



# History Knowledge Organiser

**Year Group:** 9

**Topic:** The Holocaust

**Half Term:** Autumn 1

- Adolf Hitler and the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933.
- They held many extreme views, such as the belief that Communists were a threat to Germany, that Jewish people were inferior and were to blame for Germany's defeat in World War One.
- They believed that Germany was superior to other countries.

- In 1933, 9.5 million Jews lived in Europe, and Jewish people had lived in Europe for over 2,000 years.
- There were Jewish communities in every European country.
- The majority of Jewish people were not wealthy. Not all Jews were religious, and religious Jews did not all believe the same thing.
- Jewish people who lived in Western Europe often lived more modern lifestyles than those in Eastern Europe, who remained very traditional.

- After the Nazis came to power in 1933, life for Jewish people in Germany became increasingly difficult.
- In 1935, laws began to be passed about Jewish life in Germany. Jewish people were no longer allowed to serve in the armed forces, marriage or sexual relationships between Jewish people and Aryans were banned, and Jews were made "subjects" instead of "citizens".
- Life continued to deteriorate throughout the Second World War until the defeat of the Nazis in 1945.

- The Nazis had persecuted and imprisoned "enemies of the state" in concentration camps from as early as 1933.
- These people included Jews, Roma, communists and gay people.
- On arrival people considered not fit enough to work, often women with children and the elderly, were taken to gas chambers and murdered.
- Many people were responsible for the murder of these innocent people, not just members of the Nazi Party.
- Many people carried out jobs which facilitated these killings, even if they did not take part in them themselves.

Groups persecuted by the Nazis:

- Jewish people
- Roma and Sinti people
- Homosexuals
- Communists
- Disabled people - the "euthanasia programme"

The Camps:

- Concentration
- Work
- Transit
- Extermination - there were only 6 of this type of camp, although people died in them all.

## Homework tasks

1. Learn the key words and their definitions.
2. Design your own KO using the knowledge gained in your lessons.
3. Read or watch a survivor testimony and write about the survivor and their story.
4. Choose one of the topics we have covered in this unit and teach a family member. Ask them to write a review of what you have told them.

Submit your homework to your class teacher for achievement points!

## Key Terms

<b>Discrimination</b>	Treating people poorly based on grounds of race, age, sex, or disability.
<b>Prejudice</b>	An opinion about a group of people which is not based on reason or experience - often stereotypes.
<b>Allies</b>	People who are supporting someone or "on the same side".
<b>Genocide</b>	Any act committed with intent to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group.
<b>Nazi Party</b>	A political party led by Adolf Hitler who held extreme and horrific ideals.
<b>Final Solution</b>	The organised murder of Jewish people in concentration camps.
<b>Kristallnacht</b>	The Night of Broken Glass. Jewish businesses were destroyed and some people were killed. Jewish communities were made to pay for the repairs.
<b>Propaganda</b>	Resources designed to make people think a certain way. This could be posters, speeches adverts etc.
<b>Concentration Camps</b>	Camps where "enemies of the state" were housed. This was innocent people who were kept in appalling conditions and often died as a result.

## Suggested Reading

- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank
- *Lily's Promise* by Lily Ebert
- *After the War* by Tom Palmer