

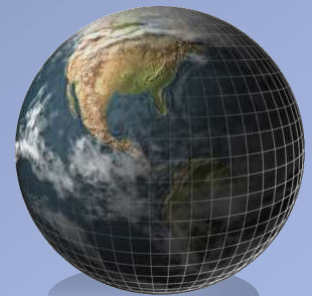
# *Night* by Elie Wiesel



A nonfiction journey of  
evil and unspeakable  
horror that should never  
occur again.

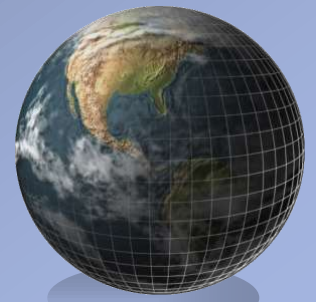
# Nonfiction: types

- An **autobiography** is a sketch of the author's entire life, often from birth up until the time of the writing.
- A **memoir** focuses on one aspect of the writer's life. Memoirs usually cover a relatively short span of time, and their main purpose is to draw the reader's attention to a specific theme or circumstance.



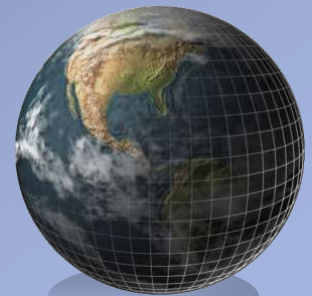
# Nonfiction: other types

- A **biography** is the story of a life from another person's perspective.
- An **essay** is a short nonfiction work that addresses a specific subject.
- A **speech** is a talk or an address presented to an audience.



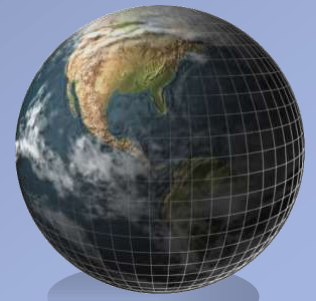
# *Night* by Elie Wiesel

- Autobiographical, memoir
- Focus on observation - describes an event that the writer witnessed firsthand.
- Elie Wiesel - Bearing Witness - invites us to listen, and to remember. “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”



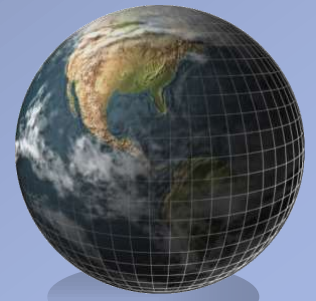
# Strategies for Reading Nonfiction

- Find the writer's main points and support.
- Ask yourself what the author wants you to learn or think about.



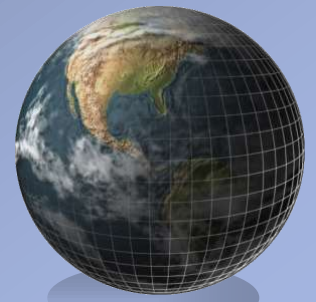
# Background

- Prewar European population: 9.5 million
- Most Jews lived in eastern Europe, primarily in the Soviet Union and Poland.
- The Nazi party came to power in Germany in 1933.
- The Germans moved to extend their power in central Europe, annexing Austria and destroying Czechoslovakia.



# Background (2)

- Germany invaded Poland in 1939, beginning World War II.
- Over the next two years, German forces conquered most of Europe.
- The Germans established ghettos in occupied eastern territories, isolating and persecuting the Jewish population.



# Background (3)

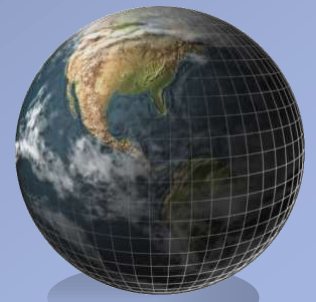
- Nazi anti-Jewish policy expanded with the invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941.
- Mobile killing units murdered Jews, Roma (also called Gypsies), Soviet political commissars and others.
- The Germans and their collaborators deported Jews to extermination camps in occupied Poland.





