

Year 9 – History Exam 2 Revision Sheet: The Holocaust

MEMORISE ALL INFORMATION IN THESE BOXES FOR THE FACT TEST AND QUESTION 2

SECTIONS OF THE EXAM

<p><u>THE HOLOCAUST</u> The Holocaust was the systematic murder of Europe's Jews by the Nazis. It was the largest <b>genocide</b> of the twentieth century. In Jewish culture, the Holocaust is known as the <b>Shoah</b> - this means 'catastrophe'.</p>	<p>The Nazis enslaved and murdered millions of others as well. Political opponents, Roma and Sinti travellers, homosexuals, people with physical and mental disabilities, Poles, Soviet prisoners of war and others were killed or died in camps as a result of neglect, starvation or disease.</p>	<p>The majority of the murders took place in Nazi concentration camps such as Auschwitz - Birkenau, Sachsenhausen, Moringen, Theresienstadt, Treblinka, Sobibor and Belsen Bergen. The first Nazi concentration camp was opened at Dachau in 1933.</p>
<p>An estimated 11 million people were murdered at the hands of the Nazis during the Second World War. 6 million of those victims are thought to have been Jewish.</p>	<p>On coming to power in 1933, the Nazis began to actively persecute the Jews of Germany with the introduction of discriminatory laws.</p>	<p>The first of these laws banned Jewish people from having a job in the Civil Service - this means that Jews were forbidden from working for the government.</p>
<p>In April 1933, German law restricted the number of Jewish students at German schools and universities.</p>	<p>The "<a href="#">Nuremberg Laws</a>" of 1935 excluded German Jews from Reich citizenship and banned them from marrying or having sexual relations with persons of "German or German-related blood.</p>	<p>In 1938, Jews were barred from all public schools and universities, as well as from cinemas, theatres, and sports facilities.</p>
<p>From 1939 onwards, Jewish people living in the areas taken over by the Nazis were rounded up and sent to live in Ghettoes - these were walled off areas of the cities.</p>	<p>Conditions in the ghettos were appalling. The areas were all too small for the number of inhabitants so housing was over crowded. The German authorities deliberately limited food supplies so the population slowly starved to death, and many houses lacked basic sanitation (running water).</p>	<p>Those not imprisoned in the Ghettoes were targeted by S.S groups known as Einsatzgruppen who would carry out mass shootings of groups of Jews and then bury the bodies in mass graves.</p>
<p>At the Wannsee Conference of 1941, the S.S agreed on their plan to eradicate (murder) the Jewish population of Europe. In order to do this quickly they planned to use poisonous gas to murder large groups at a time. Jewish people living in the ghettos were rounded up and</p>	<p>For those who were not gassed immediately, life in the concentration camps was brutal. Prisoners were barely fed (often only a slice of bread and some watery soup for the day) and lived in filthy barrack huts with hundreds of other prisoners. Diseases like typhus</p>	<p>The S.S guards could behave however they wished towards the prisoners. Many guards took particular pleasure in torturing the inmates - they could shoot a prisoner with no reason or warning, they would frequently beat prisoners to death, prisoners could be hanged in view of the other</p>

transported to concentration camps.	spread quickly because of the dirty conditions.	inmates as a way of terrorising the already traumatised victims.
<p>Prisoners were often forced to stand outside for 'roll call' during which they were counted. Guards would deliberately make mistakes so the count had to start again - often taking several hours. With prisoners only wearing thin camp uniforms, and the temperature often below freezing, many died during 'roll call' from exposure to the cold.</p>	<p>The purpose of the camps was to use the prisoners for their labour, whilst allowing them to starve to death or die of disease. Prisoners were forced to carry out a huge range of jobs for the Nazi government. A few examples include - producing aircraft parts for the German air force, making uniforms for the German military, working in factories such as the synthetic rubber factory built at Monowitz camp or construction work. Prisoners who became unproductive would be gassed or shot.</p>	<p>In the weeks leading up to the end of the Second World War, allied soldiers discovered the grim realities of the camps. Aware that they were about to be discovered guards began to remove large numbers of prisoners from the camps. They either hoped to use them to bargain for their own safety, or because they were convinced that they were doing the right thing and hoped to kill more prisoners before capture. Heartbreakingly, thousands more prisoners died on these marches, either through exhaustion or being shot by the guards, even though the end of the war was only days away. They became known as the 'Death Marches'.</p>
<p><u>CAUSES OF WW2:</u></p> <p>Hitler had three main aims in his foreign policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To unite all German-speaking people.</li> <li>- To achieve 'Lebensraum', which was more living space for the German people. This was based on the Nazis' racist policies, which were rooted in the idea that 'Aryan' people were 'superior' to Eastern Europeans.</li> <li>- To destroy the <a href="#">Treaty of Versailles</a>, the peace document that was signed in 1919 following World War One. It placed much of the blame for the events of the war on Germany.</li> </ul>	<p>Hitler sent soldiers into the Rhineland in 1936, which was supposed to be a demilitarised area. Britain did nothing, saying that Hitler was 'marching into his own backyard'. This showed that Britain saw the Rhineland as German land anyway, so they were not too concerned. In 1938, Hitler united Germany and Austria. This was known as the Anschluss. Again, this broke the Treaty of Versailles, but Britain and France did nothing. They saw Austria as a German-speaking country and were not willing to risk war over this.</p>	<p>The British Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, followed a policy of appeasement. This was a belief that, if Hitler was given some of what he wanted, war could be avoided. There were several reasons for this policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The British people did not want another war so soon after World War One.</li> <li>- Britain had not been rearming, so was not prepared for war.</li> <li>- Many British Government officials believed that the Soviet Union was a greater threat to Britain than Nazism. Britain saw Hitler and Nazi Germany as a barrier against the spread of communism in Europe.</li> </ul>

		<p>- Some people felt the <a href="#">Treaty of Versailles</a> had been too harsh in the terms it imposed on Germany, and that it was reasonable for Hitler to want to reverse some of it.</p> <p>- Britain was still suffering the effects of the Great Depression, so did not want to be spending money on fighting a war.</p>
--	--	--

**Revision tips:**

1. Highlight the key information in each of the boxes and read over it several times.
2. Try and memorise the key information by writing it out on revision cards/in mind maps. Then cover them over and try and test yourself. OR record yourself saying out loud the key information on your phone, then play it back to check if you have remembered it all.
3. Once you've tried all of this, give the sheet to someone at home and ask them to test you.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

The second part of your exam will be TWO longer questions.

Question 1 will be a HOW USEFUL is a SOURCE question about something you have studied this year.

*To answer this type of question successfully you need to write about how the CONTENT/DETAIL in the source is useful, PLUS how what you know from your OWN KNOWLEDGE is supported by the detail in the source, PLUS how WHERE THE SOURCE IS FROM/WHEN IT WAS WRITTEN/WHY IT WAS WRITTEN makes it useful.*

*You will have done a practice type of this question in class before the exam. Look back in your exercise book to this task to remind yourself of how to answer this type of question.*

Question 2 will ask you to EXPLAIN WHY events you have studied this year happened. You will need to include in your explanation good factual detail.

*ALL factual detail needed to be able to answer this question well is in the boxes above on this revision sheet. You must remember to use **Point Evidence Explain(PEE)** in your explanation:*



