



6 things you should know about the Holocaust

# 3. Where did the largest numbers of Jews murdered in the Holocaust come from?

The third in a series of 6 20-minute self-study short lessons for KS3 students

### **Short lesson 3 overview**



Good to see you again, and welcome to the third of six short, 20-minute lessons designed to address some of the common misunderstandings people have about the Holocaust.

#### In this 20-minute lesson you are going to;

- 1 a) Reflect on where most Jews murdered in the Holocaust came from (5 mins.)
- 2 a) Use maps to identify where most Jews murdered in the Holocaust came from (10 mins.)
- 3 a) Reflect on the implications of this (5 mins.)

# 3 a) Where did the largest number of Jewish victims come from?







This is a modern map of Europe. Be careful, because some the boundaries shown here have changed a lot since the era of the Second World War.

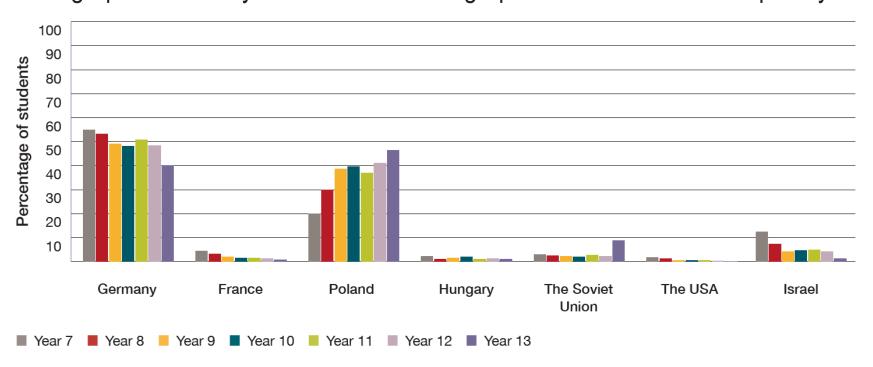
#### Can you find **Germany**?

Before the outbreak of war, Gemany had also occupied **Austria** and part of **Czechoslovakia** called the Sudentenland (now part of the Czech Republic) Can you find them too?

# 3 a) Where did the largest number of Jewish victims come from?



In 2016 UCL conducted a big survey of secondary school students in England. When asked 'Which country did the largest number of Jewish people murdered during the Holocaust come from?' students replies are shown in this graph. What do you notice about the graph? Do these results surprise you?