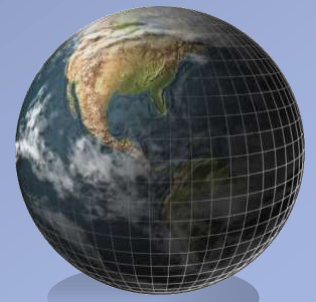
# Background (4)

- At the largest extermination camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, transports arrived almost daily from across Europe.
- By war's end, almost six million Jews and millions of others had perished in the Holocaust.
- Postwar European Jewish Population, ca. 1950: 3.5 million



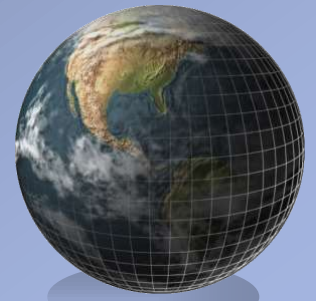
# Terms to Know

- Holocaust
- Genocide
- Ghetto
- Prejudice
- Discrimination
- Kapo
- Los
- Gestapo
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Anti-Semitism
- Euphemism
- Fascism
- Death camp
- Concentration camp



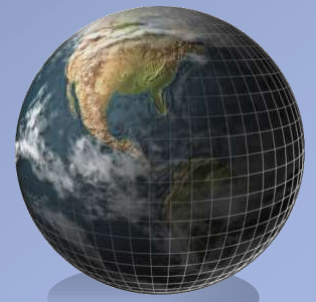
# Holocaust

- Holocaust means “complete destruction by fire.”
- The term is now associated with the murder of more than six million Jewish people during World War II.



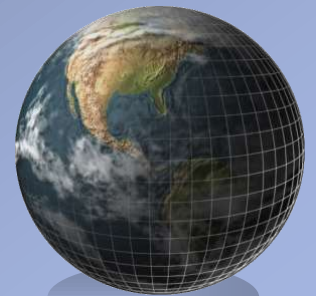
# Genocide

- Genocide is a word that combines the Greek word “genos” (meaning race, people, or nation) and the ending “cide” (meaning to kill).
- Genocide refers to the deliberate and systematic extermination of a national, racial, political, or cultural group.



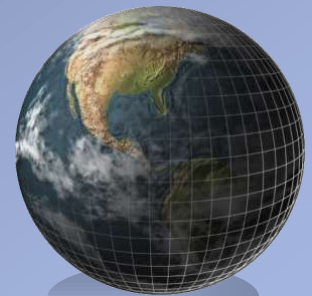
# Ghetto

- The confinement of Jews in a set-apart area of the city.



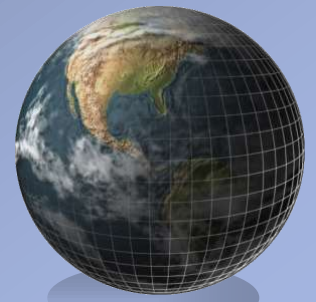
# Prejudice

- Prejudice comes from the word “prejudge” (pre-judge, or judge beforehand).
- A prejudice is a preconceived opinion or feeling formed without knowledge, thought or reason.
- Prejudices are often based on stereotypes.



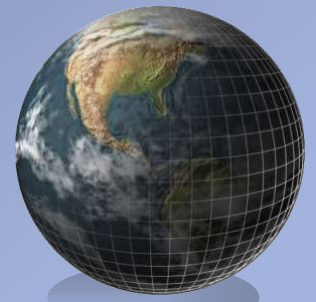
# Discrimination

- Discrimination is when actions are based upon prejudices, stereotypes, and biases.



# Kapo

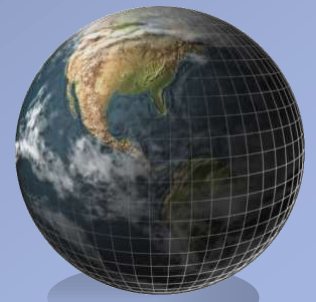
- Camp prisoner forced to oversee other prisoners.





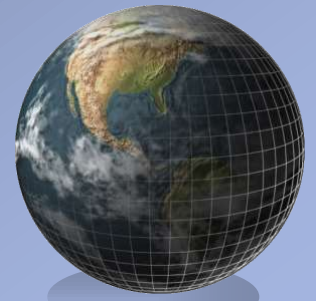
# los

- German for “Go on!”



