

Week 1

Introduction:

- The Holocaust occurred between 1941 and 1945, Nazi Germany and its collaborators **systematically murdered** some six million Jews and other minority groups across German-occupied Europe.
- The term biblical **Holocaust** means 'burnt offering' or 'sacrifice.' Jewish people refer to this event as the **Shoah**, or 'catastrophe.'
- The Holocaust is an example of **genocide** or mass murder.



Week 2

Antisemitism in Europe:

Jews have been **persecuted** throughout history in Europe. For example:

- Christians have blamed Jews for the death of Christ and labelled them as '**Christ-Killers**'.
- In medieval Britain, people believed that each year Jews would **sacrifice** a Christian Child.
- In 1189, the **Jewish Pogroms** took place in York. Jews were trapped and murdered inside Clifford's Tower (York).
- In medieval Britain, Jews were often wealthy as they had the role of **money lenders** (usury). The bible made it forbidden for Christians to loan money with interest.

Week 3

Antisemitism in Germany:

- The Nazis' racial philosophy taught that Aryans were the **master race** and that some races were '**untermensch**' (sub-human).
- Many Nazi scientists at this time believed in **eugenics**, the idea that people with disabilities or social problems were degenerates whose genes needed to be eliminated from the human bloodline. The Nazis pursued eugenics policies vigorously.
- Jews were considered to be like rats and even made a film to portray this, '**The Eternal Jews**.'



Year 9 History: Topic 5 The Holocaust

Week 4

The Nuremburg laws:

The aim of these laws was to take away the rights of Jewish people to be citizens of Germany. This ultimately took away their **citizenship** and led to the withdrawal of state education and healthcare. Also, marriage between Jews and non-Jews was forbidden.

Other laws included:

- Banning of Jews from public swimming baths
- Jewish property was taken away
- All Jewish men are forced to change their first name to Israel and all women to Sara.
- Jewish passports were stamped with the letter 'J'.

Week 5

Development of antisemitism:

Kristallnacht: November 1938. Hitler ordered that over 2 nights there would be violence against Jewish businesses and Synagogues. This became known as the 'Night of Broken Glass.'

- Shop windows were **smashed and looted**
- **Synagogues** were smashed and burned
- **Police** did not interfere and allowed them to burn unless the fire encroached on German buildings.

Ghettos: Jews were rounded up and placed into ghettos. This took away their human rights. In the Warsaw ghetto, Jewish residents started a revolt. This was successful for a short period of time but was soon squashed by a Nazi firing squad.

Key words:

Genocide: The deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group.

Extermination camp: camps whose primary function was genocide.

Concentration camp: A place where large numbers of persecuted people are deliberately imprisoned in a small area with inadequate facilities, to provide forced labour or to await mass execution.

Ghetto: A walled area where Jews were rounded up and held in poor conditions under cruel Nazi rule.

Antisemitism: hostility of prejudice towards Jews.

Einsatzgruppen: SS firing squad used to shoot persecuted minorities.

Week 1

Questions	Answers
When did the Holocaust take place?	1941-1945
What is the Holocaust?	The systematic killing of 6 million jews and other minority groups, perpetrated by the Nazis.
What is the biblical meaning of the word Holocaust?	Burnt offering or sacrifice.
Why do Jews not use the term Holocaust?	They prefer the term Shoah or catastrophe.
Define the term genocide.	The deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group. The Holocaust is an example of this.



Week 2

Questions	Answers
Define antisemitism.	Hostility and prejudice towards the jews.
What did medieval Christians blame Jews for?	The death of Christ.
What were the pogroms?	The murder of the Jews in York which resulted in a massacre at Clifford's Tower.
What role did Jews have within society?	They were money lenders as this was not allowed within Christianity.

Week 3

Questions	Answers
Describe Jewish beliefs about race.	Nazis believed that Jews were inferior or subhuman and that for Germany to be strong they would need eradicated.
What is an Aryan?	Non-Jews with blond hair and blue eyes.
What are eugenics?	The idea that people with disabilities or social problems were degenerates whose genes needed to be eliminated from the human bloodline
What were the Jews likened to? What evidence is there to suggest this?	Jews were likened to rats. Evidence of this is in the Nazi made film, the Eternal Jew.

Year 9 History: Topic 5 The Holocaust



Week 4

Questions	Answers
What impact did the Nuremburg laws have on the Jews?	It pushed them out of German society and alienated them. Their citizenship was removed and they could not marry Germans.
Give 3 examples of discriminatory laws introduced by the Nazis.	They were not allowed to sit on some park benches. They had a J stamped on their passports. They lost property and professional jobs.
How might these laws affect Jewish and non-Jewish children?	They would feel scared and alienated, especially as they were not allowed to attend German Schools.

Week 5

Questions	Answers
What does the term Kristallnacht mean? What happened?	The Night of Broken Glass. Nazis attacked Jewish shops and Synagogues.
What impact did Kristallnacht have on the Jewish people?	As violence was used, this showed a development of antisemitism.
What were ghettos and what were the conditions like?	Walled areas where Jews were forced to live; they were cramped and people starved. The Nazis frequently used violence.
What were Nazi firing squads called?	Einsatzgruppen

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