

Choices and Consequences

Trace how prejudice became persecution and how people responded.

USII.6.h "examining the causes and consequences of the Holocaust including, but not limited to Jewish life before the Holocaust, antisemitism, the rise of the Nazi Party, Nuremberg Laws, persecution of Jews and other targeted groups..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details that helped cause or increase persecution. Number three details that show consequences for targeted people or Nazi leaders.

From Prejudice to Accountability

- ① Before the Holocaust, Jewish people lived in communities across Europe. They worked as teachers, shopkeepers, artists, doctors, and laborers. They joined religious traditions, family celebrations, and neighborhood life. Yet antisemitism, prejudice or hatred directed at Jews, had existed for centuries. After World War I, Germany faced economic hardship and political conflict. Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party gained support by blaming Jews and other groups for Germany's problems. Nazi propaganda spread false claims and encouraged people to see neighbors as enemies.
- ② In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws stripped German Jews of citizenship and banned marriage between Jews and non-Jews. The Nazis then increased persecution. Jewish businesses were attacked, children were forced out of schools, and families were pushed from homes. During World War II, Nazis and their collaborators forced Jews into ghettos and deported them to concentration and killing centers. The regime also targeted Roma, people with disabilities, Slavic peoples, political opponents, Jehovah's Witnesses, and gay men. About six million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust.
- ③ Some people resisted Nazi rule despite severe danger. Jewish fighters organized uprisings, including the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Other people hid Jews, shared information, created false papers, or helped prisoners escape. The United States admitted some refugees before and during the war but kept strict immigration limits, leaving many people unable to enter. After the war, an international military court held the Nuremberg Trials. Nazi leaders were prosecuted for crimes against peace, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. The trials showed that leaders could be held responsible for such acts.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Nazi propaganda help the Nazi Party gain support and increase persecution?

2 What two rights did the Nuremberg Laws take away or limit for German Jews?

3 Name two groups, other than Jews, that the Nazi regime targeted. Then name one way Jews were persecuted.

4 How was the United States' wartime response to refugees different from the postwar response at the Nuremberg Trials?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write four or five sentences explaining how prejudice can grow into government persecution and why resistance or accountability matters. Use at least two accurate details from the passage and include one clear cause-and-consequence connection.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three details that helped cause or increase persecution. Number three details that show consequences for targeted people or Nazi leaders. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Nazi propaganda help the Nazi Party gain support and increase persecution?	It spread false claims, blamed Jews and other groups for Germany's problems, and encouraged people to view neighbors as enemies.
2	What two rights did the Nuremberg Laws take away or limit for German Jews?	The laws stripped German Jews of citizenship and banned marriage between Jews and non-Jews.
3	Name two groups, other than Jews, that the Nazi regime targeted. Then name one way Jews were persecuted.	Answers will vary. Targeted groups include Roma, people with disabilities, Slavic peoples, political opponents, Jehovah's Witnesses, and gay men. Persecution included attacks on businesses, removal from schools, removal from homes, forced ghettos, or deportation to concentration and killing centers.
4	How was the United States' wartime response to refugees different from the postwar response at the Nuremberg Trials?	The United States admitted some refugees but kept strict immigration limits. After the war, an international court prosecuted Nazi leaders at the Nuremberg Trials.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Antisemitism and Nazi propaganda helped turn prejudice into government action. The Nuremberg Laws took citizenship from German Jews, which made exclusion more severe. As persecution grew, some people resisted by hiding Jews or helping prisoners escape. After the war, the Nuremberg Trials held Nazi leaders responsible, showing that crimes against humanity have consequences.

Accept equivalent cause-and-consequence explanations supported by the passage. For the open response, look for at least two accurate details and a clear explanation of how an action led to persecution, resistance, or accountability.