# 3 b) Where did the largest number of Jewish victims come from?

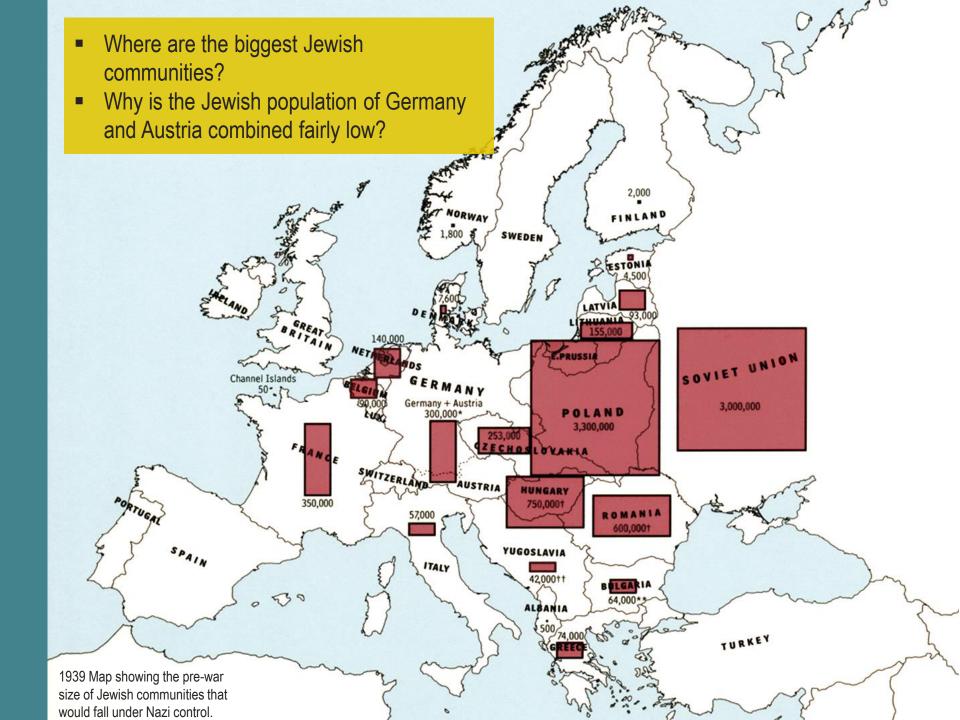




The next two slides show two maps of Europe;

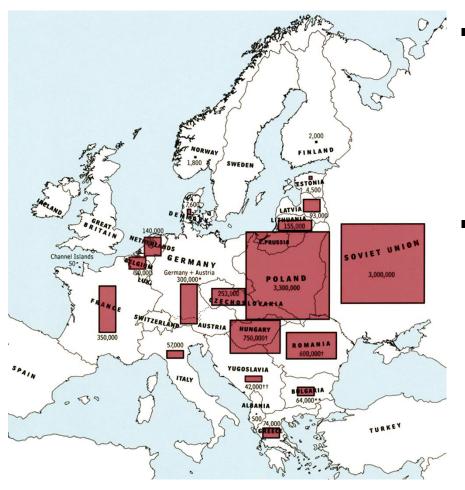
- The first is a map of Europe just before the start of the Second World War in 1939
- The second is also a map of Europe, but just after the end of the war, in 1945.

Look at them both, and then be ready to think about and answer the questions that follow.

