

# Fiddler on the Roof

**Hollywood vs. History Series**

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## Fiddler on the Roof

### Before the Film

*Fiddler on the Roof* is set in 1905, a time of pogroms and revolutionary activity. A pogrom was a government-sponsored attack on a Jewish area. The story centers around the family of Tevye, a milkman, in the shtetl (village) of Anatevka, Ukraine. At this time, the Ukraine was under the control of the Russian tsar (Nicholas II).

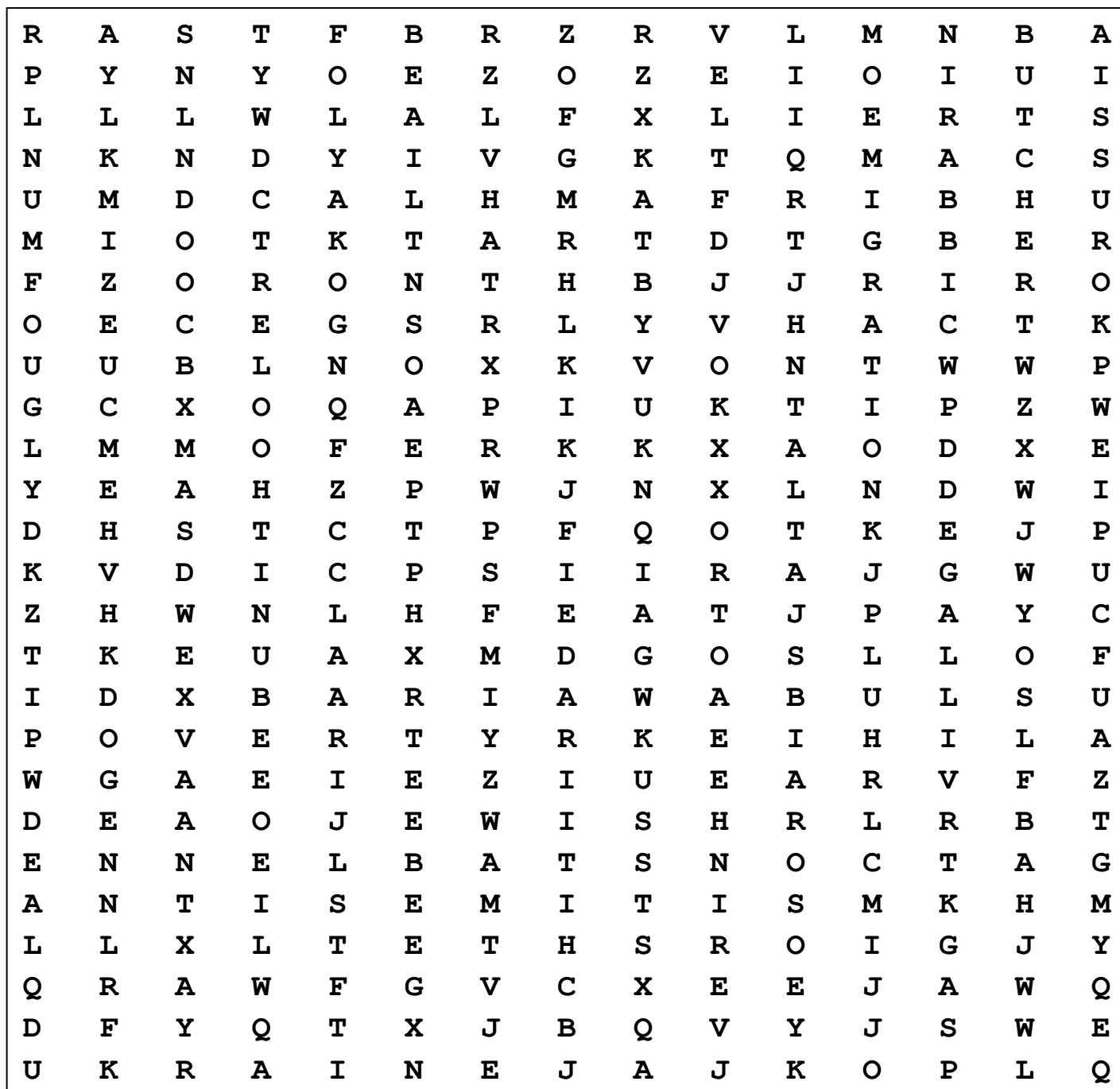
As you watch this film, take notes on important characters.

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| Avram     | Lazar Wolf    |
| Bielke    | Motel Kamzoil |
| Chava     | Perchik       |
| constable | Shprintze     |
| Fyedka    | Tevye         |
| Golde     | Tzeitel       |
| Hodel     | Yente         |

## Fiddler on the Roof

### Before the Film: Word Search Puzzle

Familiarize yourself with some of the vocabulary terms used in the film by completing this word search puzzle.



anti-Semitism  
emigration  
Kiev  
pogrom  
shtetl  
Ukraine

butcher  
fiddler  
marriage  
poverty  
tailor  
village

constable  
Hebrew  
matchmaker  
rabbi  
tradition  
wealthy

demonstration  
Jewish  
milkman  
Russia  
tsar

During the Film

Answer the following questions as you watch the film.

1. List three traditions that are described during the opening song.

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2. In the shtetl of Anatevka, how do people traditionally become engaged to be married?

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3. Name five things that Tevye would buy if he were a rich man.

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4. What event is described in the newspaper received by Avram, the village bookseller?

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5. Why does Tevye, mistakenly, believe he is meeting with Lazar Wolf?

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## Fiddler on the Roof

6. Following Tevye's agreement to the engagement of Tzeitel and Lazar, about what does the constable warn Tevye?

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7. About what do Perchik and Hodel argue after he has finished the children's lesson?

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8. How does Motel convince Tevye to accept his request for Tzeitel's hand in marriage?

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9. Describe the meeting between Chava and Fyedka.

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10. How does Tevye convince Golde to agree to Tzeitel's marriage to Motel?

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11. Describe the dancing at the wedding of Tzeitel and Motel.

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12. How do Perchik and Hodel break with tradition at the wedding?

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13. Describe the pogrom.

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14. What happens to Perchik as a result of the political demonstration in which he participates?

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15. The arrival of what new device causes excitement in the shtetl?

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16. How does Tevye react to the marriage of Chava and Fyedka?

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17. What news does the constable bring to Tevye and the others gathered in Tevye's yard?

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18. Where is Yente, the matchmaker, moving?

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19. To what city are Tevye and his family moving?

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20. Describe the final meeting between Tevye and Chava.

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