

Abhorrent	detestable; loathsome; extreme disgust
Abominable	nasty and disgusting; highly unpleasant; very bad
Abstraction	a generality; an idea or thought separated from concrete reality
Abyss	deep, immeasurable space, unfathomable
Accomplices	a person who knowingly helps another in a crime or wrongdoing
Achtung	German for attention
Afflicted	affected with something painful or distressing
Allies	Britain, France, Soviet Union, and US, which fought against Germany, Italy, and Japan (Axis)
Anecdotes	short, entertaining, personal stories
Anguish	pain; suffering; distress
Annihilate	destroy completely; exterminate
Antechamber	waiting room
Anti-Semitism	systematic prejudice or extreme hatred against Jews
Apartheid	a rigid policy of segregation; separation of people
Apathy	lack of interest or emotion; indifference
Appeasing	satisfying; relieving
Appelplatz	"roll call" or "area or place"
Aryan	in Nazi ideology, the pure, superior Germanic race
Atom Bomb	powerful weapon created from atoms; President Truman used on Japanese cities to end WW2
Atonement	repayment for wrong doing; making amends
Auschwitz	the largest extermination camp/prison
Austerlitz	Czech city; or name of railroad station headed eastbound
Automatons	something that operates automatically in response to instructions
Avidly	eagerly or enthusiastically
Axis	the alliance of Germany, Italy, and Japan
Balm	something healing or soothing to mind
Base	inferior, undignified
Beadle	in Judaism refers to the caretaker of the synagogue
Beastial	like a beast or animal
Benediction	a formal blessing; calling upon God during a religious service
Beseeking	eagerly or eagerly asking for something
Bewilderment	to confuse or puzzle
Big Three	Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt. They worked to defeat Germany.
Billeted	lodged; used to refer to temporary lodging of military person in private homes

Birkenau	was part of Auschwitz, a concentration camp
Blandishments	something used to coax or tempt
Buna	a sub-camp of Auschwitz, mainly a work camp/concentration camp
Cabbala	a system of Jewish teaching about God and the world based on miracle and faith
Camaraderie	brotherhood; good fellowship
Churchill	Sir Winston Churchill was the Prime Minister of Great Britain during the war
Colic	an attack of abdominal (stomach) pain
Compatriots	fellow countrymen
Compulsory	required; mandatory
Concentration Camp	a prison or camp where prisoners were brought, held, transported, and often killed
Congeaing	thickening
Constraint	restriction, especially of feelings and behaviors
Contagion	an influence that spreads rapidly
Convalescent home	a place where people got to recover from illness
Conviction	a firmly held belief or opinion
Countenance	face or features of the face
Crucible	container for cooking at high heat
D Day	invasion of Normandy, France, by the allies
Death Camp	camps dedicated to the efficient murder of Jews and other victims; concentration camps
Decisive	scorn; ridicule
Deportation	used during the Holocaust to mean removal of Jews from home or ghetto to camps
Deportees	a person sentenced to be banished
Derision	ridicule; mockery
Dictator	a person who has complete power and authority over a country (Hitler)
Din	a loud, continuous noise
Divine	having or coming from God
Dissident	to differ in opinion; disagreeing
Dregs	small quantity; the sediment or least valuable part
Dysentery	intestinal disease causing stomach pain; if untreated in young or old- often fatal
Edict	official statement; law
Einsatzgruppen	mobile killing units that killed Jews and others deemed "undesirable" by the Nazis
Eisenhower	supreme commander of the Allied forces during the war; 34th President of the US
Eloquence	practice of using language with fluency and aptness
Eluded	to avoid or escape by speed, cleverness, and trickery

Emaciated	marked by abnormal thinness caused by starvation or disease
Embarkation	beginning of a journey
Emigrate	to leave a country and settle in another
Encumbered	to be burdened
Entities	beings
Expound	to set forth in detail
Famished	weakened from hunger
Farce	exaggerated comedy; something ridiculous
Fascist	political movement that puts the nation and race above the individual; led by a dictator and often strict
Final Solution	Hitler's plan to kill the Jews of Europe
Firmament	the sky or heavens
Fortnight	space of two weeks
Functionaries	people who perform certain expected duties, especially official functions
Genocide	deliberate annihilation of an entire people or nation
Gestapo	secret German police
Ghettos	occupied territory where people were forced to live in segregated portions
Grimace	twisting or distortion of the face expressing pain, contempt, or disgust
Guerrillas	small groups of soldiers, often volunteers, who make surprise attacks or raids
Gypsy	travelers from place to place
Haggard	worn; tired; exhausted
Harangued	scolded, especially in a noisy and bullying way
Hasidic	describes branch of orthodox Judaism which focuses on the Rabbi
Hasten	to quicken; to hurry
Hermetically	completely sealed; airtight
Himmler	head of SS and principal planner of Jews' total extermination
Hillock	a small hill or mound
Hiroshima	Japanese city on which the first atomic bomb was dropped on August 6th, 1945
Hitler	Adolf Hitler was the dictator of Germany during the war
Holocaust	from Hebrew word meaning "burnt offering"
Home front	term given to the US mainland during the war
Idleness	inactivity or laziness
Immigrate	to come into a new country or region
Imperceptibly	slightly; gradually; difficult to understand; obscure
Implored	begged; pleaded sincerely

