

Life during the war

1. Study the timeline below

(http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/country_profiles/1054724.stm)

and answer the question: What were the consequences of the presented events on Polish citizens and their life?

1939 - Nazi Germany invades Poland. The Soviet Union invades from the east. Germany and the Soviet Union divide Poland between them and treat Polish citizens with extreme brutality. Germany begins systematic persecution of the large Jewish population.

1940 - Soviet secret police carry out systematic massacre of about 22,000 Polish army officers, professionals and civil servants mainly in a forest near Katyn in Russia's Smolensk Region. The Soviet Union attributed the crime to the Nazis until acknowledging responsibility in the late 1980s.

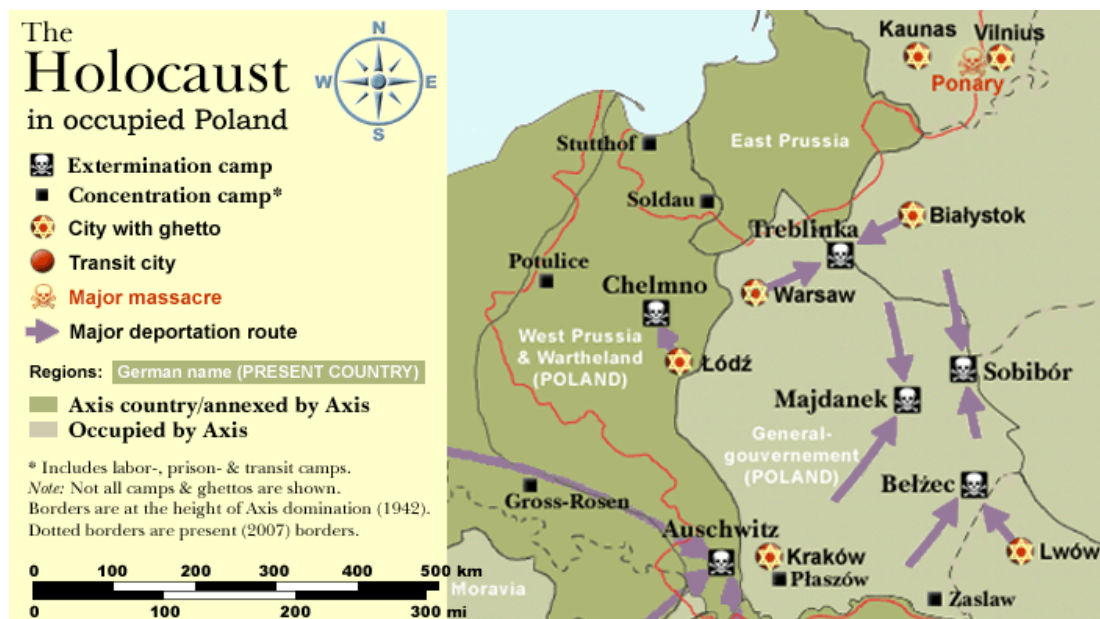
1941 - Germans start to build concentration camps in Poland. Their names - Auschwitz, Treblinka, Majdanek - become synonymous with the Holocaust.

1943 - Warsaw ghetto uprising against German attempts to transport the remaining Jewish inhabitants to concentration camps. Resistance lasts nearly four weeks before the ghetto is burned down. The Germans announce the capture of more than 50,000 Jews.

1944 - Polish resistance forces take control of Warsaw in August. The Germans recapture the city in October and burn it to the ground.

1945 - Soviet forces capture Warsaw in January. All German forces are driven from Poland by March. Poland's borders are set by the post-war Potsdam conference; Poland loses territory to the Soviet Union but gains some from Germany.

2. Have a look at the map below and try to interpret it.



3. Watch the film and answer the question: Can you imagine yourself being a prisoner of Auschwitz?

‘Surviving the Holocaust: Zanne Farbstein's Story’

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2iEdfrTOWU>