

Name: _____

Period: _____

Holocaust DBQ

Directions: Answer each of the following questions based on the information contained within the documents provided. Construct your responses in complete sentences.

Document 1a: Identify two examples of actions that were to be taken against Jews:

Document 2: What was life like for a Jew in the Warsaw Ghetto?

Document 3: According to Anne Frank, what was taking place while she was in hiding?

Document 4: Identify 3 ways that Jews were discriminated against in Germany:

Document 5: Based on the testimony of SS soldiers, What occurred at the Reinhard Death Camps?

Document 6: Based on the picture, why were Jews required to wear these markers?

Document 7: Why did the Nazis not want people to shop at Jewish stores?

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Directions: Read the documents found in Part A and answer the questions or questions after each document.

Historical Context

Adolf Hitler rose to power on "the empty stomachs of the German people," but he maintained and strengthened his rule through fear and hatred. Throughout the Holocaust, many atrocities to human rights occurred, most notably to people of Jewish descent. Millions of innocent men, women and children suffered and lost their lives due to the propaganda filled hatred of Adolf Hitler.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history write an essay, in which you:

- Describe three different human rights violations during the Holocaust
- Describe the impact that these violations had on the Jewish population and Germany as a whole.
- Your essay must include an introduction and a conclusion.

Document 1: Kristallnacht Order

Message from SS-Gruppenführer Heydrich to all State Police Main Offices and Field Offices, November 10 1938 (before Kristallnacht, the "night of broken glass," the first large scale pogrom against the Jews).
Nazi Conspiracy and Aggression - Washington, U.S Govt. Print. Off., 1946, Vol. III, p. 545-547.

Regards: Measures against Jews tonight.

- a) Only such measures may be taken which do not jeopardize German life or property (for instance, burning of synagogues only if there is no danger of fires for the neighbourhoods).
- b) Business establishments and homes of Jews may be destroyed but not looted. The police have been instructed to supervise the execution of these directives and to arrest looters.
- c) In Business streets special care is to be taken that non-Jewish establishments will be safeguarded at all cost against damage.

As soon as the events of this night permit the use of the designated officers, as many Jews, particularly wealthy ones, as the local jails will hold, are to be arrested in all districts. Initially only healthy male Jews, not too old, are to be arrested. After the arrests have been carried out the appropriate concentration camp is to be contacted immediately with a view to a quick transfer of the Jews to the camps

Document #2: Life in the Warsaw Ghetto, Life in the Warsaw Ghetto, Emanuel Ringelblum quoted in Yad Vashem Documents on the Holocaust, pp 228-229:

Smuggling began at the very moment that the Jewish area of residence was established; its inhabitants were forced to live on 180 grams of bread a day, 220 grams of sugar a month, 1 kg. of jam and 1 kg. of honey, etc. It was calculated that the officially supplied rations did not cover even 10 percent of the normal requirements. If one had wanted really to restrict oneself to the official rations then the entire population of the ghetto would have had to die of hunger in a very short time.... The German authorities did everything to seal off the ghetto hermetically and not to allow in a single gram of food. A wall was put up around the ghetto on all sides that did not leave a single millimeter of open space.... They fixed barbed wire and broken glass to the top of the wall.

Document # 3 - Anne Frank - Diary Excerpt, On Her Old Country

Dussel has told us a lot about the outside world, which we have missed for so long now. He had very sad news. Countless friends and acquaintances have gone to a terrible fate. Evening after evening the green and grey Lorries trundle past. The Germans ring at every door to enquire if there are any Jews living in the house. If there are, then the whole family has to go at once. If they don't find any, they go on to the next house. No one has a chance of evading them unless one goes into hiding. Often they go round with lists, and only ring when they can get a good haul. In the evenings, when it's dark, I often see rows of good, innocent people accompanied by crying children, walking on and on, bullied and knocked about until they almost drop. No one is spared - old people, babies, expectant mothers, the sick - each and all join in the march of death.

Document # 4: Discriminatory Decrees against the Jews

This document was retrieved from the archives of Nizkor. Source: Nazi Conspiracy & Aggression, Volume I, Chapter XII, Office of the United States Chief Counsel for Prosecution of Axis Criminality, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, 1946, pp. 980-982.

2. DISCRIMINATORY DECREES AGAINST JEWS

When the Nazi Party gained control of the German State, the conspirators used the means of official decrees as a weapon against the Jews. In this way the force of the state was applied against them. Jewish immigrants were denaturalized. Native Jews were precluded from citizenship. Jews were forbidden to live in marriage or to have extramarital relations with persons of German blood. Jews were denied the right to vote. Jews were denied the right to hold public office or civil service positions. Jews were relegated to an inferior status by the denial of common privileges and freedoms. Thus, they were denied access to certain city areas, sidewalks, transportation, places of amusement, restaurants. Progressively, more and more stringent measures were applied, even to the denial of private pursuits. They were excluded from the practice of dentistry. The practice of law was denied to them. The practice of medicine was forbidden them. They were denied employment by press and radio. They were excluded from stock exchanges and stock brokerage. They were excluded from farming.

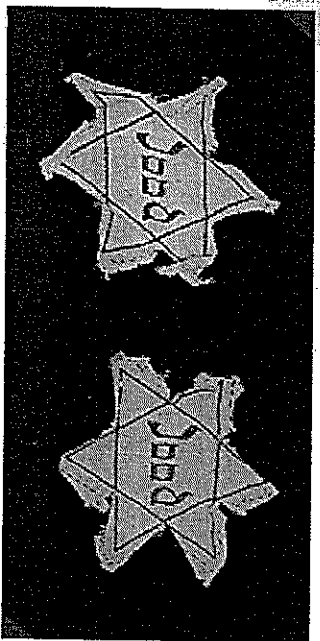
Document #5 - Testimonies of SS-Men from Various Camps

Testimony of SS Scharführer Erich Fuchs, in the Sobibor-Bolender trial, Dusseldorf.
Quoted in "BELZEC, SOBIBOR, TREBLINKA - the Operation Reinhard Death Camps", Indiana University Press - Yitzhak Arad, 1987, p. 31-32:

If my memory serves me right, about thirty to forty women were gassed in one gas chamber. The Jewish women were forced to undress in an open place close to the gas chamber, and were driven into the gas chamber by the above mentioned SS members and the Ukrainian auxiliaries. When the women were shut up in the gas chamber I and Bolender set the motor in motion. The motor functioned first in neutral. Both of us stood by the motor and switched from "Neutral" (Freiauspuß) to "Cell" (Zelle), so that the gas was conveyed to the chamber. At the suggestion of the chemist, I fixed the motor on a definite speed so that it was unnecessary henceforth to press on the gas. About ten minutes later the thirty to forty women were dead. From the testimony of SS-Unterscharführer Wilhelm Bahr in his trial at Hamburg.

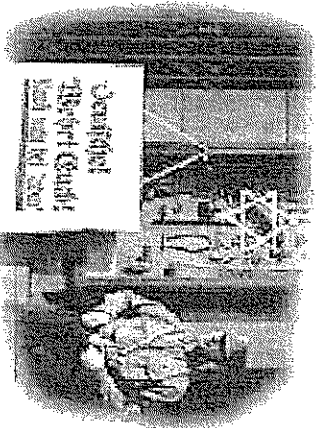
Document #6- Identification badges

LIVING UNDER NAZI RULE



are required to wear a yellow Star of David on their clothes to set them apart from non-Jews.

Document #7: Pictures of Nazi Germany



"Bavaria, do not shop in Jewish stores."

