



ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM
& EDUCATION CENTER

Answer Key – Vocabulary Comprehension

- **Annihilate** - to defeat overwhelmingly; to destroy a considerable part of; to cause to cease to exist
- **Aryan** – originally a term used to identify peoples speaking the languages of Europe and India; the Nazis changed it to mean “superior race,” described as white, tall, athletic, with blond hair and blue eyes
- **Bunker** - a protective embankment or dugout; a fortified chamber mostly below ground often built of reinforced concrete
- **Concentration Camp** – holding camps enemies of the Nazi party including actual and potential political opponents (e.g. communists, socialists, monarchists), Jehovah's Witnesses, gypsies, homosexuals, other "asocials", and Jewish people
- **Deportation** - the act of being forced to leave where one is living; the Nazis coerced, tricked, and forced prisoners to leave their homes or ghettos and board cattle cars destined for concentration camps and/or death camps where many did not survive the difficult journey
- **Ghetto** - a section of a city where all Jews from the surrounding areas were forced to reside, characterized by overcrowding, starvation, and forced labor
- **Haggadah** – book of readings for Seder service during Passover
- **Judenrat** - council of Jewish representatives in communities and ghettos set up by the Nazis to carry out their instructions
- **Liquidate** - to do away with, especially by killing
- **Molotov cocktail** - a crude bomb made of a bottle filled with a flammable liquid (such as gasoline) and usually fitted with a wick (such as a saturated

rag) that is ignited just before the bottle is hurled

- **Partisan** - resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied countries
- **Passover** - a Jewish holiday typically in March or April that commemorates the Hebrews' liberation from slavery in Egypt, spring, birth and rebirth, and of taking responsibility for yourself, your community, and the world
- **Raze** – to demolish
- **Zionist** – member of an international movement originally for the establishment of a Jewish national or religious community in Palestine and later for the support of modern Israel

Sources:

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/>

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/holocaust-glossary>