Imprudent	not prudent; rash; not cautious
Incite	to urge to act; to provoke
Inconsiderable	small as in value, amount, or size; not worth consideration
Indeterminate	not fixed in advance; vague or unclear
Indifferent	lack of concern, interest, or feeling; apathy
Inert	motionless; lacking the ability to move or act
Inhibition	act of holding back
Innumerable	too numerous to be counted; very many
Insinuate	to hint or suggest shyly
Interminable	endless or seeming to be endless
Jews	people persecuted by Hitler and the Nazis because of their religion; he blamed them for Germany's problems
Judenrat	Jewish community authority, ultimately required to choose Jews for transport
Kabbalah	Jewish doctrine or mystical tradition
Kaddish	Jewish prayer for dead
Kapos	privileged prisoner in camp in charge of supervising other prisoners or leading work detail
Knell	sound of a bell, especially run slowly at a funeral or used to indicate a bad omen (sign)
Kristallnacht	"night of broken glass"; organized attacks by Nazis on November 9th, 1938; afterward sent to camps for "own protection"
Lagerkapo	the head of a camp
Lamentation	an expression of grief and sadness
Leprous	showing signs of leprosy, which is an infectious disease that affects body tissue
Liquidated	eliminated; dispose of, as by killing
Livid	discolored from a bruise
Lorries	trucks
Lucidity	clarify; cleverness; purity
Maimonides	a medieval Jewish scholar
Manacle	to handcuff
Meager	lacking fullness or richness; inadequate
Melancholy	gloom; depression; sadness
Mengele	SS officer and Doctor, known for supervising selection and performing human experiments
Messiah	the anointed one; the selected one
Mirage	optical illusion
Monotonous	tiresome; little variation; extreme boredom
Mussolini	dictator of Italy during the war
Mysticism	belief that God, or spiritual truth can be best understood through insight or intuition

Nagasaki	Japanese city on which the second atomic bomb was dropped on August 9th, 1945
Nazi	political party led by Hitler; the sole political party in Germany; commanded by Hitler
Nocturnal	of or happening during the night
Noncommissioned officer	a low ranking officer who was appointed from among the enlisted men
Notorious	widely unfavorably known
Numerology	an occult system, built around numbers, foretelling of the future; exploring the unknown
Oberkapo	in charge at camps; known for extreme cruelty
Oblivion	state of being completely forgotten
Optimism	belief that good wins over evil; look on favorable side
Partisan	a supporter of a person, group, or party
Pearl Harbor	American base in Hawaii that was bombed by Japanese on December 7th, 1941; forced US to enter war
Pentecost	in Hebrew, the celebration of the giving of the Torah
Penury	extreme poverty or destitution
Perilous	involving or full of great risk or peril; dangerous
Pestilential	filled with disease; contagious
Phylacteries	small boxes containing scripture/religious documents; worn by Jewish men
Pillage	to rob with open violence
Pious	very religious; devout
Pipel	young boy assistant
Plaintive	sad or mournful
Poignant	distressing; strongly affecting one's emotions
Premonition	anticipation of an event; usually negative
Prolonged	long; drawn-out
Quarantine	a strict isolation imposed to prevent spread of disease
Queue	waiting line
Rabbi	a scholar or teacher of Jewish law; the spiritual leader of the Jewish congregation
Ration	to allow only certain amounts of food, gas, and other goods to each person
Raucous	loud and rough sounding; hoarse
Red Army	the regular army of the former Soviet Union
Relocation camps	special camps in US where Japanese Americans were detained after the bombing of Pearl Harbor
Reprieve	postponement of a penalty; temporary relief from
Rescind	to revoke or repeal
Rivet	to hold attention tightly OR small metal nail that joins two pieces of metal
Roosevelt	Franklin D. Roosevelt was 32nd President of US; elected 4 times

Rosie the Riveter	symbol of American women who went to work in factories during the war
Sage	a profoundly wise person
Sanctity	saintliness or holiness
Semblance	outward appearance, but with a sense of falsity (untruth)
Spasmodically	violently or fitfully; intermittently
SS	elite police and military units; loyalty to Hitler; responsible for most crimes against humanity
Stalin	Joseph Stalin was the dictator of the Soviet Union from 1929-1953
Stench	offensive smell or odor
Stifled	suffocated or smothered
Stricken	struck down; having pain or suffering
Stupefied	stunned; amazed
Summarily	hastily; quickly; arbitrarily
Surreptitiously	done or made by stealth or secret
Swastika	emblem of the Nazi flag
Synagogue	a Jewish house of worship and study
Talmud	the authoritative (governing) body of Jewish tradition
Tether	a rope or chain fastened to something to keep in in bounds
Tojo	General Hideki Tojo; military dictator who controlled Japan during the war
Transcended	rise above or go beyond
Traumatized	to injure by force
Treatise	a formal article or book on a particular subject
Truman	Harry S. Truman; 33rd President of the US after Roosevelt died
Truncheon	a police officer's stick
Unremittingly	constantly; persistent
Vain	concerned with oneself or appearances
VE Day	Victory in Europe Day when Germany surrendered on May 8th, 1945
VJ Day	Victory in Japan when Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945
Veritable	being truly or very much so
Veteran	soldier who returns from war
Vigilance	state of extreme watchfulness
Visionary	given to or characterized by fanciful views or visions
Waiflike	a person, especially a child, who is homeless, friendless, or neglected
War bonds	certificates sold by the US government to pay for war
Weary	tired; exhausted; fatigued

Wizened	shrunk, wrinkled
Yellow Star	Nazis forced Jews to wear a cloth badge with Jew written on it; a yellow 6 pointed star
Zionism	movement established of a Jewish national or religious community
Zohar	from Hebrew meaning light or splendor