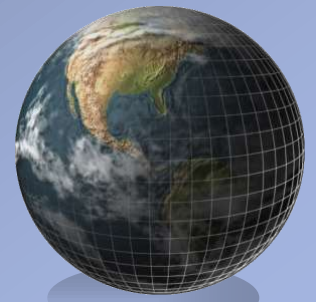
# Race

- Any people united by common history, language, or cultural traits.
- The Dutch race.



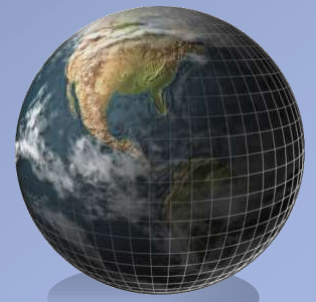
# Ethnicity

- A shared and distinctive cultural characteristic pertaining to the language, religion, background, etc. of a group of people.
- Ethnicity generally refers to a minority within a larger society.



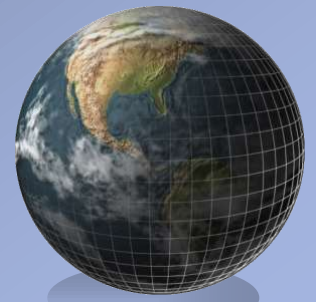
# Anti-Semitism

- Hostility toward or discrimination against Jewish people.



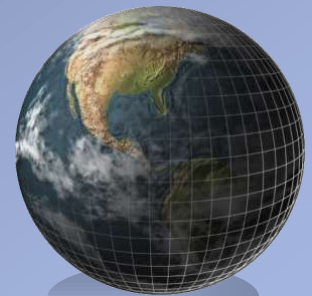
# Euphemism

- A mild or vague term that is substituted for one that is harsh or offensive.
- “To pass away” is a euphemism for “to die.”



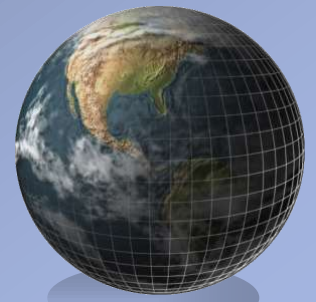
# Fascism

- A system of government with centralized authority under a dictator, stringent socioeconomic controls, suppression of the opposition through terror and censorship and usually a policy of belligerent nationalism and racism.



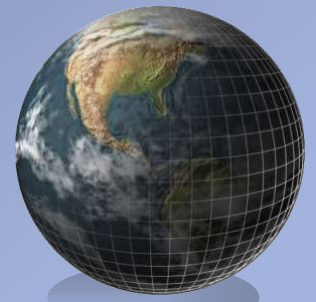
# Death camp

- Camps dedicated to the efficient murder of Jews and other victims;
- E.g. Auschwitz-Birkenau, Belzec, Chelmo, Madjanek, Sobibor, Treblinka.
- The terms was also used for concentration camps where thousands died of starvation and disease.



# Concentration camp

- Camps that were primarily used for slave labor
- Holding camps or
- Transit camps





# Names and Places

- Adolf Hitler
- Heinrich Himmler
- Adolph Eichmann
- Rudolph Hess
- Dr. Mengele
- Aryan Race
- Third Reich
- SS
- Gestapo
- Dachau
- Aushwitz
- Theresienstadt
- Selection
- Ghetto
- The Final Solution



# Adolf Hitler



“The Fuhrer,” dictator of Germany (Chancellor – 1933, President – 1934), a demagogue and tyrant who obtains power by appealing to the emotions and prejudices of the masses.

# Heinrich Himmler



The head of the SS.

# Adolph Eichmann



Devised the plan for  
the Final Solution.

# Rudolph Hess



The commander  
of Auschwitz.

# Dr. Mengele



“The Angel of Death,”  
a doctor who  
performed brutal,  
unnecessary  
experiments and  
operations upon  
prisoners.

# Aryan Race



The pure Germanic race, used by the Nazis to suggest a superior, non-Jewish Caucasian typified by height, blonde hair, blue eyes.

# Third Reich



The Third Republic of Germany which began with Hitler's rule in 1933 and ended with his defeat in 1945.



**SS**



“Schutz-Staffel” (literally defense echelon), established in 1929 as Hitler’s blackshirted bodyguards. They became the elite guards of the Nazis trained in brutality and put in charge of concentration camps.

