** stay on task **the entire 2½-3 hours** to complete all the tasks required and need to **READ/FOLLOW ALL DIRECTIONS IN THIS GUIDE!**

**Each person will need 4 sheets of paper, each with your name, block, group #, & member #.**

Some things to note: \*1<sup>st</sup> - **DO NOT USE WIKIPEDIA FOR YOUR RESEARCH!!!**\*

- Each step has been divided into fours. Everyone in your group needs to choose which number they will be responsible for (1-4). That means that each person will need to do their part for this project to succeed.
- **If you happen to finish a part early**, help other members of your group find their information.
- Also, **VERY IMPORTANT:** All of the information that you gather **must be handwritten on notebook paper**. **NO COPY AND PASTING ALLOWED AND NO PRINTOUTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!** **Only handwritten notes will be accepted.**

### Step 1 - Research Key Holocaust Figures (45 minutes)

In order to prepare you for the "Holocaust Figures" you will 'encounter' in your research, each member in your group needs to look up the people assigned to them using Google.com **or** the websites below and write a brief explanation of how this person was related to WWII or the Holocaust (at least 3 lines for each person that you are assigned).

- <http://motlc.wiesenthal.com/site/pp.asp?c=qvKVLcMVluG&b=394665>
- <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/holocaust/peopleevents/index.html>

#### Member 1:

Mordecai Anielewicz  
Neville Chamberlain  
Winston Churchill

#### Member 2:

Adolf Eichmann  
Joseph Goebbels  
Herman Goering

#### Member 3:

Rudolph Hess  
Heinrich Himmler  
Paul von Hindenburg

#### Member 4:

Josef Mengele  
Franklin Roosevelt  
Joseph Stalin

**After you have gathered this information, each person will share (tell) what they have gathered, and each group member must take notes on the other important people covered (not copy the others' notes). When this has been done, GO TO STEP 2...**

### Step 2 - Define Key Holocaust Terms (25 minutes)

Now, each member will need to define important terms that you will come across during your research. **(The definitions should be put in a location where your group is working for members to easily refer to during the Step 3.)**

The terms have been grouped together in fours. Each member is responsible for defining the terms included in their "Member #." Use the websites at the end of this step (or Google) to define the terms.

**\*HINT\***-To quickly find the term on a website, press **Ctrl+F**, type in the word, and press enter.

Each member's definitions paper should be handwritten on the 2<sup>nd</sup> sheet of notebook paper and have a heading with their name, block #, and group #. The definitions should be written in the following format:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> vocabulary word: definition (...and, then go on to #2, and so on.)

**Member 1: A-C** Anschluss, Anti-Semitism, Appelplatz, Aryan, Auschwitz, Beer Hall Putsch, Bergen-Belsen, Birkenau, Blockalteste, Buchenwald, Collaborator, Concentration Camp (12 terms)

**Member 2: D-J** Dachau, Deportation, Dysentery, Einsatzgruppen, Eugenics, Euthanasia, Führer, Genocide, Gestapo, Ghetto, Gleiwitz incident, Jewish Badge, Judenrat (13 terms)

**Member 3: J-R** Judenrein, Kapo, Kristallnacht, Mauthausen, Mein Kampf, Night and Fog Decree, Nuremberg Laws, Nuremberg Trials, Pink Triangle, Pipel, Ration, Ravensbruck (12 terms)

**Member 4: S-Z** SA, SS, Sonderkommando, Swastika, Synagogue, Third Reich, Treblinka, Truncheon, Wannsee Conference, Warsaw Ghetto, Weimar Republic, Zionism, Zyklon B (13 terms)

- <http://library.thinkquest.org/12663/timeline/>
- [http://www1.yadvashem.org/yv/en/holocaust/resource\\_center/lexicon.asp](http://www1.yadvashem.org/yv/en/holocaust/resource_center/lexicon.asp)
- <http://frank.mtsu.edu/~baustin/glossary.html>
- <http://motlc.wiesenthal.com/site/pp.asp?c=gVKVLcMVluG&b=394665>

**When all members are finished, GO TO STEP 3...**

### Step 3 - Answer Essential Questions (65 minutes)

Your group will now use the information you have gathered and research the questions below using the websites listed below (or Google). **You will each answer** (and record the answers on your 3<sup>rd</sup> sheet of notebook paper) **the first four questions together.**

- <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Holocaust/36quest1.html>
- <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005143>
- [http://www1.yadvashem.org/Odot/prog/index\\_before\\_change\\_table.asp](http://www1.yadvashem.org/Odot/prog/index_before_change_table.asp)
- <http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/default.htm>
- <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/holocaust/peopleevents/index.html>
- <http://www.friends-partners.org/partners/beyond-the-pale/english/46.html>

**YOU MUST WRITE THE QUESTION #, COPY EACH QUESTION ONTO YOUR NOTEBOOK PAPER, AND WRITE THE ANSWER BELOW THAT. Answer each question fully!**

Here are the first four. **Find the answers together, but each person must write them on their own paper.** (Keywords are highlighted as examples in case you need search on Google):

1. What was the **Holocaust**?
2. When referring to the **Holocaust**, what **time period** does that cover?
3. How many **Jewish people** were **murdered** in the **Holocaust**? How do we know, and how do we know who the victims were?
4. Who were the **other victims of the Nazis**? How many were murdered? How was their fate similar to and different from the fate of the Jews?

