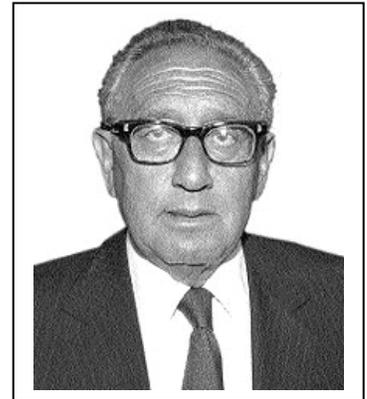


Henry Kissinger

1973

“To the realist, peace represents a stable arrangement of power; to the idealist, a goal so pre-eminent that it conceals the difficulty of finding the means to its achievement. But in this age of thermonuclear technology, neither view can assure man's preservation. Instead, peace, the ideal, must be practiced.”

Henry Kissinger was born in 1923, in Furth, Germany. The German Nazi party was in control of the country from 1933-1945. His father was a teacher. His father lost his job when Adolf Hitler came to power. The Nazis began to show prejudice to Jewish people. Kissinger was Jewish.



German **anti-Semitism** increased. This is the hatred of Jewish people. The family left Germany in 1938. They moved to England. Later they moved to the United States. The family settled in New York City. Kissinger finished high school. He took night classes at City College. He worked at a factory during the day.

- Born 1923
- He has appeared in over 42 films as himself
- In a 1973 Gallop poll Kissinger was named the most admired person in America
- He was asked to lead an inquiry into 9/11 by the Bush administration
- He was born in Germany and was the first foreign-born citizen to become Secretary of State

During World War II Kissinger joined the army. He worked in Army Intelligence. He became an American citizen during the war. In 1947 he returned to the United States. He enrolled at Harvard University. He graduated in 1950 with a degree in government.

Henry Kissinger worked for President Nixon. He was the head of the National Security Council. In 1973 he became **Secretary of State**.

President Nixon wanted Kissinger to work with the **Vietnam War**. He helped to stop the bombings in Vietnam. For this he was awarded the Nobel

Peace Prize in 1973. This was a **controversial** decision. The war did not end until 1976. Many people did not think Kissinger should have the award. The fighting did not stop in 1973. Why should he receive the Peace Prize?

Some people have accused Kissinger of **war crimes**. He has been blamed of being involved in **covert operations**. Others think he has worked with armed conflict around the world.

Many people admire Kissinger. Many organizations want him to speak at their meetings. President Bush asked him to work for the government. He headed a committee to study 911. He now teaches at Georgetown University. He has published many books.

Suggested Classroom Activities

Vocabulary:

- 1. Realist**
- 2. Idealist**
- 3. Anti-Semitism**
- 4. Controversial**
- 5. War Crimes**
- 6. Covert operations**

Discussion Questions

1. Why did Kissinger's family leave Germany?
2. What position did Kissinger hold in President Nixon's administration?
3. Why was Kissinger awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?
4. Why is it considered controversial that Kissinger should receive the Nobel Peace Prize?

Activities:

Debate Activity on the Nobel Prize and Henry Kissinger

Technology Option

CNN Interactive Profiles: Henry Kissinger

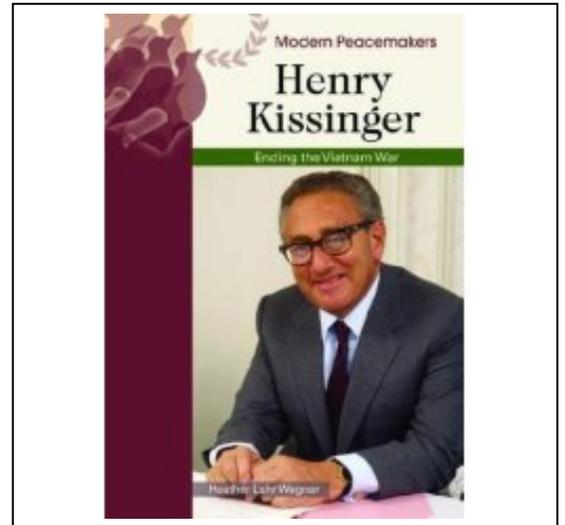
Use as a computer lab time lining exercise to map out world events and events in Henry Kissinger's life.

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/cold.war/kbank/profiles/kissinger>

Read together:

Henry Kissinger (Modern Peacemakers)

By [Heather Lehr Wagner](#) (Author)



Bibliography

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nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1973/kissinger-bio.html

Controversies of Henry Kissinger

thirdworldtraveler.com/Kissinger/HKissinger.html

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger

www.state.gov/secretary/former/40813.html