

Evidence of Atrocity

Read for actions, targeted groups, and human consequences from 1915 to 1945.

10.5e "Human atrocities and mass murders occurred in this time period."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB For each case, underline a state action and circle the population harmed. Mark E beside a type of evidence historians can study.

Three Cases, Shared Patterns

- ① In 1915–1916, Ottoman authorities and collaborators carried out genocide against Armenians. Deportations forced families toward the Syrian desert; massacres and deadly conditions killed vast numbers. Hunger, thirst, disease, and violence were part of the destruction. Officials invoked wartime security, but this did not justify targeting a civilian population. Survivor accounts, diplomatic reports, and official records document these events. The Armenian Genocide destroyed communities as well as individual lives.
- ② The Holodomor was the mass famine in Soviet Ukraine in 1932–1933. Stalin's forced collectivization and grain requisitions disrupted farming and removed food. Authorities confiscated supplies, punished villages, and restricted people from leaving to find food. Millions died. Famine also struck other Soviet regions, but Ukraine faced particularly severe measures alongside repression of Ukrainian cultural and political life. Scholars examine intent and the course of policy; these debates do not erase the state's responsibility for mass death. Ukraine and many other countries recognize the Holodomor as genocide.
- ③ The Holocaust was Nazi Germany's state-directed persecution and murder of six million European Jews, carried out with allies and collaborators. Persecution began in 1933 and escalated during World War II into systematic mass murder. Ghettos, forced labor, deportations, shootings, and killing centers were among its methods. Nazis also persecuted and murdered other groups, including Roma and disabled people. Testimony, records, photographs, and sites document the crimes. Comparison can reveal patterns of coercion and dehumanization while preserving each case's distinct history and victims' experiences.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What happened to many Armenians after Ottoman leaders ordered their removal in 1915?

2 Identify two Soviet policies that made the famine in Ukraine worse.

3 Who was targeted in the Holocaust, and what was the scale of murder?

4 Identify one shared pattern and one kind of evidence historians use to study these crimes.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose two of the three cases. Write exactly three sentences that compare the government actions or policies, the people harmed, and one shared pattern that made the atrocities possible.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

For each case, underline a state action and circle the population harmed. Mark E beside a type of evidence historians can study. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What happened to many Armenians after Ottoman leaders ordered their removal in 1915?	Authorities forced families toward the Syrian desert. Deportation exposed them to hunger, thirst, disease, and violence, alongside massacres.
2	Identify two Soviet policies that made the famine in Ukraine worse.	Officials took food from villages and punished people who did not meet quotas. The government also restricted travel, preventing many starving people from seeking food elsewhere.
3	Who was targeted in the Holocaust, and what was the scale of murder?	European Jews were targeted. Nazi Germany and its allies and collaborators murdered six million Jews.
4	Identify one shared pattern and one kind of evidence historians use to study these crimes.	A shared pattern was state coercion or dehumanization. Evidence includes survivor testimony, official records, photographs, diplomatic reports, or sites.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Ottoman authorities deported and massacred Armenians during the Armenian Genocide. During the Holodomor, Soviet authorities confiscated food and restricted movement in Ukraine, contributing to millions of deaths. Both cases show state coercion harming civilians, but their policies and historical contexts were different.

Accept comparisons that accurately identify two cases, the affected populations, and actions or policies stated in the passage. The third sentence should identify a supported shared pattern, such as isolation, restricted movement, food control, loss of rights, or state power contributing to mass death.