AMERICANS
AND THE HOLOCAUST

INTERPRETING NEWS OF WORLD EVENTS 1933–1938
Worksheet Answer Key  The Healdsburg Tribune

Newspaper Information
1. What is the name of the newspaper? The Healdsburg Tribune
2. In which city/state was the newspaper printed? Sonoma County, California
3. On what date was this newspaper printed? December 28, 1935

What was reported on that day?
1. Which headline catches your attention the most? All headlines are of roughly the same size font and length. Most are related to local stories. Any example from the page is acceptable as long as students are able to explain their thinking.
2. How many articles relate to international news? 3
   National news? 6
   Local news? 6
3. Which articles are accompanied by photos, if any? There is a photo with “Indicted Dealer In Army Supplies” who was indicated for war contract frauds. There is another photo of a woman whose son was murdered in Los Angeles.

Reports of Persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany
1. What is the headline and subhead of the article on the boycott/Nuremberg Laws/Olympics? “National Sports Body Favors The German Olympics"
2. Where is the article located on the page (top half, lower half, below headline, etc.)? Lower half of the page
3. How prominent is the article? How long is it? The article is not prominently located on the page and is short, only two paragraphs.
4. Characterize the article headline in three words? Dull, brief, matter of fact, lacking specifics/details

(continued)
Interpreting the Newspaper

1. Which of the articles from that day would a reader have been most concerned by? Why?

“Major Issues Fewer in 1936 Congress” covers a range of issues that were to be covered in the upcoming legislative session, including some controversial measures like neutrality, public works plans, soldier bonus, housing, food and drug regulation, and an inflation bill. These new pieces of legislation had the possibility of impacting average Americans’ lives.

2. What does this article reveal about the information Americans had about the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany?

People may have been aware of the treatment of Jews in Germany to the extent that it became a significant factor in one side (the Amateur Athletic Union) advocating for a US boycott of the 1936 Berlin Olympics, while the other side (the American Olympic Committee) advocated for going in spite of the situation on the ground there. Thus, it became the subject of an American debate with actions influenced by disapproval of the persecution of Jews in Germany. Ultimately, the side opposing the boycott won the fight, as the article indicates.

3. In light of the issues of the day and what you know about this time period, how might readers have reacted to this story?

This particular debate, because it was focused on a US choice and related to an event in the international spotlight, did capture the attention of the American public. Both sides argued vociferously for their position. In the end, it was decided that the US would send a team to participate in the games, although some athletes made personal decisions to boycott the games for moral reasons.
INTERPRETING NEWS OF WORLD EVENTS 1933–1938
Worksheet Answer Key  Indianapolis News

Newspaper Information
1. What is the name of the newspaper? Indianapolis News
2. In which city/state was the newspaper printed? Indianapolis, Indiana
3. On what date was this newspaper printed? September 16, 1935

What was reported on that day?
1. Which headline catches your attention the most? “Deaths of 9 Intensify Safety Campaign” is very dominant on the page.
   Any example from the page is acceptable as long as students are able to explain their thinking.
2. How many articles relate to international news? 4
   National news? 2
   Local news? 7
3. Which articles are accompanied by photos, if any? There is a political cartoon “The Wall Flower” that does not appear to be related to any particular article.

Reports of Persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany
1. What is the headline and subhead of the article on the boycott/Nuremberg Laws/Olympics? “Reichstag Denies Jews Citizenship: Law Bans Marriage With ‘Aryans’—Swastika Now Germany’s Flag”
2. Where is the article located on the page (top half, lower half, below headline, etc.)? Middle of the page
3. How prominent is the article? How long is it? It is fairly long on the front page and continues on page 4. It is adjacent to important international articles about looming war.
4. Characterize the article headline in three words? Conveys the notion that citizenship has been revoked, Assigns blame to the Reichstag rather than Hitler (in the previous article), takes a more neutral approach than the previous article

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Student Worksheet (continued)

Interpreting the Newspaper

1. Which of the articles from that day would a reader have been most concerned by? Why?

   Two articles explicitly mention war. Americans at this time were heavily isolationist and skeptical of becoming involved in any international conflicts. Reading three articles about potential war would have been alarming to readers. Three articles deal with local safety issues that could have had a direct impact on the community and would have been of great concern to readers.