After this, each member will answer the questions under their Member # below. You only need to answer and write the answers to **your** questions. Remember, **number them and COPY THE QUESTIONS!**

**Member 1: 9 questions**

5. How many Jewish people were murdered in each country (top 5 countries)?
6. Which Jewish communities suffered losses during the Holocaust?
7. What is a death camp? How many were there? Where (in general) were they located?
8. When and How did the Nazis come to power?

9. What was Hitler's "Final Solution"?
10. When did the "Final Solution" begin?
11. How did the Nazis define those who were Jewish?
12. What were some of the first measures taken by the Nazis against the Jews?
13. Why didn't more Jewish people leave Europe before the war?

**Member 2:** 9 questions

14. Who were some famous Jews who managed to leave Europe before the war?
15. Which countries allowed Jewish refugees to enter? How many entered each country?
16. What were the largest ghettos, how many Jewish people lived in them, and when were the ghettos eliminated?
17. What were the conditions in the ghettos like?
18. How did the Jews cope with conditions in the ghettos?
19. What did people in Germany know about the persecution of the Jews? Were they aware of the camps?
20. Did all Germans support Hitler's plan for the extermination of the Jewish people?
21. Did the people of occupied Europe know about the Nazi plans for the Jewish people? What was their attitude? Did they cooperate with the Nazis in any way?
22. Did the Allies and the people in the free world know about the events going on in Europe?

**Member 3:** 9 questions

23. Were Jews in the free world aware of the persecution and destruction of European Jews, and, if so, what was their response?
24. Did the Jews in Europe know what was going to happen to them?
25. What was Hitler's ultimate goal in launching World War II?
26. Was there any opposition to the Nazis within Germany?
27. Did the Jewish people attempt to fight the Nazis? To what extent were those efforts successful or unsuccessful?
28. What was the Judenrat/Judenraete?
29. Who are some of the best-known Jewish leaders during the Holocaust, and what did they accomplish?
30. Which German units took part in the murder of the Jews?
31. Who built the gas chambers? What kind of gas was used to kill Jews there, and who provided it?

**Member 4:** 9 questions

32. What was the first concentration camp? When was it established? Who was its commander? When were the first Jewish people murdered there?
33. When did the world learn about the Holocaust? How did information reach the free world?
34. Why didn't the Allies bomb or destroy the various concentration camps like Auschwitz?
35. How did the Nazis try to hide their atrocities?
36. Who are the Righteous Among the Nations?

37. Who bestows the title and why?
38. What are the criteria for the title?
39. How many Nazi criminals were there? How many were brought to justice?
40. What were the Nuremberg trials?

**When each member is finished, GO TO STEP 4...**

## *Step 4 - Create Holocaust Timeline (35 minutes)*

Your group will now create a timeline of the Holocaust, but in pieces. Each member will research the set of years assigned to their Member #. You will need to find **10 important historical events regarding the Holocaust** during your set of years. Though it is not required, for this part of the project, you MAY use Microsoft Word to create your timeline. However, a hand-created timeline on your 4<sup>th</sup> piece of notebook paper will be fine.

**Member 1:**

1933-1938

Create a list of ten important historical events during the years 1933-1938.

**Member 2:**

1939-1941

Create a list of ten important events as the Nazis began to move towards the Final Solution.

**Member 3:**

1941-1945

Create a list of important events in the history of the camps and the War.

**Member 4:**

1945-Modern Era

Create a list of important events from the time of the Liberation of the camps, approx. to the year 2000.

Use the following websites for this research:

- <http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/holocaust/timeline.html>
- <http://fcit.usf.edu/Holocaust/TIMELINE/timeline.htm>
- <http://www.neveragain.org/time.htm>
- <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/holocaust/timeline/index.html>
- <http://motlc.wiesenthal.com/site/pp.asp?c=qvKVLcMVluG&b=394665>
- <http://library.thinkquest.org/12663/timeline/>
- <http://motlc.wiesenthal.com/site/pp.asp?c=qvKVLcMVluG&b=394669>

**And, finally...**

## *Step 5 - Organize Your Materials*

You will need to organize your materials to turn in by placing and stapling your papers in the following order:

1. **Key Holocaust Figures** (12 points) - including notes taken over other members research
2. **Key Holocaust Terms** (13 points) - only those assigned to you
3. **Essential Questions** (30 points) - only those assigned to you
4. **Holocaust Timeline** (20 points) - only for the dates assigned to you

***IF you complete all of the steps and organize your materials early, GO TO EXTRA CREDIT STEP on the next page...***

## EXTRA CREDIT Step - Holocaust Survivor Bio.

If you finish your timeline early, you **must** begin this extra credit step. You will receive 5 points extra credit for each part completed.

For this step, you will find the biography of at least one Jewish person who was caught in the tragedy of the Holocaust and survived. **Each of the following parts is worth 5 points of extra credit** (1 paragraph for each part):

1. Basic biographical information, like birth date, birthplace, occupation, etc.
2. A brief overview of what happened to them during the Holocaust and after the Liberation.
3. Your own personal feelings about the person, and what the Holocaust must have been like judging from their own descriptions.

You may use the following websites for this step:

- [http://www1.yadvashem.org/Odot/prog/index\\_before\\_change\\_table.asp?GATE=Z&list\\_type=4-5&type\\_id=5&total=N](http://www1.yadvashem.org/Odot/prog/index_before_change_table.asp?GATE=Z&list_type=4-5&type_id=5&total=N)
- <http://www.library.yale.edu/testimonies.html>
- <http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/people/people.htm>
- <http://www.clevelandcommunitycollege.edu/staff/mckibbin/holocaustgWebsites.html>

# CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'RE DONE!