



Weimar and Nazi Germany Revision Guide

Name:



Key Topics

1. The Weimar Republic, 1918-29
2. Hitler's rise to power, 1919-33
3. Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933-39
4. Life in Nazi Germany, 1933-39

Weimar and Nazi Germany Revision Guide Contents

	Topic	Page	✓	-	✗
	Weimar and Nazi Germany Knowledge Organisers	1-2			
Exam Questions	How to answer the 4 mark source and interpretations questions	3			
	How to answer 12 mark 'explain' question	4			
	How to answer the 8 mark 'source utility' question	5			
	How to answer the interpretations questions	6			
The Weimar Republic, 1918-29	Germany at the end of the First World War	7			
	What was the Weimar Republic?	8			
	The Treaty of Versailles	9			
	Threats from the Left and right	10			
	Exam Questions	11			
	The crises of 1923 – The Ruhr Crisis and Hyperinflation	12 & 13			
	How did the Weimar Republic recover 1924-29?	14			
	The extent of Germany's recovery	15			
	How did society change in the Weimar Republic	16			
	Exam Questions	17			
Hitler's rise to power, 1919-33	The early Nazi Party	18 & 19			
	The Munich Putsch	20			
	The Lean Years & Regorganisation of the Party	21			
	Exam Questions	22			
	How did Hitler become Chancellor in 1933? (Depression, Communism and Weaknesses of the Weimar Republic)	23			
	How did Hitler become Chancellor in 1933? (The Organisation of the Nazis, role of Hitler and Hitler becomes Chancellor)	24			
The Nazi dictatorship	How did Hitler become Dictator in 1934?	25			
	The Nazi police state	26			
	Nazi propaganda, censorship and the Fuhrer cult	27			
	The Nazi s and the Church	28			
	Opposition to the Nazis	29			
Life in Nazi Germany	Nazis policies towards the youth	30			
	Nazis policies towards women	31			
	Exam Questions	32			
	Nazi economic policies	33			
	Nazi policies towards workers	34			
	Nazi persecution of Minorities	35			
	Exam Questions	36			



Knowledge Organiser – Topic One: Weimar Germany 1919-29

Timeline

1. 9 th Nov 1918	Kaiser II abdicates (leaves the throne) and flees Germany.
2. 9 th Nov 1918	The Weimar Republic is set up.
3. 11 th Nov 1918	The First World War ends. The Armistice is signed after Germany surrenders to the allies
4. 9 th Nov 1918	Kaiser II abdicates (leaves the throne) and flees to the Netherlands
5. Jan 1919	The Spartacist Uprising in Berlin and other cities. Crushed by the army and Freikorps
6. 26 th June 1919	Treaty of Versailles is signed
7. 3 rd March 1920	Kapp Putsch – Attempted putsch by Freikorps led by Wolfgang Kapp. Failed due to lack of support.
8. Jan 1923	Ruhr Crisis – France invades the Ruhr over reparations leading to huge problems in Germany.
9. June 1923	Hyperinflation causes huge social and economic problems
10. August 1923	Gustav Stresemann becomes Chancellor
11. Sept 1924	Stresemann signs the Dawes Plan which ends Hyperinflation
12. Dec 1925	Germany signs the Locarno Treaties
13. June 1929	The Young Plan is agreed
14. Oct 1929	Wall Street Crash – Germany goes into depression

Key People

15. Friedrich Ebert	First Chancellor of Germany and later President
16. Gustav Stresemann	Chancellor from 1923, solved Hyperinflation, Ruhr Crisis and brought about a period of stability and success to Weimar Germany.
17. Kaiser Wilhelm II	King of Germany, who fled in November 1918

