

Short lesson 6: What was Dachau? (Part 2)

How did the Dachau concentration camp change from 1933-45?

Lesson 6 overview



Hello again!

In this 30 minute lesson you are going to;

- 6 a) Look at 3 more sources about Dachau and complete the timeline cards for each one. (15 mins.)

- 6 b) Reflect on what your timeline shows you about what Dachau was and how it changed over time (10 mins.)

- 6 c) Take a final quiz to help reflect on some of the things you have learned over the 6 short lessons on Nazi concentration camps. (5 mins.)



Key terms for this lesson

Term	Meaning
asocial	Someone seen as not 'fitting in' to 'normal' society
communist	An idea of abolishing differences in social class
D-Day	The June 6, 1944 invasion of Nazi-occupied Normandy
dilapidated	Run-down, not looked after
indoctrinate	Teach someone to believe something without questioning it
liberate	Set free
musselmänner	Prisoners who are sick and ill, known as 'the living dead'
Operation Barbarossa	The Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union, 22 nd June 1941
satellite camp	Where concentration camp inmates went to work
SS	A paramilitary organisation in charge of guarding the camps
Reichsbanner	A paramilitary, pro-democracy group

6 a) Completing your Dachau timeline



First, you are now going to finish creating your timeline to show how Dachau changed over time, why.

You will look at 3 further sources this lesson that all reveal something about the camp. Again, each one has a card for you to complete, to help you identify some of the key features of the camp. Some prompts are given on the cards to help you identify the information to look for in each source.

6 a) Creating a Dachau timeline



The following cards follow on the next 3 slides relate to 3 documents you need to find and read on the Nazi concentration camps website. They are;

046 – The Jewish survivor Ladislaus Ervin-deutsch on night shifts in a Kaufering satellite camp



054 – The Soviet slave labourer Victor C. on youths and children in Dachau



112 – The liberation of Dachau, diary entry by the German prisoner Edgar Kupfer



Soviet Prisoners



‘there were 200 boys like us’

Key Information	
Date	
Prisoner numbers	
Who was imprisoned?	
Camp conditions	What words does a Soviet prisoner use to describe conditions in the camp?
Explanations	
Broader context	In June 1941, which military operation did the Nazis launch, and how did this effect prisoners in a camp like Dachau?

Construction



'Deaths no longer aroused much interest'

Key Information	
Date	
Prisoner numbers	
Who was imprisoned?	
Camp conditions	
Explanations	What sort of projects did the Nazis force prisoners to work on?
Broader context	At this date, how is the war going for Germany?

Freedom



‘my life was given back to me’

Key Information	
Date	
Prisoner numbers	
Who was imprisoned?	
Camp conditions	
Explanations	
Broader context	Who ‘liberated’ Dachau? Why was it this country, and not one of the other Allies?

6 b) Reflection on 'What was Dachau'?



You have now looked at several sources about what Dachau was and how it changed over time.

Either as a list, or a mind map, reflect on what information you have encountered and create 3-5 statements that summarise what you have learnt about the camp.

Here's one to get you started.

1) Dachau was opened in 1933, when it was used as a prison for political opponents to the Nazis. Most were kept for a short while, and then released as Hitler consolidated his power.

6 c) Final quiz



So now you have completed these six short lessons, what have you learnt about the Nazi concentration camp system?

On the next slide are 8 True/False statements about the camps.

On a piece of paper record which are True and which False. For those that are false, can you explain why?

6 c) Final quiz

True or False?

1. There were many different types of camps set up by the Nazis, such as labour camps, prisoner-of-war camps and death camps.
2. Overcrowding in camps like Stutthof and Bergen-Belsen often led to the spread of diseases which as typhus, which killed many inmates.
3. Most concentration camps were established in Nazi-occupied France.
4. Camps such as Dachau often changed over time, depending on what was happening before and during the Second World War
5. Camps were always well built and staffed with only German members of the SS
6. Some camps, such as Ravensbrück were just for women.
7. Once camps were opened, the number of inmates at any one time hardly ever changed much.
8. As historians, when we look at original sources, it doesn't really matter where they come from, it's what they tell us that's important.

6 c) Final True/False quiz answers

1. There were many different types of camps set up by the Nazis, such as labour camps, prisoner-of-war camps and death camps. **True**
2. Overcrowding in camps like Stutthof and Bergen-Belsen often led to the spread of diseases which as typhus, which killed many inmates. **True**
3. Most concentration camps were established in Nazi-occupied France. **False**
4. Camps such as Dachau often changed over time, depending on what was happening before and during the Second World War **True**
5. Camps were always well built and staffed with only German members of the SS **False**
6. Some camps, such as Ravensbrück were just for women. **True**
7. Once camps were opened, the number of inmates at any one time hardly ever changed much. **False**
8. As historians, when we look at original sources, it doesn't really matter where they come from, it's what they tell us that's important. **False**

Why study the camps?



In the Introduction to these short lessons, you will have read Primo Levi's quote that;

'It was clear to each and every one of us that the things we had seen needed to be told and should not be forgotten.'

Now you have developed your knowledge and understanding about the camps, why do you think Primo Levi was so determined that the camps and what happened in the Holocaust should be told and never be forgotten?

End of short lesson 5

Well done!

Congratulations! You have now completed all six short lessons about the Nazi concentration camps. We hope you have found them helpful and hope your knowledge and understanding of the camps has really developed.

If you are interested in any more of our online courses, then go to our website;

<https://www.holocausteducation.org.uk/>

‘What was Dachau?’

How did the Dachau concentration camp change from 1933-45?

Credit with thanks for the free icons that are used in the creation of this resource;

<https://lineicon.com/free-icons/book-reading-1453161>

<https://www.freeiconspng.com/downloading/14594>

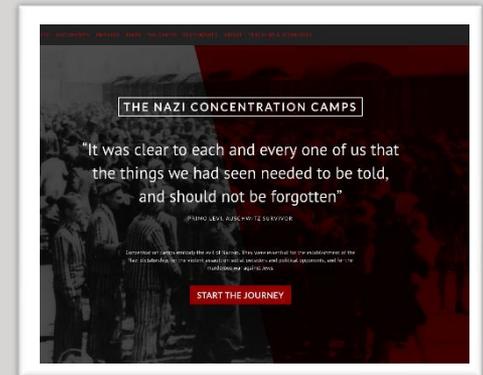
<https://d1png.com/png/5393639>

https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/hand-writing_1617609

https://www.clipartkey.com/downpng/bboTbh_answer-bubble-conversation-help-question-quiz-quiz-icon/

<https://www.onlinewebfonts.com/icon/372423>

https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/laptop_22819



Centre for Holocaust Education

Institute of Education, University of London, 20 Bedford Way, London, WC1H 0AL,

tel: +44(0)20 7612 6437 fax: +44(0)20 7612 6126 email: holocaust@ioe.ac.uk web: www.ioe.ac.uk/holocaust

The IOE's Centre for Holocaust Education is jointly funded by Pears Foundation and the Department for Education.