

# SWINGOMETER

## What was it like to live in Nazi Germany?

**This revision activity works best if you do it with a friend, and talk about it as you do it.**

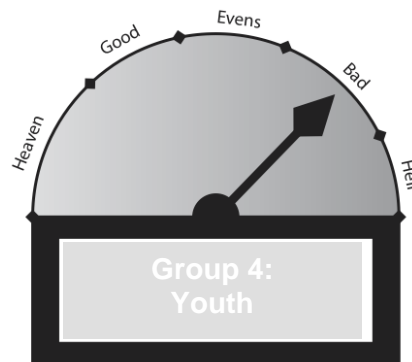
Life under the Nazis was not the same for everyone in Germany — some people had different experiences to others

This activity will help you to revise whether – and for whom – life got better or worse.

Print off the sheets, and cut out the cards.

Using the large Swingometer, take one of the grey 'group' cards and place it on the scale (as the example on the right).

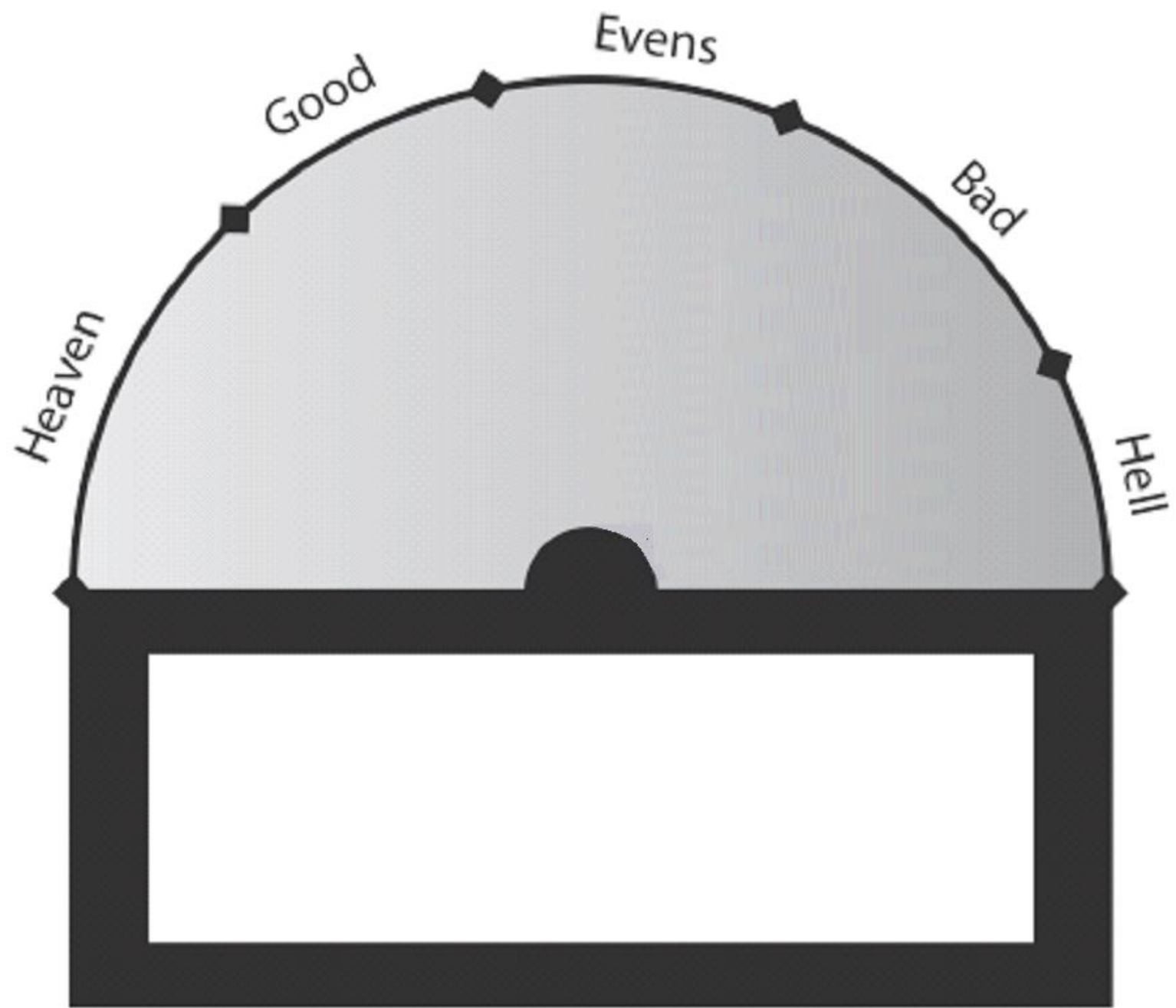
Then select all the 'experience cards' that might apply to that group, and place them round the scale, in an appropriate position, depending on whether that experience would have been 'heaven', 'good', 'evens' (indifferent), 'bad' or 'hell' for that group of people. Debate your choices with others.



When you have placed all the cards, come to a decision on where you would place the 'swingometer' – on how good life was for that group overall.

Then do the same for the other groups.

<b>Group 1: Nazi Party members</b>	<b>Group 4: Youth</b>
<b>Group 2: Loyal Germans</b>	<b>Group 5: Opponents</b>
<b>Group 3: Women and families</b>	<b>Group 6: <i>Untermenschen</i></b>



Experience: All culture and leisure had to be 'approved activities'	Experience: Aryan girls sent off to breeding camps	Experience: Autobahns
Experience: Law and order	Experience: Limited to <i>Kinder, Küche, Kirche</i>	Experience: Loans for newly-weds and families with children
Experience: Boys taught to be cruel	Experience: Climate of snooping ( <i>Blockleiters</i> )	Experience: Didn't have to go out to work
Experience: Edelweiss Pirates etc were hanged	Experience: Euthanasia	Experience: Final Solution
Experience: Forced to dress plainly	Experience: Forced to give up careers	Experience: Full employment
Experience: Gestapo and SS	Experience: Gold medal for having eight children	Experience: Good jobs
Experience: Indoctrinated at school	Experience: Interrogation and torture	Experience: KdF
Experience: Put into concentration camps	Experience: Rallies, colour and excitement	Experience: SdA
Experience: Loss of personal freedoms	Experience: Parents feared their children, who could report them to the Gestapo	Experience: National Labour Service was compulsory, like it or not
Experience: Gypsies sent to death camps	Experience: HJ provided exciting activities for young boys	Experience: HJ compulsory, like it or not
Experience: Not allowed to serve in the armed forces — even during the war	Experience: Propaganda promises (e.g. hospitals, VWs) gave hope	Experience: Propaganda promises (e.g. hospitals, VWs) never happened

Experience: Sense of pride and self-worth as a homemaker	Experience: Smoking banned	Experience: Some people felt a need to resist this great evil of Nazism
Experience: Sterilisation	Experience: Strikers shot	Experience: Trade unions banned
Experience: BDM members taught to do cooking and chores	Experience: Belief that the German race was superior	Experience: Best houses
Experience: Wages fell	Experience: Trust in Adolf Hitler	Experience: 'Undesirables' were sent to concentration camps
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