2. What does this article reveal about the information Americans had about the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany?

   The article reveals that Americans are aware of the ongoing persecution of Jews in Germany, who are being targeted by legal measures. This particular set of laws revoked Jews’ citizenship, which was a significant and escalated way of defining, isolating, and discriminating against the Jewish population in Germany.

3. In light of the issues of the day and what you know about this time period, how might readers have reacted to this story?

   Americans had been aware of Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany for some time by September 1935 and the shock of these types of stories had begun to diminish. Americans, who expressed and held isolationist views at this time, were reluctant to become entangled in foreign conflicts, so news about the potential for war would have been of more concern and alarm to average American citizens.
INTERPRETING NEWS OF WORLD EVENTS 1933–1938
Worksheet Answer Key  Salt Lake Telegram

Newspaper Information
1. What is the name of the newspaper?  Salt Lake Telegram
2. In which city/state was the newspaper printed?  Salt Lake City, Utah
3. On what date was this newspaper printed?  April 1, 1933

What was reported on that day?
1. Which headline catches your attention the most? Students will likely choose either “Roosevelt cuts veteran benefits by $400,000,000” because of its large headline and prominence on the page or “Nazis Launch Jew Boycott” because of photos accompanying the article. Any example from the page is acceptable as long as students are able to explain their thinking.
2. How many articles relate to international news?  2
   National news?  12
   Local news?  1
3. Which articles are accompanied by photos, if any? One article, “Nazis Launch Jew Boycott,” features two prominent photos.

Reports of Persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany
1. What is the headline and subhead of the article on the boycott/Nuremberg Laws/Olympics?  “Nazis Launch Jew Boycott: Brown Shirts Tramp Through Berlin Posting Signs of Warning”
2. Where is the article located on the page (top half, lower half, below headline, etc.)?  One photo appears on top half, another photo and the article are mid-page.
3. How prominent is the article? How long is it? The photos are more prominent than the article itself. The article is 8.5 paragraphs on the front page and continues on page 2. It grabs the reader’s attention because it is the only article featuring images and has two associated photographs depicting scenes in Nazi Germany. The headline above the photos reads “German scenes recall days of war.”
4. Characterize the article headline in three words? The headline is straightforward, short, and matter of fact. It is not sensationalized.

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Student Worksheet (continued)

Interpreting the Newspaper

1. Which of the articles from that day would a reader have been most concerned by? Why?
   
   Cuts to veteran benefits that would affect thousands, possibly “Job applications Flood U.S. Offices.” Both speak to the challenges wrought in the United States by the Great Depression and the continuing struggles Americans faced in 1933.

2. What does this article reveal about the information Americans had about the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany?
   
   The article reveals that news was available to American readers as early as April 1933. The Nazi boycott of Jewish businesses was the first significant anti-Jewish measure taken by the Nazis and was intended to garner international attention. The photos depict many state officials participating in this effort to publicly target Jewish businesses.

3. In light of the issues of the day and what you know about this time period, how might readers have reacted to this story?
   
   Americans were shocked by the earliest news of Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany. However, they were more concerned about the struggles that would have directly impacted their own families at a time of economic distress, as indicated by the article describing efforts to lower rents for families facing salary cuts. A cut of $400,000,000 dollars to veteran benefits in 1933 is the equivalent of $7.5 billion today. Many American families, following conflicts of the early 20th century and World War I, would have included veterans who could have been affected by these cuts.
INTERPRETING NEWS OF WORLD EVENTS 1933–1938
Worksheet Answer Key  Tuscaloosa News

Newspaper Information
1. What is the name of the newspaper?  Tuscaloosa News
2. In which city/state was the newspaper printed?  Tuscaloosa, Alabama
3. On what date was this newspaper printed?  September 16, 1935

What was reported on that day?
1. Which headline catches your attention the most? Largest headlines are “Boycott Plans Mapped at Geneva” and “Long’s Aide Charges District Attorney With Plot” Other headlines are sensational including one about a probe of an actress’s death and a detective who is sentenced to six months behind bars months for perjury. Any example from the page is acceptable as long as students are able to explain their thinking.