Key Words

18.	Armistice	Agreement to stop fighting, Germany asked for it in 1918
19.	November Criminals	Weimar politicians blamed for the 'Stab in the Back' of Germany by surrendering at the end of World War One.
20.	Constitution	The system of laws and rules of a country
21.	Reichstag	The German Parliament
22.	Article 48	Gave the President 'emergency powers' in times of crisis
23.	Proportional Representation	A political system where parties gain seats in proportion to the number of votes they receive.
24.	Chancellor	Head of Government, chosen by the President
25.	President	Head of state and military, voted by people, could use Article 48 and had power to dismiss government.
26.	Coalition	When a group of 2 or more political parties form a government together
27.	Extremist	Groups that believe in violent and radical ideas
28.	Communism	Left wing groups, who believe everybody should be equal in the country and it should be run for the workers
29.	Fascists	Right wing groups, who believe in a strong ruling leader.
30.	Freikorps	WW1 veterans who formed private armies.
31.	Spartacists	Revolutionary Communists who wanted Germany to be run by the working classes. Led by Rosa Luxemborg
32.	Putsch	A violent attempt to overthrow the government
33.	Reparations	£6.6 billion fine placed on Germany at Versailles
34.	Demilitarized	No military forces are allowed in the area
35.	Article 231	Called 'The War Guilt Clause'. Part of the Treaty of Versailles which blamed Germany for causing WW1
36.	Rentensmark	German currency (money) introduced by Stresemann



Knowledge Organiser – Topic One: Rise of the Nazi Party

Timeline

1. Sept 1919	Hitler joins the German Workers Party (DAP)
2. Feb 1920	The DAP is renamed the National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP) – known as the Nazis
3. Feb 1929	The Nazis release their 25 Point Programme.
4. July 1921	Hitler becomes leader of the Nazis
5. November 1921	The SA (Stormtroopers or Brownshirts) are set up as the Nazi parties armed militia
6. November 1923	The Munich Putsch – The Nazis attempt to overthrow the Bavarian government and cause a revolution. This fails, 16 Nazis are killed and Hitler is arrested
7. February 1924	Hitler is sent to Landsberg Prison but only serves 10 months
8. December 1924	Hitler releases 'Mein Kampf' and leaves prison.
9. Feb 1925	The Nazi party is re-launched at the Bamberg Conference
10. May 1928	The Nazis get 12 seats in the Reichstag
11. October 1929	The Wall Street Crash leads to the Great Depression
12. Sept 1930	Unemployment at 3m, the Nazis get 106 seats in Reichstag
13. July 1932	Unemployment at 6m, the Nazis get 230 seats in Reichstag
14. 30th Jan 1933	Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany
15. 27th Feb 1933	The Reichstag Fire – Parliament burns down and Hindenburg passes the Reichstag Fire Decree .
16. 31 March 1933	Reichstag passes the Enabling Act – Hitler can pass any law
17. 2nd May 1933	Hitler bans Trade Unions
18. 14th July 1933	Hitler bans all political parties apart from the Nazis
19. 29th June 1934	The Night of the Long Knives – Hitler eliminates the SA
20. 2 August 1934	Hindenburg dies and Hitler combines President/ Chancellor and takes the title Führer (leader) of Germany

Key Words

21.	Communism	Ideology violently opposed by the Nazis. The Nazis promised to destroy it if they came into power.
22.	Swastika	Emblem of the Nazi party
23.	Lebensraum	'Living Space' - Nazi aim to conquer land in Poland/Russia
24.	Mein Kampf	'My Struggle' Hitler's ideas and aims for Nazis and Germany
25.	National Socialism	The Nazis believed in Germanys greatness, national loyalty, Racial purity, equality and government control. They also believed all German speakers should be united
26.	Industrialists	Rich businessmen
27.	Führerprinzip	Idea that Germany should have one leader obeyed by all
28.	The SS	'Protection Squad' – Hitler's personal bodyguard
29.	Gestapo	The Nazi Secret Police
30.	Civil Rights	Rights for all; freedom of speech, meetings and press.
31.	Hitler Youth	Nazi youth group set up in 1927
32.	Aryan	The German 'master race' destined to rule Germany
33.	Reichstag	The German parliament
34.	Propaganda	Information advertised to persuade or influence people
35.	Putsch	A violent overthrow of the government

