

ACTIVITY: Definition of the Holocaust
STUDENT WORKSHEET

NAME: _____

WHAT WAS THE HOLOCAUST?: Circle words you don't understand and underline parts you have questions about. Then, answer the questions.

The **Holocaust** was the systematic, state-sponsored, persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945 across Europe and North Africa. The height of the persecution and murder occurred during World War II. By the end of the war in 1945, the Germans and their collaborators had killed nearly two out of every three European Jews.

The Nazis believed that Germans were racially superior. They believed Jews were a threat to the so-called German racial community. While Jews were the primary victims, the Nazis also targeted other groups for persecution and murder. The Nazis claimed that Roma, people with disabilities, some Slavic peoples (especially Poles and Russians), and Black people were biologically inferior.

The regime persecuted other groups because of politics, ideology, or behavior. These groups included Communists, Socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses, gay men, and people the Nazis called "asocials" and "professional criminals."

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1. When did the Holocaust take place?

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4. Who were the primary victims of the Holocaust?

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2. Where did the Holocaust take place?

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5. Who else did the Nazis and their collaborators target?

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3. Who were the perpetrators of the Holocaust?

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6. What was the result of the Holocaust?

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