2. How many articles relate to international news? 6

   National news?  7

   Local news?  2

3. Which articles are accompanied by photos, if any? Two articles, 1 photo for “Approval Of Cash Bonus Predicted by Van Zandt” and 2 photos for “Pair Freed on Bond in Probe of Actress’s Death”

Reports of Persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany
1. What is the headline and subhead of the article on the boycott/Nuremberg Laws/Olympics?  Hitler Relegates Jews To Their Medieval Status: Nazi Forces Pass New Anti-Semitic Laws, Proclaim Swastika As The Reich’s National Flag

2. Where is the article located on the page (top half, lower half, below headline, etc.)?  Lower half

3. How prominent is the article? How long is it?  It is not well located on the page, though the headline stands out from the open space behind it.

4. Characterize the article headline in three words?  Bold, strongly worded, definitive, conveys a sense of alarm, descriptive, demonizes Hitler for these actions

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Student Worksheet (continued)

Interpreting the Newspaper

1. Which of the articles from that day would a reader have been most concerned by? Why?

   There are a number of sensational articles that day that would have drawn readers' attention. However, three articles explicitly mention war. Americans at this time were heavily isolationist and skeptical of becoming involved in any international conflicts. Reading three articles about the potential for war would have alarmed readers.

2. What does this article reveal about the information Americans had about the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany?

   The article reveals that Americans were aware of the ongoing persecution of Jews in Germany, who are being targeted by legal measures. This particular set of laws revoked Jews' citizenship, which was a significant and escalated way of defining, isolating, and discriminating against the Jewish population in Germany.

3. In light of the issues of the day and what you know about this time period, how might readers have reacted to this story?

   Americans had been aware of Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany for some time by September 1935 and the shock of these types of stories had begun to diminish. Americans, who expressed and held isolationist views at this time, were reluctant to become entangled in foreign conflicts, so news about the potential for war would have been of more concern and alarm to average American citizens.
INTERPRETING NEWS OF WORLD EVENTS 1933–1938
Worksheet Answer Key  The Washington Times

Newspaper Information
1. What is the name of the newspaper? The Washington Times
2. In which city/state was the newspaper printed? Washington, DC
3. On what date was this newspaper printed? April 1, 1933

What was reported on that day?
1. Which headline catches your attention the most? Roosevelt Slashes Vet Benefits (many possible answers depending on what students are drawn to). Any example from the page is acceptable as long as students are able to explain their thinking.

2. How many articles relate to international news? 1
National news? 7
Local news? 6

3. Which articles are accompanied by photos, if any? Belgian Girl Apple Queen & Spanish Envoy to Salvador Weds Washington Girl

Reports of Persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany
1. What is the headline and subhead of the article on the boycott/Nuremberg Laws/Olympics? Nazi Boycott Halts Trade in Germany: Patrons Barred From Jewish Shops; Pickets on Duty at Proscribed Shops
2. Where is the article located on the page (top half, lower half, below headline, etc.)? Top half of page
3. How prominent is the article? How long is it? It is high on the page and a longer story compared to others. It has multiple breaks with mini-headlines between article paragraphs.
4. Characterize the article headline in three words? Clear, Financial-Sounding Language (use of “trade,”), matter-of-fact description of events shows no emotion about or sensationalization of events

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Student Worksheet (continued)

Interpreting the Newspaper

1. Which of the articles from that day would a reader have been most concerned by? Why?
   Slashed payments to veterans that would affect thousands, possibly “Score of Apartments Cut Rents.” Both speak to the challenges wrought in the United States by the Great Depression and the continuing struggles Americans faced in 1933 to pay rents and provide for their families. On a local level, readers may have been worried by the story “Girl, 19, Disappears: Family Asks Search” because a danger may have been present in their local community. Again, any answer that students have thought through is acceptable.