Key Individuals

36.	Kahr and Lossow	Two politicians involved in the Munich Putsch
37.	Josef Goebbels	Head of Nazi Propaganda
38.	Von Papen	Chancellor of Germany June-November 1932
39.	President Hindenburg	President of Germany 1926-34. Hated Hitler but makes him Chancellor in 1933.
40.	Ernst Rohm	Leader of the SA

4 Mark Source and Interpretation Question Guide

4 Mark Source Inference Question

This question is asking you make in inference (what you can work out) from a source about a topic. .



- Firstly, read through the source, you can annotate if and if you don't understand words, don't worry!
- Read the question and then again look at the source, highlighting/circling any areas that link the question
- Aim to pick out two inferences (things you can work out) you can make from the source
- Then give quotes or paraphrasing from the source that meets your inference

Give two things you can infer from Source C about education in Nazi Germany (4 marks)

Source A: From the memoirs of a German who was a student in the 1930s.

No one in our class ever read Mein Kampf. I myself only used the book for quotations. In general we didn't do much about Nazi ideas. Anti-Semitism wasn't mentioned much by our teachers except through Richard Wagner's essay 'The Jews in Music'. We did, however, do a lot of physical education and cookery.

What I can infer:

That improving the health and fitness of young Germans was a key part of Nazi education and they included lots of exercise

Details in the source that tell me this:

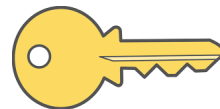
The source says that 'we do a lot of physical education and cookery'

What I can infer:

That teaching of Nazi ideology and race policy was not a key part of school education

Details in the source that tell me this:

The source says 'Anti-Semitism wasn't mentioned much by our teachers'



Inference

Identifies the inference (what you can work out about education)

Detail

Detail from the source e.g. quote/evidence

4 Mark Interpretation Questions: Differences

Interpretation 1: From Weimar and Nazi Germany by J Hite and C Hinton, published in 2000.

Hitler himself was central to the success of the Nazis in the years 1929–32. He provided charismatic leadership with his powerful message to build a new Germany. He was a powerful speaker with his timing, expression and the content of his speeches impressing listeners. He was able to identify with their emotions and gave people hope. Along with Goebbels, he realised the importance of propaganda. He used propaganda to target the specific grievances of many Germans.

Difference in views

Study Interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about how the role of Hitler in the growth of Nazi support 1929-32.

What is the main difference between these views? (4 marks)



The first thing to do is spend your time reading the interpretations, they are the focus of three questions

1. You do not need to use your own knowledge here
2. Simply, explain what are the different views between the two interpretations
3. You must talk about both interpretations and use evidence from them, a quote or paraphrase

Model Answer

A main difference between Interpretation 1 and Interpretation 2, is that Interpretation 1 emphasizes the role of Hitler in the rise of the Nazi party. It suggests that Hitler's leadership, his charisma and speaking skills such as 'timing, expression and content' impressed Germans. Whilst Interpretation 2 suggests Hitler's role was smaller and the depression and unemployment in Germany caused a much larger role than any of the action by Hitler. They rather argue the Nazis growth of support was by 'chance'

Interpretation 2: From Hitler 1889–1936 by I Kershaw, published in 1998.

There was nothing inevitable about Hitler becoming Chancellor of Germany in January 1933. Five years earlier the Nazis had been a small party in German politics with little support. Events such as the Wall Street Crash, which led to depression in Germany, brought increased support for the Nazis in the years 1929–32. Chance events, such as the depression and unemployment, played a much larger role than any actions of the Nazi leader himself in bringing Hitler to power.

Why difference in views?

Suggest one reason why interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about how the Nazis support increased 1929-32. (4 marks)



The first thing to do is look at the caption of the source, it tells you about the provenance: Who wrote it, when, why and their motive.