# Gestapo



- The secret police organized in 1933 to uncover and undermine political opposition.
- German acronym for the German Secret State Police
  - Part of the SS
- Notorious for terrorism against enemies of the state.

# Dachau



A concentration camp used as a model for the death camps.

# Aushwitz



The largest death  
camp, located in  
Poland.

# Theresienstadt



The “model”  
concentration camp  
used to deceive the  
visiting International  
Red Cross. Many  
artists were  
imprisoned here and  
later killed.

# The Final Solution



The plan devised in 1941 to speed up the system of killing the Jews and “undesirables.”

The previous method of shooting and burying the dead was too “costly and inefficient.” This final method used an efficient system of gas chambers and crematories to kill the Jews. Six of these death camps were built and often were kept working round the clock, killing thousands per day.

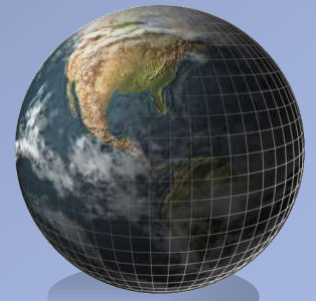
# Selection



Term used when the SS forced prisoners to line up for inspection and decided which prisoners would live and which would be killed.

# Jewish / Biblical terms to know

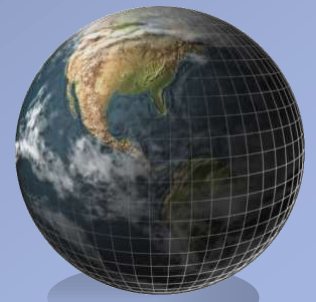
- Cabbala
- Hasidism
- Job
- Kaddish
- Maimonides
- Messiah
- Zohar
- Passover
- Pentecost
- Rosh Hashana
- Lazarus
- Synagogue
- Talmud
- Temple
- Yellow star
- Yom Kippur
- Zionism





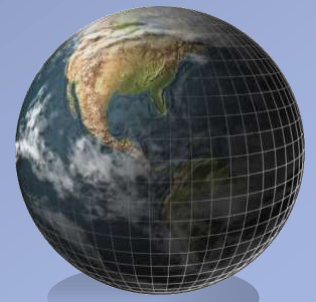
# Cabbala

- Jewish mysticism, including numerology.



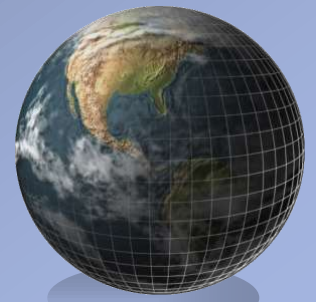
# Hasidism

- Movement of Orthodox Judaism with strong mystical and emotional elements.



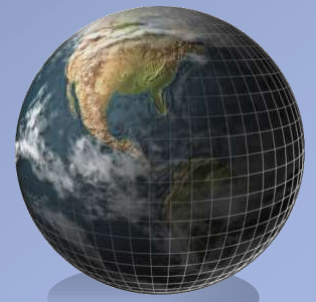
# Job

- Biblical figure who has come to symbolize suffering.



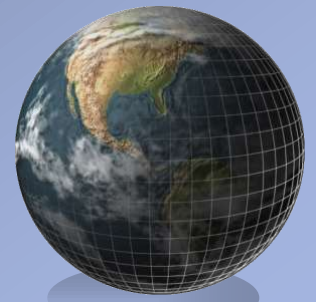
# Kaddish

- A prayer in Aramaic praising God. The mourner's Kaddish is said for the dead.



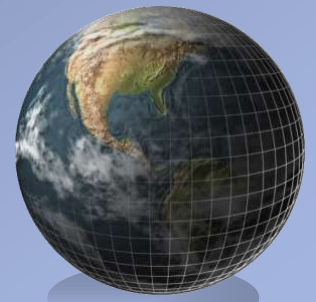
# Maimonides (1135-1204)

- Jewish rabbi
- Physician
- Philosopher



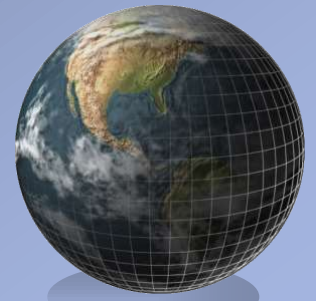
# Messiah

- Greek translation of Hebrew Mashiach
- The anointed one.



