



Phillip Rodney on Wolfgang Rimalower



Questions & Glossary

1. In what ways did antisemitism affect Wolfgang's life?
2. What was the effect of Wolfgang's experience on Phillip? How did it affect his life when growing up or as an adult?
3. What does Philip think Holocaust Memorial Day means for us today?
4. Discuss – why was it so hard for Wolfgang to escape? What could have made things easier?

Glossary

Aryan

Term used by the Nazis to refer to exclude groups of people from German society, namely Jews, Roma and people of colour. Historically the word was a more neutral term that was manipulated – there is no racial group that can be defined as 'Aryan'.

Gestapo

The German Secret State Police, which was under SS control. The Nazi regime relied on them to maintain and protect their power.

Ghetto

Areas within a city that were used to separate Jews from the rest of the population during World War II. This occurred while Nazi leadership was deciding on the best way to remove Jewish populations.

Kindertransport

From German, meaning 'children's transport'. Programme approved by the British government, allowing the admission of almost 10,000 mostly Jewish child refugees from central Europe following Kristallnacht, until the outbreak

of war. Due to immigration restrictions, the children were unaccompanied by parents and had to be sponsored by welfare agencies.

Kristallnacht

From German, meaning 'Night of Broken Glass'. A nationwide action, organised by the Nazis, on the night of 9th-10th November 1938 in which Jewish businesses and homes were attacked and looted, synagogues burned,

and 91 people killed. More than 30,000 Jews were held in concentration camps until they agreed to leave Germany. Also called the 'November Pogrom'.

Pogrom is a Russian word meaning a violent riot and has historically referred to anti-Jewish violence.

SS

The SS, short for *Schutzstaffel* (German for "Protection Squadron"), was originally formed as Adolf Hitler's personal bodyguard unit. Over time, it grew into one of the most powerful and feared organizations in Nazi Germany. The SS was in charge of protecting Hitler, enforcing Nazi policies, and controlling German secret police and concentration camps. They played a central role in carrying out the Holocaust and other crimes during World War II. The SS acted above the law and was responsible for many acts of violence, discrimination, and terror in the Nazi state.

Tefillin

Black leather boxes containing Hebrew parchment scrolls with leather straps so the wearer can secure one to their head and one to their arm.