1. Simply, explain WHY do the two interpretations have different views – you must discuss both
2. You may also refer to sources B and C, but not essential
3. Think about why they wrote it, their background etc.

Model Answer

One reason why these two interpretations would have different views is due to the historians having different emphasis on why the Nazis rose to power between 1929-32. Both sources focus on the same time period but Kershaw, who's extract is from a biography of Hitler, is seeking to downplay the contribution made by Hitler to their rise rather focusing on the depression. Whilst Interpretation focus on the role of Hitler's leadership throughout the extract, therefore seeking to emphasise a different area.

8 Mark Source Utility Question Guide



This question asks you to analyse how useful two sources are in supporting an enquiry into a topic. You will need to discuss the content of the source, its provenance and use your own subject knowledge



**So to get top marks (8/8)
What should I do?**

- One paragraph for each source
- Always focus on arguing **WHY** the source is useful, especially at the end of each paragraph.
- Discuss how content of the sources are useful and use evidence from the source (quote/description)
- Discuss how provenance of the source makes it useful
- You can include 1 sentence on why the source is not useful
- No conclusion needed

Mark Scheme

AO3: Specific and relevant subject knowledge	
AO3: Judgement made on how useful source is, focussing on the provenance & content	
AO3: Use of the content of the source	
Level	Mark
1	1-2
2	3-5
3	6-8

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1-2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A simple judgement on how useful the source are • Basics comprehension of the source using a quote or paraphrase used • Limited subject knowledge is used which links to the source. |
| 2 | 3-5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A judgement on how useful the sources are is made, using what the sources tells us (content) and/or the provenance (nature, origin, purpose) • Good comprehension of the source using quotes/description to say how useful they are • Used clear subject subject knowledge throughout to support comments on the usefulness of the content of the sources and/or their provenance. |
| 3 | 6-8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear judgement on how useful the sources are, using both the content AND the provenance of the source to make a comment. • The sources content is analysed to argue about how useful the source is • Specific knowledge is used throughout to back up how useful sources are for both content and provenance |

Discussing Provenance

- To find the provenance look at the **CAPTION** of the source
- Provenance is the background of the source; who made it, what is the source, why was it made, when was it made?
- You only need to discuss 1 or 2 points about the provenance



Source B A photograph published in 1932 in a German newspaper. It shows people from Hanover queuing for their unemployment benefits. The writing on the wall of the building says 'Vote Hitler'.



Source C: From *Inside the Third Reich* by Albert Speer, published in 1970. Here Speer is remembering hearing a speech made by Hitler in 1931. Speer later became the official Nazi architect and a Nazi minister.

I was carried away on a wave of enthusiasm by the speech. Here, it seemed to me, was new hope. Here were new ideals, a new understanding and new tasks for Germany. The dangers of Communism, which seemed to be growing, could be stopped. Hitler persuaded us that Germany could recover from all of its problems. It must have been during this time that my mother saw an SA parade. The sight of discipline in a time of chaos, the impression of energy in an atmosphere of hopelessness, seems to have won her over to the Nazis as well.

Example Paragraph

This is one paragraph of full mark answer to the question on the right. The key parts have been identified.



How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into the reasons for the growth in support for the Nazi Party in the years 1929-32?
Explain your answer, using Sources B and C and your own knowledge of the historical context. (8 marks)

