

Key Topics To Consider - When teaching about the Holocaust

1. Anti-Semitism
 - a. Protocols of the Elders of Zion (as one example)
2. Pre-War Jewish life and culture in Europe
3. Identify different roles: Perpetrators, Bystanders, Collaborators, Upstanders, Victims
 - a. Define terms.
 - b. Understand the different roles and that there is gray area. One person might be more than one category.
4. Rise of the Nazi party
 - a. Nazi ideology
 - b. Propaganda
5. Nuremberg Laws – 1935
 - a. Defined Jews
 - b. Anti-Jewish legislation increased over the next few years
6. Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) – Nov. 9-10, 1938
 - a. Kindertransport (1938-1939)
 - b. Flight – Could leave Germany, but few countries would allow Jews in
7. Germany invades Poland – WWII Begins – Sept. 1, 1939
8. Wannsee Conference – Jan. 20, 1942
9. Ghettos and Camps
 - a. Purpose of ghettos
 - b. Death camps vs. concentration camps (death camps: Chelmno, Sobibor, Majdanek, Belzec, Treblinka, Auschwitz-Birkenau)
10. Rescue and Resistance
 - a. Resistance – individual acts, spiritual resistance, groups acts, violent vs. non-violent
 - b. Rescue – non-Jews who rescued Jews (What were they up against? What did you need to help someone? What risks did that person take?)
 - c. Stories of rescue online – www.jfr.org
 - d. Jewish partisans – resistance – stories online: www.jpéf.org
11. Victims
 - a. Jews
 - b. Poles, Jehovah's Witnesses, Roma/Sinti (Gypsies), Homosexuals, Handicapped

12. World response / United States

13. Liberation

14. Nuremberg Trials and post war

15. Genocide and Human Rights – larger questions of how the Holocaust has informed our understanding of genocide and human rights

- a. What are human rights?
- b. How we define genocide
- c. Genocide today
- d. Other genocides