2. What does this article reveal about the information Americans had about the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany?
   The article reveals that news was available to American readers as early as April 1933. The Nazi boycott of Jewish businesses was the first significant anti-Jewish measure taken by the Nazis and was intended to garner international attention.

3. In light of the issues of the day and what you know about this time period, how might readers have reacted to this story?
   Americans were shocked by the earliest news of Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany. However, they were more concerned about the struggles that would have directly impacted their own families at a time of economic distress, as indicated by the article describing efforts to lower rents for families facing salary cuts. A cut of $400,000,000 dollars to veteran benefits in 1933 is the equivalent of $7.5 billion today. Many American families, following conflicts of the early 20th century and World War I, would have included veterans who could have been affected by these cuts.
INTERPRETING NEWS OF WORLD EVENTS 1933–1938
Worksheet Answer Key  Youngstown Vindicator

Newspaper Information
1. What is the name of the newspaper?  Youngstown Vindicator
2. In which city/state was the newspaper printed?  Youngstown, Ohio
3. On what date was this newspaper printed?  December 8, 1935

What was reported on that day?
1. Which headline catches your attention the most?  “Hauptmann Loses in Supreme Court” is bold, in all caps, and at the top of the page, referencing the Lindbergh baby kidnapping case. Any example from the page is acceptable as long as students are able to explain their thinking.
2. How many articles relate to international news?  2

   National news?  7

   Local news?  10

3. Which articles are accompanied by photos, if any?  Photo of Ethiopian War Minister who witnessed nine Italian planes drop bombs on Ethiopian city. Photo of Mrs. Ossie Drimmer who flew to New York so she could make her way to Sweden for Christmas.

Reports of Persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany
1. What is the headline and subhead of the article on the boycott/Nuremberg Laws/Olympics?  Olympic Boycott Beaten In Fiery A.A.U. Battle: Compromise Adopted as Anti-Nazis Lose Fight to Bar Athletes from Berlin--Association President Resigns

2. Where is the article located on the page (top half, lower half, below headline, etc.)?  Top half of page

3. How prominent is the article? How long is it?  It is fairly prominent in location and with space allotted for the headline and sub-headline.

4. Characterize the article headline in three words?  Dramatic (“beaten in fiery battle”), detailed (reference “A.A.U.” for Amateur Athletic Union), described in terms of a fight/battle between sides

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Student Worksheet (continued)

Interpreting the Newspaper

1. Which of the articles from that day would a reader have been most concerned by? Why?

The biggest story of the day is the US Supreme Court decision to refuse to review the conviction of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, who was convicted of kidnapping and murdering the Lindbergh baby. Readers also may have been concerned about the the story “U.S. Takes Lead In Move To Cut World’s Navies” which also indicates that Japan stood firm in demanding a boost. The story on the debate about boycotting the 1936 Berlin Olympics also would have captured readers’ attention as it was a topic of national significance and heavily debated in communities around the nation.

2. What does this article reveal about the information Americans had about the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany?

People may have been aware of the treatment of Jews in Germany to the extent that it became a significant factor in one side (the Amateur Athletic Union) advocating for a US boycott of the 1936 Berlin Olympics, while the other side (the American Olympic Committee) advocated for going in spite of the situation on the ground there. Thus, it became the subject of an American debate with actions influenced by disapproval of the persecution of Jews in Germany. Ultimately, the side opposing the boycott won the fight, as the article indicates.

3. In light of the issues of the day and what you know about this time period, how might readers have reacted to this story?

This particular debate, because it was focused on a US choice and related to an event in the international spotlight, did capture the attention of the American public. Both sides argued vociferously for their position. In the end, it was decided that the US would send a team to participate in the games, although some athletes made personal decisions to boycott the games for moral reasons.