Source C is useful as it suggests that Hitler's speeches and the content of these were a primary reason for growth in support for the Nazi Party, in said speech Hitler promises that 'Germany could recover from all of its problems'. To some extent this is correct as people were enthused by the 'energy in an atmosphere of hopelessness' and Hitler had appeal as a strong war hero in a time when the Weimar Republic looked weak. I know that Hitler's speeches were dynamic and targeted at his audience saying things people wanted to hear such as promises to reduce unemployment, destroy the Treaty of Versailles and as it says in the source he would stop 'the dangers of communism'. Therefore the source is useful as it highlights the power of Hitler's speeches and image of power which increased votes during the crisis of 1932. On the other hand Source C does not reveal that it was the failure of the Weimar government to address the problems of the Great Depression which caused over 6 million unemployed that led to this hopelessness. The fact the source was written in 1970, by Albert Speer an ex-Nazi minister makes the source useful as it highlights that despite he is looking back at those years, he still admits he was inspired (and his mother) by Hitler's speeches which increased his support the the Nazis. Furthermore as the author, Speer, witnessed these speeches it provides a useful insight into the power of Hitler's speeches.

- Utility**
Argues why the source is useful
- Content**
Discuss the content of the source and uses evidence
- Provenance**
Discuss the provenance of the source
- Knowledge**
Specific subject knowledge

12 Mark Explain Question Guide



This question asks you to explain the cause/consequence of a specific event
The question is testing both your knowledge and also ability to explain causation.

You are being examined on two skills:

- **Subject Knowledge**
- **Analysis of cause/change**



So to get top marks (12/12) What should I do?

- A minimum of three points (paragraphs) needed to reach Level 4
- Uses a wide range of specific subject knowledge
- Always link back to the question and analyses the causes
- Use both bullet points & at least one of your own

Mark Scheme		
Level	Mark	
AO1: Specific and relevant subject knowledge AO2: Analysis of cause/change		
1	1-4	A simple answer that attempts to answer the question Basic subject knowledge of the topic
2	4-6	Explanation that answers the question e.g. <i>Why Gustav Stresemann was able to achieve the recovery of Germany?</i> Good subject knowledge is used to back up explanation Maximum 5 marks for Level 2 answers that only use the two bullet points
3	7-9	Two to three clear and detailed explanations that answer the question but can lack organisation Accurate and specific subject knowledge Maximum 8 marks for Level 3 answers that only use the two bullet points
4	10 - 12	An analytical explanation that answers the question, sticks to question and is structured Uses specific, relevant and accurate subject knowledge Level 4 can ONLY be reached if answers provide at least 1 extra explanation with the two bullet points



1. First you need to identify the cause/consequence in your first sentence
2. Explain in detail this cause/change using specific knowledge and examples
3. Always link back to the question at the end of the paragraph.

See the example paragraph below

Tips and Tricks

- 18 minutes in total
- No conclusion or judgement needed
- You don't need to use the bullet points, you can use ANY other piece of relevant information to answer the question. Aim for 3-4 to get Level 4.
- The bullet points are simply there to guide you, they can be used as paragraphs or as examples within paragraphs.



Example Paragraph

This is one paragraph of the question on the right.
The key parts have been identified.



Explain why Gustav Stresemann was able to achieve the recovery of Germany between 1924-29. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Dawes Plan
- The Locarno Treaty

During the period of 1924-9, Chancellor **Gustav Stresemann was able to succeed in securing the recovery of the Germany economy.** In 1923, the German economy was in serious trouble with the impact of the **£6.6 billion reparations** and the ongoing Ruhr Crisis and Hyperinflation. **Stresemann was able to secure the Dawes Plan, a deal with US banker Charles Dawes in 1924 which vastly improved the German economy.** Firstly, the plan tackled hyperinflation by destroying the old currency and replacing it with a new currency, the **Rentenmark** which reset the value of the mark. Furthermore, he secured valuable loans to help the German economy, the first of these was worth **800 million marks**. These loans allowed Germany to begin paying off her reparations again and it also helped kickstart the German economy again. Therefore, Stresemann's securing of the Dawes Plan was crucial in helping the German economy recover by 1929.

