**[Primary Sources](http://www1.yadvashem.org/yv/en/exhibitions/vilna/during/aktions_oct_dec1941.asp%22%20%5Cl%20%22%21prettyPhoto): Vilna, Lithuania: German invasion, ghetto, & liquidations. Read each excerpt carefully. Match it with the correct author, date, & description. Write on a SEPARATE sheet of paper [10 points].**

1. We heard the noise of the approaching motorcycles. They sped by us like demons, two on each bike… Then came the tanks with the large black Swastikas on them. Then the artillery moved in and finally—truckloads of soldiers… All these were welcomed with enthusiastic shouts by scores of young Lithuanian “partisans”… We stood at the windows and watched the endless army columns, leaving our lookout posts tired and frightened, each retreating to his own corner…
2. The crucial day of reckoning has come for the Jews at last. Lithuania must be liberated not only from the yoke of Bolshevism but also from the long-protracted burden of the Jewish yoke… The new State of Lithuania will be built by the Lithuanians themselves… All Jews are to be excluded from Lithuanian forever… New Lithuania will not give any Jew civil rights nor the possibility of existence…
3. The *General Komissare* of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania will take measures to establish a German Protectorate there, so that it will be possible in the future to annex these territories to the German Reich. The suitable elements among the population must be assimilated and the undesirable elements exterminated. The Baltic Sea must become an inland German lake, under the protection of Greater Germany.
4. Young, old, streamed eastwards—fleeing from the plague, the plague that pursued and caught up… German airplanes sweeped like swarms of locusts. Our group scattered on the run… At night, we stayed in the forest. Red Army soldiers warned us of German parachutists dressed in Soviet army uniforms… The Germans caught up with us near Oshmyany… We turned back to the road we had fled on—and were once more back in the city.
5. Yesterday, Sunday afternoon, shots were directed from an ambush at German soldiers in Vilna. Two of these cowardly bandits were identified—they were Jews. The attackers paid with their lives for their act—they were shot on the spot. To avoid such hostile acts in the future, new and severe deterrent measures were taken. The responsibility lies with the entire Jewish community. All Jews, men and women, are forbidden to leave their homes from today at 3 o’clock in the afternoon until 10 o’clock in the morning. Exceptions will be made only for those Jews and Jewesses who have valid work-passes.
6. The Ghetto Operation in Vilna began at 6 A.M. on September 6, 1941. The Aktion was carried out in accordance with a prepared plan, whereby the police districts of the city were divided into quarters and sub-quarters. Guards were posted along all roads out of the city to prevent Jews from fleeing… The operation was executed by police and soldiers from guard units. The police evicted the Jews from the houses, and the soldiers herded them into the places chosen for their future residence.
7. The march to Lukizski was terrible. Thousands of Jews were rushed along like sheep, and beaten with rubber truncheons in the darkness of night… The elderly stumbled and fell, and died; children lost their mothers, and parents lost their children. Everyone was wailing, and their cries filled the dark. We were taken to prison. Hundreds of Germans and Lithuanians opened the gate for us and, in doing so, beat the children, fathers, and mothers. Many of them jeered at us and promised us death.
8. At 2 A.M. the courtyard of the prison was suddenly flooded with lights. We were loaded onto trucks, each of which had 50-60 people and several Lithuanians armed with rifles. We were thus driven in the direction of Ponar. We reached a wooded spot… lay down, tired… Not far away we heard volleys of rifles fire… The Lithuanians began marshalling us into groups of ten, and led the tens into the hillocks from which the firing was heard. Suddenly it became clear to us what this was all about. The women began pleading with the Lithuanians… to no avail… when their turn came, they rose up, quiet and despairing, without protests or pleas… Thus family after family proceeded on their final journey…
9. I feel that the storm is approaching… We are like beasts surrounded by hunters… Locks are smashed, knocking, doors creak, hatchets, hacking… breaking in, tearing up… Suddenly a child breaks into tears… A despairing sigh goes up. We are lost. Sugar is desperately thrust into the child’s mouth, but it doesn’t help. He is covered with pillows. The child’s mother weeps. People cry out in wild fright: “Choke the child.” The child’s wailing rises. The Lithuanians hit harder on the walls, but gradually everything dies down of itself and we understand that they have gone away.
10. Both of us sat in the dark corridor of the *Judenrat* waiting for the judgment upon us. We talked together, but at the same time we knew that a life voucher for one of us meant a death warrant for the other… and here, the life voucher was issued to me and my friend was condemned. I was ashamed to raise my eyes but nonetheless I took the document.

**Match the correct primary source quotations with the accompanying descriptions & individuals below.**

1. A Vilna teacher, **Sima Katz**, explains the chaotic conditions as prisoners are rounded up in the middle of the night and driven to the forest outside of city to be murdered in groups of ten. Katz was one of rare few able to escape.
2. Poet [**Abraham Sutzkever**](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/24/books/24sutkever.html) (1913-2010) describes the German blitzkrieg he witnessed while attempting to leave Vilna on the second day after the beginning of Operation Barbarossa (**June 23, 1941**).
3. Teenager [**Yitskhok Rudashevski**](http://www.museumoftolerance.com/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=tmL6KfNVLtH&b=5759983&ct=7891761) (1927-1943) writes in his diary of hiding in the Vilna ghetto during another rounding up or *Aktion* and the fear of being discovered because of a crying child.
4. [**Mendel Balberyszki**](http://www.amazon.com/Stronger-than-Iron-Destruction-Eyewitness/dp/9652294853) (1897-1966) recalls the first units of the *Wehrmacht*, troops of the 7th Armored Division, as they enter Vilna for the first time two days after the German blitzkrieg began its invasion of the Soviet Union (**June 24, 1941**).
5. Dr. [**Meir Mark Dworzecki**](http://resources.ushmm.org/film/display/detail.php?file_num=2133&clip_id=DE43FD50-9990-4F0C-A7C8-644DE6DAB745) describes waiting with a friend while the Jewish council in Vilna ghetto decided who would be handed over to the Germans and who would retain a work permit to live another day.
6. A notice drawn up (**September 1, 1941**) by the Nazi commissar for Vilna, [**Hans Hingst**](http://collections.yadvashem.org/photosarchive/en-us/18264.html) that justifies the killing of Jews as retaliation for supposed attacks on German soldiers. The notice also confines Jews to their homes shortly before the establishment of the Vilna ghetto.
7. Excerpts from a **Lithuanian manifesto** published in Berlin on or close to the date of invasion (**June 22, 1941**). The manifesto makes links between Jews & Communists, and is clearly anti-Semitic in stating that Jews will have no place in a future Lithuanian state.
8. This police report (**September 9, 1941**) submitted by the Lithuanian Police Commander of Vilna, **Antanas Iskauskas** describes the clearing out of the Jewish population from their homes as they were forced into the ghetto.
9. Survivor [**Bronia Klibanski**](http://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/klibanski-bronka-bronia) (1923-2011) describes a forced march from the ghetto to a prison in Vilna. She details the horrifying conditions in this prison where many Jews were held before being sent to their deaths in the forest.
10. Part of a directive drawn up by high-ranking Nazi official, [**Alfred Rosenberg**](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007123) (1893-1946), regarding German policy in the Baltic countries (**May 8, 1941**). Rosenberg makes clear that the Baltic states are to be assimilated into the Greater German Reich applying “race & space” to the populations of these countries.