Name _____ Date _____

ADOLF HITLER

Adolf Hitler was born in 1889 in the small town of Branau Am Inn, Austria. Adolf and his younger sister, Paula, were the only children of six to live to adulthood. Young Hitler attended church regularly and attended school, as well. He was not as diligent in his schooling and later dropped out to become an artist or an architect. Hitler was said to be a shy and quiet young boy, yet he was quick to anger with those who disagreed with him.

Hitler moved to Vienna in 1909 to attend the Academy of Arts, but he was not admitted. He lived in homeless shelters. He was able to sell a few paintings on which to live. He read pamphlets that were unfavorable towards the Jews and began to develop a slow hatred for them. When World War I began, Hitler volunteered for service in the army in Munich, Germany. After the war, Hitler became leader of the Nazi party. Hitler gained acceptance for his anti-Jewish remarks, and his power in the Nazi party allowed him to act on his beliefs.

Hitler would soon lead Germany into a war that wiped out millions of Jews and terrorized millions of people and countries around the world. Hitler began taking over most of Europe in a swift advance. The United States eventually joined the world war and put a stop to the war and Hitler. Hitler died, but not before killing about six million Jews and several million others. This tragedy is known as the Holocaust.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What inferences can be made about how Hitler was able to convince so many people to follow him?
   a. He was elected the leader of Germany.
   b. He had already had experience of dealing with war.
   c. He was fit and in good health.
   d. He was an influential leader and speaker.

2. What is the main idea of the third paragraph?
   a. It introduces the main idea of the passage.
   b. It discusses some of Hitler's actions during World War II.
   c. It discusses Hitler's experience as a politician.
   d. It explains the treatment the Jews received in the Holocaust.

3. A good way to answer the previous question is to . . .
   a. reread the entire passage.
   b. reread the first paragraph.
   c. look for the words *Holocaust* and *Hitler*.
   d. reread the third paragraph and determine the main idea.

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