

PRIMARY SCHOOLS SECOND PRIZE

THAT NIGHT

**That night, I felt their pain,
That night, I felt their sorrow,
That night, I knew there was no more to gain,
That night, I didn't want to see tomorrow,**

**That night, I forgot the meaning of life,
That night, I was consumed by fate,
That night, I forgot what was mine,
That night, I saw them destroyed by flames,**

**That night, I saw their murder,
That night, I felt their souls die,
That night, their last sign was a silent mutter,
That night, their final words were, " Why? "**

**That night, I will never forget,
That night, of all their deaths.**

Sabahat Aman Ahmad

Arboretum Primary School

PRIMARY SCHOOLS FIRST PRIZE

THE HORRORS OF THE HOLOCAUST

**The horrors of the Holocaust,
Are impossible to forget,
Innocent children slaughtered for their religion,
Their beliefs disgraced.**

**What is the logic behind this tragedy?
Children hoping to survive,
Shaking like branches in the wind,
Desperately searching for their family.**

**Doors flung open ,
German soldiers searching for survivors,
Shouting and laughing, enjoying the raid,
Hope is lost for all living souls.**

**People identified as mere numbers,
Hatred stamped on their arms,
Heads shaved, their loves are lost,
Striped pyjamas.**

**The horrors of the Holocaust ,
Are impossible to forget.**

Chobe Kitchener

The Bemrose School Primary Phase

SENIOR SCHOOLS SECOND PRIZE

THE POWER OF WORDS

Words! Words matter! Words are important. Words have Power! When we hear certain words, our minds automatically have certain connotations with that word. For example, when we hear the word 'friendship', we instantly begin to think of love, happiness and child-like innocence. When we hear 'Summer', we think of relaxing, sunshine and holidays. These positive words inspire positive images in our minds and lift our spirits, making us feel good. However, there are many words we hear and we can't think of any positive things to associate with them, as the negatives often immensely outweigh the positives or there is simply nothing positive about that word.

If you don't believe in the power of words, let me take you on a historical journey to remind you of some of the most momentous events in our history, which came about because of the power of words.

In 1889, a baby boy was born in Austria-Hungary; he was the fourth of six children. As a young man, his academic abilities were not remarkable but his dreams of becoming an artist burned deeply. Later in his adult life, this man would become one of the most persuasive speakers of all time. His poisonous, disgusting and vitriolic words would result in the death of at least six million Jews.

One of the most horrific words in the entire English language is one which came about as a result of the actions of that one man: Holocaust. A word that has become burned into our shared cultural history and memories. The word with no positive connotations. A word that brings to mind the most horrendous events in the history of mankind. The word that should bring feelings of remorse to the perpetrators of such tragic events. The events that led hundreds upon thousands of innocent civilians to their cruel and undeserving death.

Similarly, when the word 'dehumanisation' is heard, we automatically begin to think of the process of stripping away a person's positive human qualities, their self-esteem, their dignity and their sense of self. Upon hearing this word, many people will begin to remember traumatic events and horrific experiences that lie dormant and hidden, but with one mention of this word, can be awoken and relived, with pain, horror and anguish, experiences one would not wish on your worst enemy.

**Aldijana Pobric
Allestree Woodlands School**

SENIOR SCHOOLS FIRST PRIZE

THE BLOOD OF THE ROSE

**I am an exertion of beauty
A figure situated to be unconcealed
A simple gesture of nature
With my lips completely sealed.**

**My incapacity to speak is a curse
Actions are extremely significant
However, without sound
One is unable to amerce.**

**The simplicity of my deep red packaging
Embodies the droplets of blood
The blood that is so damaging
This must be understood**

**The lack of communication and speech
Submerges me in this crimson fluid
For it is you to preach
I would wish to do more, but I'm muted.**

**Remember me, as I am punished
I am punished for your lack of sound
Ensure that your gift of speech is treasured
And I promise that peace will be found.**

Adna Bjelobrvic

Derby Moor Community Sports College