

Name: _____

PRE-WORLD WAR II EUROPEAN JEWISH LIFE PHOTO PROJECT

Instruction for Students

In order to understand what Jewish cultural and communal life was like in Europe before World War II, you will be finding photographs from that time period and analyzing them. As well as researching the towns where the photos were taken. Follow the instructions in order, working at your own pace. All work must be complete by Friday.

Assignment #1 - Photo Collection

Research two photos that reflect Jewish life prior to the Nazi invasion of that country using the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Web site, www.ushmm.org (go to education ---> students ---> collection and archives --> photographs); search the collection of thousands of photos using key words (check the list brain-stormed in class). Once you have found a photo you would like to use, copy it and paste it into a new Word document. Then return to the photo on the web site, and copy and paste the date and locale to the Word document with the photo (do NOT include any other information, including the captions.) Save this file as "Raw Data" to your folder on Strugglin.

Guidelines for choosing photos:

- People must be in the photo
- The photo cannot be what's classified as a portrait
- The photo must include the date and place that the photo was taken

Assignment #2 - Photo Analysis

Write captions for both photos using the "How to Read a Photograph" form that is in your folder on Strugglin. Save the individual sheets as "Photo 1" and "Photo 2" in your folder on Strugglin.

HOW TO READ A PHOTOGRAPH



Date: 1910-1920

Locale: Denmark

Courtesy: USHMM,
Benny Guinossar

Subject of the Photograph

Are there people in the photograph? Yes Number of people? 1 Estimated ages: 15
Number of males: 1 Number of females: 0

Describe:

Clothing: *Swimming Suit - I didn't know guys use to wear suits that big.*

Facial Expressions: *Serious but you can tell he is proud of winning so many medals.*

What the People are Doing: *Showing his medals he has just won*

Are there Objects in the Picture? *A person wearing medals*

List these Objects: *There are 7 medals in all*

Describe in Detail these Items: *They are very honorable to have won 7 medals for swimming, They are probably made of gold, silver, or Bronze.*

Setting of the Photograph

Can you tell when the photograph was taken? *No*

Est. Time of Day: *N/A* Est. Time of Year: *Summer* Outside or Indoors:

Indoors

Describe as many details as you can identify about the piece where the picture was taken (example: in a yard, on a street, etc.):

The photo was taken inside because you can see the carpet and cant see any trees or any signs that you are outside.

Writing a Caption

A caption is a short description or explanation of a photograph or picture. It often includes information about what is happening in the picture, where and when the picture was taken, and who is in the picture. Using the information you have gathered above, write a caption for your photograph:

In this photograph you can see a boy as he is showing off his medals he has just won for swimming. It is probably summer time because they did not have heated pools back then. He has seven medals that he has won in all. He is very proud of what he has accomplished but you can tell he is trying not to smile. He is inside and someone, probably his mom is taking his picture just like my mom does.

HOW TO READ A PHOTOGRAPH



Date: 1946

Locale: Neu Freimann, Germany

Courtesy: USHMM, Aaron Elster

Subject of the Photograph

Are there people in the photograph? *1* Number of people? *1 primary* Estimated ages: *10-13*
Number of males: *1* Number of females: *0*

Describe:

Clothing: *Soccer Uniform*

Facial Expressions: *Happy since he is smiling*

What the People are Doing: *Posing for a picture*

Are there Objects in the Picture?

List these Objects: *People, Houses, Trees, soccer field.*

Describe in Detail these Items: *Houses are small, a lot of people, and a worn out soccer field.*

Setting of the Photograph

Can you tell when the photograph was taken? *Yes*

Est. Time of Day: *early morning from the shadow*

Est. Time of Year: *Summer*

Outside or Indoors: *Outside*

Describe as many details as you can identify about the piece where the picture was taken (example: in a yard, on a street, etc.):

It was taken on a soccer field. There are houses and people around. He is a Jewish child because he has the star of David on his uniform.

Writing a Caption

A caption is a short description or explanation of a photograph or picture. It often includes information about what is happening in the picture, where and when the picture was taken, and who is in the picture.

Using the information you have gathered above, write a caption for your photograph:

A young man is getting his picture taken before beginning a early morning soccer game. There are many people around in the background watching the exciting soccer game. The houses in the background are probably the houses that these people live in. The time of day is more than likely before noon and the young boys playing soccer are having a blast out there kicking the ball. This is what young boys love most about the summer time, the playing around in warm weather.