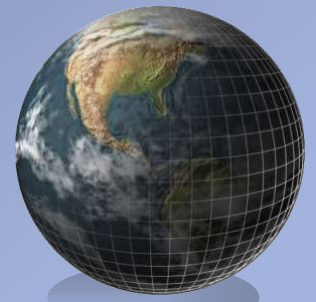
# Zohar

- From the Hebrew meaning light or splendor.
- One of the major works of the Cabbala.



# Passover

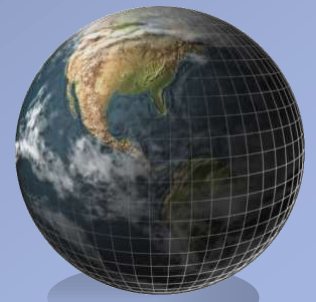
- Greek word for the celebration of the exodus of Jewish people from Slavery in Egypt.





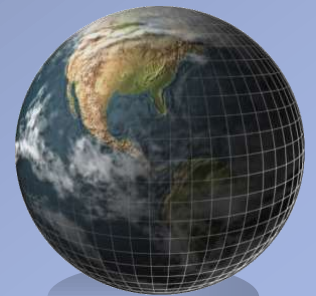
# Pentecost

- The celebration of the giving of the Torah.



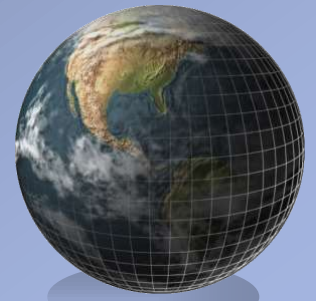
# Rosh Hashana

- Jewish New Year.



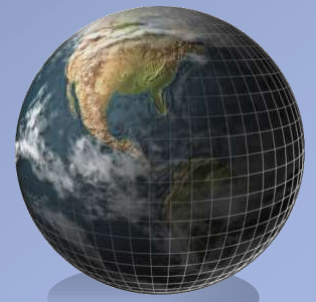
# Lazarus

- A man described in the Books of John and Luke as having been raised from the dead by Jesus.



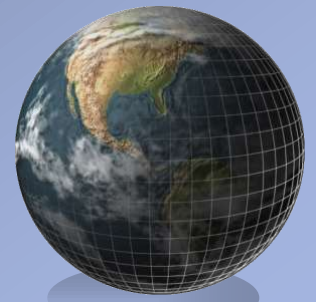
# Synagogue

- A Jewish house of worship and study.



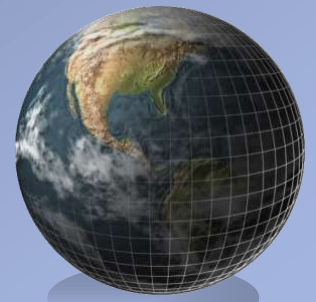
# Talmud

- The most important compilation of Jewish oral tradition.



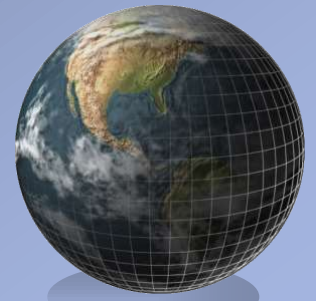
# Temple

- Holiest place in Judaism, located in Jerusalem. Biblically ordained sacrifices were performed here. Built and destroyed twice.



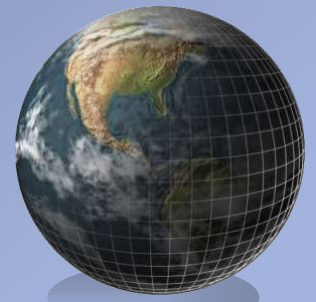
# Yellow Star

- Nazis forced Jews to wear a cloth badge with the word Jew written in the center of a yellow six pointed star.



# Yom Kippur

- Day of Atonement.
- Holiest day of Jewish year.
- When the Jews fast and pray for forgiveness of their sins.





# Zionism

- Political movement advocating the establishment of a Jewish state.