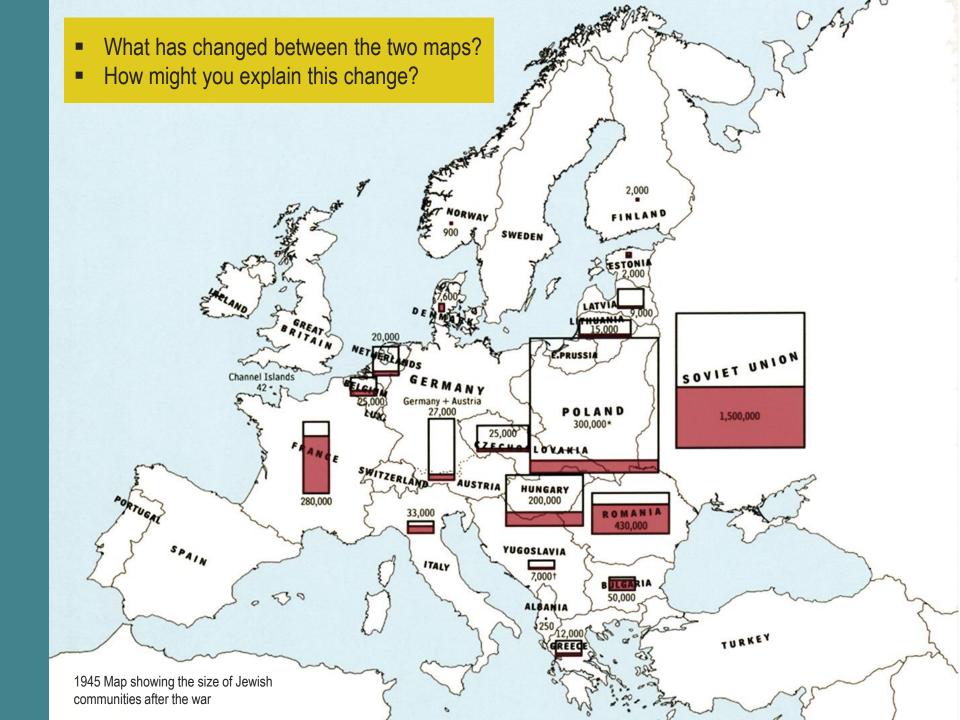


## 3 b) Explaining the map



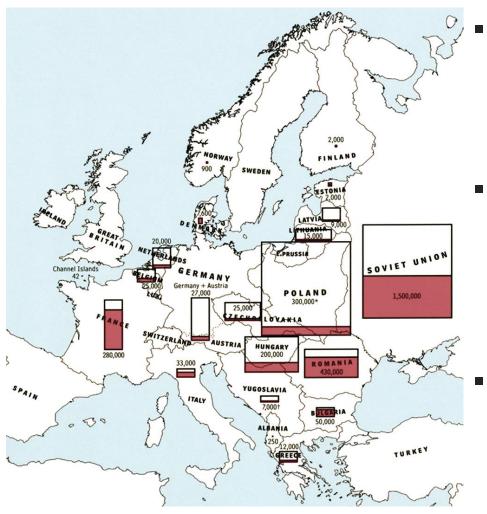


- One thing you might notice about this map is the geographical spread of these Jewish communities across the continent – including the Channel Islands.
- Also, you can see how low the combined total of the Jewish population of Germany and Austria is, just 300,000: this figure is taken from the eve of the Second World War, by which time a number of Jews had been successful in escaping from Greater Germany to either nearby countries, North America, or Palestine. In 1933 the Jewish population of Germany had been 500,000.



## 3 b) Explaining the map





- You can use this map to help answer the question 'Where did the greatest number of murdered Jews come from?'
- From the map you should be able to see that there were much higher numbers of murdered Jews in the Soviet Union and especially in Poland (3 million).
- You can also see that the murders have happened in a number of different countries, all to different extents, which reflect local circumstances and the changing nature of the war.

## 3 b) Where did the largest number of Jewish victims come from?



These two maps clearly show that

The largest numbers of Jews murdered came from Germanoccupied Poland.



You will be given **3 multiple-choice questions** to see how your knowledge and understanding of responsibility for the Holocaust has started to Develop.

Use a pen and paper to record you answers.

At the end of the quiz are the answers. You can use this to see how you've done after you've recorded your best answers...

### **Question 1**

How many Polish Jews were murdered during the Holocaust?

- **A.** 3,000
- **B.** 300,000
- **C.** 3,000,000
- **D.** 3,300,000

#### **Question 2**

How many German and Austrian Jews were murdered as part of the Holocaust?

**A** 2,730

**B** 273,000

**C** 2,730,000

**D** 27,300,000

#### **Question 3**

The most number of Jews murdered during the Holocaust came from...

- **A** Germany
- **B** France
- **C** Poland
- **D** Hungary

### **Answers**

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. C



## 3 c) Reflection

Don't forget that we have been talking numbers here but this must not stop us from remembering the reality that each victim was an innocent human being with a name, a face, a future with hopes and dreams. They were not casualties of a war - they were civilians – hunted down, persecuted and finally murdered as part of a plan for complete destruction.



Mendel Grossman in his photographic laboratory inside the Lodz ghetto. Credit: Vad Yashem

### **End of short lesson 3**

#### Well done!

You have now completed the second of six short lessons about important things you should know about the Holocaust. Now you understand that **The largest numbers of Jews murdered came from German-occupied Poland.** 

We look forward to seeing you soon for short lesson 4, where you will think about Britain's relationship to the Holocaust.



#### UCL CENTRE FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

- 6 things you should know about the Holocaust
- 3. The largest numbers of Jews murdered came from German-occupied Poland.



#### Centre for

#### **Holocaust Education**

Institute of Education, University of London, 20 Bedford Way, London, WC1H 0AL, tel: +44(0)20 7612 6437 fax: +44(0)20 7612 6126 email: holocaust@ioe.ac.uk web: www.ioe.ac.uk/holocaust The IOE's Centre for Holocaust Education is jointly funded by Pears Foundation and the Department for Education.