

Glossary

Key term	Meaning
Zionism	A Jewish movement with the goal of the creation of a Jewish homeland in the area known as Palestine, today Israel. The movement became popular amongst Jews living in Eastern and Central Europe in the late 19 th century.
Zionist workers	A collection of different groups. They emerged in the early 20 th century and they had the same goal as Zionists (see above) but they also wanted improved living and working conditions for workers.
Polish Socialist Party	They emerged at the end of the 19 th century. They were in favour of equal rights for all people, regardless of race, religion or gender.
Warsaw ghetto	In September 1939 Nazi Germany invaded Poland. They defeated and occupied the country and immediately began to restrict and persecute Poland's Jews. In 1940 Jewish people in Poland were forced to live in small, walled off areas of towns and cities. Conditions were appalling and thousands died there of starvation, disease and brutality. The Warsaw ghetto was the largest and was in operation from Nov 1940 – May 1943.
Oneg Shabbat	(Hebrew: Joy of Sabbath) They were a group who collected evidence of daily life and conditions in the Warsaw ghetto, they had to hide their activities from the Nazis. They worked with Polish non-Jewish resistance groups to bring news of the murder of Poland's Jews to the outside world. The archive that they created is known as the Ringelblum archive .
Warsaw ghetto uprising	On 19 th April 1943 German troops entered the Warsaw ghetto to close it down and send the remaining survivors to death camps. Jewish fighters, men, women and children, armed with weapons, many of them home-made, fought back and hid in bunkers for almost a month before they were finally defeated.
Persecution	Treating someone badly, especially because of race, religion and political beliefs.

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Exclusion	Keeping someone out, not allowing them to be included.
Civic Rights	The rights of citizens, political and social freedom and equality.
Pale	An area in Western Russia where Jewish people were allowed to live. Very few Jews were allowed to live elsewhere in the Russian Empire.
Pogroms	Organised violent attacks against particular ethnic groups, especially Jews.
Orthodox	Following the traditional rules and beliefs of a religion.
Hassidic	A Jewish religious group that emerged in Western Ukraine in the 18 th century and quickly spread across Eastern Europe. Followers observe Orthodox Jewish practice (see above) and they speak Yiddish (see below).
Yiddish	A language used by Jews in Central and Eastern Europe before the Holocaust. Originally a German dialect with words from Hebrew.
Reform Judaism	A form of Judaism which emerged in Germany in the 18 th century. Abandoned aspects of Orthodox worship to respond to changes to social, political and cultural life.
Rabbi	A Jewish scholar, teacher and religious leader.
Ophthalmologist	A medical specialist in disorders and diseases of the eye.
Neurologist	A medical specialist in disorders of the nervous system.
Paediatrician	A medical specialist in children and their diseases.

Key term	Meaning
Entrepreneur	Someone who takes risks in setting up businesses.
Holocaust	The Holocaust was the attempt by the Nazis and their collaborators in the Second World War to murder every single Jewish person.
Judaism	An ethnic religion based upon a belief in a single God and comprising of the religious and cultural traditions of the Jewish people.
Bund	The Bund was a Jewish socialist party. They defended the rights of Jewish workers, civil and cultural rights for Jews and they were in favour of gender equality. They were opposed to Zionists.
Ashkenazi	A Jewish person of Central and Eastern European descent.
Secular	Something not connected to religion.