~In examining your researched photos, what evidence suggests that life was normal for Jews before the Nazis?

I learned that before the Nazis came the Jews could have fun, run and play outside, but when the Nazis came everyone tried to hide and not be taken by the Nazis so they wouldn't have to go to concentration camps.

~What did you find as you looked through your own family's photos in relation to those that you had researched?

I found that when i was looking through my family's photo albums that our families and the Jewish families have a lot in common with one another. You might not think that they could but they do.

~Which one did you choose to share that relates and why?

I chose a picture of a young man standing on a soccer field posing for a picture, I also have a picture of myself standing on a baseball field posing for a picture and we look about the same ages.

~In comparing the photos, how do they show the similarities between you, your family, or your community and those in the researched photos?

What I realized is that they had a lot in common with us, they liked to play sports, they liked to go hang out with friends, they have very nice families but when that Nazis came they couldn't do all that stuff they loved to do anymore.

~What do these photos, yours and the researched ones, tell you about Jewish life in Europe before World War II?

Before WW II I realized that they were free, they could do whatever however they wanted. The Jewish had a great way of life until Hitler and the Nazis came and killed millions and millions of people. And now they are back and more of them alive.

~How large was the town's/city's Jewish population and how long had Jews been living there?

The average number of Jewish people is about 2,570 people a year in 1946. And Munich was part of an American-occupied zone.

~What was Jewish life/culture in the town/city like prior to the Nazi invasion?

Prior to the Nazi invasion, Munich held the 1936 winter Olympics. Munich, Germany was the capital of the Jewish Germany that 200 tons of wheat were turned in Matzahs.

~Where is or was that town/city located? (Map approx. 3"x3" + relative location)

It was about 120 miles to the west of Linz, Austria.
About 100 miles southeast of Stuttgart, Germany.
And about 50 miles north of Innsbruck.



~When and how did the town/city come under Nazi rule? (Timeline)

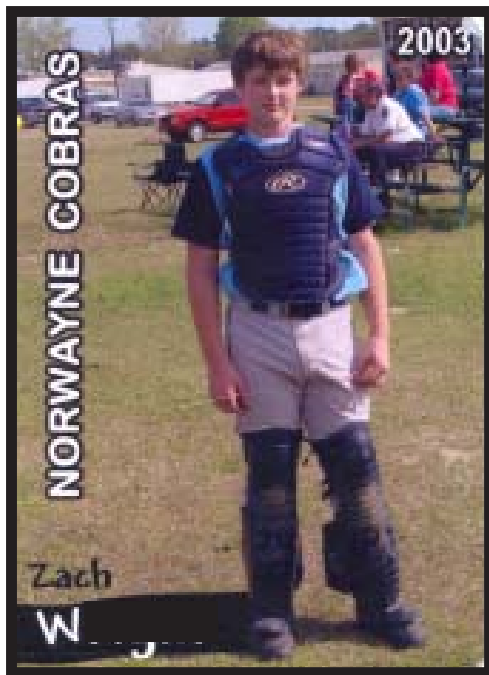
Well in 1936 Munich held the winter Olympics which put Munich on the map and had a population of a bout 2,570 a year. It produced 200 tons of wheat a year and made Matzahs.

~What was the fate of this particular town's/city's Jews during the Holocaust?

It was the major city and was the Jewish capital in Germany and was a concentration camp until 1949 and the it was made a memorial.

PRE-WORLD WAR II EUROPEAN JEWISH LIFE

PHOTO PROJECT



Date: March 2003

Locale: Greenwood Middle



Date: September 1946

Locale: Munich, Germany

Zach W., Eighth Grade

Reflection: When I first started this project I thought that all I was going to do is type some boring paper. Well I learned way more than I thought I was going to learn. I learned that the Jewish people were just like us modern day people. I had seen the bad pictures from the camps and never even thought about them kids playing sports just like me. I was so surprised when I found the picture of the guy and he was so proud of his swimming medals and I remembered when I took karate and how proud I was when I got a higher belt. I had to go to www.ushmm.org and find out what the Holocaust was all about. It was about all the Jewish children, adults, and babies that were killed because of what Hitler believed. In Munich, the very town that held the 1936 Winter Olympics, was overtaken by the Nazis. If you are like me you will be amazed how much the Jewish kids were just like we are now. I can only imagine 6 million people that died because one man thought it was his right to kill all of them Jewish people. This project has really made me think about it.