

The Holocaust

During World War II, the German Army forced Jews to leave their homes and move into poor, crowded areas called ghettos. Many Jews were transported to **concentration camps** where they were forced to do hard labor. Men, women, and children died there of starvation and exhaustion. Additionally, hundreds of thousands of Jews were sent to "death camps" where they were executed in gas chambers.



Jews who were not killed in gas chambers often died of malnutrition or starvation.

Germany lost World War II in 1945. As Allied troops freed areas of Europe from German control, they came across some horrible sights. The troops found the concentration camps where Nazis had imprisoned and killed Jews. In total, Hitler was responsible for the murder of more than **6 million Jews** between 1933 and 1945. This horrific event is known as the **Holocaust**.

Writing Prompt

L6-8RH1; L6-8WHST4

Summarize the events of the Holocaust. Use the text and at least one other source.



Primary Source



L6-8RH2;
L6-8WHST4

A young German-Jewish girl named Anne Frank wrote a diary during the two years her family and she spent hiding from the Nazis during World War II. Read this excerpt from her diary and answer the questions.

"Fine specimens of humanity, those Germans, and to think I'm actually one of them! No, that's not true, Hitler took away our nationality long ago. And besides, there are no greater enemies on earth than the Germans and Jews." October 9, 1942

1. Why does Anne dislike the Germans even though she is German herself? _____

2. What does Anne mean when she says that Hitler "took away our nationality long ago"?

3. What do you think it would be like to hide and never leave your home for two years? What would you miss? _____