- Identify**
Clearly identifies the cause
- Explain**
Explains in detail the point made
- Link**
Links back to the question at the end of the paragraph
- Knowledge**
Specific subject knowledge

Interpretation Question Mark Explain Question Guide



Mark Scheme	
1. AO4: Quality of the evaluative judgement (judgement) 2. AO4: Analysis of the provided material (Analysis of interps) 3. AO4: Deployment of knowledge of context to support evaluation	
Level	Mark
1	1-4
2	5-8
3	9-12
4	13-16

To get 16/16 you need to do the following in 24 minutes:

1. Read the question and Identify what Interpretation 2 says
2. Write a paragraph that argues why you **agree**, using evidence from interpretation 2 and your own knowledge to back it up.
- 3 Write a paragraph that argues why you **disagree** using evidence from Interpretation 1 and your own knowledge to back it up.
- 5) Write a detailed conclusion that agrees or disagrees with Interpretation 2 with link to the question.

Model 16/16 answer

This is one paragraph of full mark answer to the question on the right. The key parts have been identified.



How far do you agree with Interpretation 2 about reasons for the growth in support for the Nazi Party in the years 1929–32?

Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your knowledge of the historical context.

Interpretation 1: From *Weimar and Nazi Germany* by J Hite and C Hinton, published in 2000.

Hitler himself was central to the success of the Nazis in the years 1929–32. He provided charismatic leadership with his powerful message to build a new Germany. He was a powerful speaker with his timing, expression and the content of his speeches impressing listeners. He was able to identify with their emotions and gave people hope. Along with Goebbels, he realised the importance of propaganda. He used propaganda to target the specific grievances of many Germans.

Interpretation 2: From *Hitler 1889–1936* by I Kershaw, published in 1998.

There was nothing inevitable about Hitler becoming Chancellor of Germany in January 1933. Five years earlier the Nazis had been a small party in German politics with little support. Events such as the Wall Street Crash, which led to depression in Germany, brought increased support for the Nazis in the years 1929–32. Chance events, such as the depression and unemployment, played a much larger role than any actions of the Nazi leader himself in bringing Hitler to power.

Interpretation 2 suggests that the depression and the resulting unemployment from this was the reason for 'increased support for the Nazis', even suggesting it was luck 'there was nothing inevitable'. This is certainly correct as before the onset of the depression in 1929, support for the Nazi Party was low evidenced by the fact that only they achieved 2.6% of the vote in 1928. This figure increased dramatically by 1930 to 18% and by July 1932 the Nazis achieved 37.4% of the vote, making them the largest party in the Reichstag. This coincided with the rising unemployment, peaking at 6 million in 1932, therefore I do agree with the interpretation as without impact of the Wall Street Crash, it is as the interpretation suggests, the Nazis would have remained a small party with little support. What the interpretation does not really highlight in how this event increased support – this was the inaction of the Weimar government, who failed to solve the crisis by cut unemployment benefits and raising taxes, which encouraged Germans to look for another in Hitler. Therefore, Hitler by chance was able to make the best of the situation to secure Nazi power in 1933.

Interpretation 1 challenges the view put forward in interpretation 2. Interpretation 1 suggests that Hitler played a 'central' role in the success of the Nazis and really argues it was Hitler's 'charismatic leadership' and realisation of 'the importance' of propaganda that led to the success of the Nazis support increasing by 1932. This argument holds weight as Hitler was a powerful speaker who flew to upto 6 cities a day targeted his simple message at the audience he was speaking to. For example the popular messages in his speeches were that he would reduce unemployment, make Germany great again and destroy the Treaty of Versailles. This increased Nazi support at a time when the Weimar Government were looking weak during the depression, which does link to Interpretation 2. Hitler also employed Goebbels as his propaganda minister who carefully targeted his message at 'specific grievances' of the German people. For example 'work + bread' was a popular message aimed at the working class, whereas an anti-communist message was popular with business owners. Therefore, it can be acknowledged that Hitler himself played a significant role in the growth of the Nazi party, challenging Interpretation 2's downplay of Hitler's role.

Overall, I strongly agree with the interpretation put forward in interpretation 2. This is because the Nazi Party were a small fringe party who had achieved a very small proportion of the vote prior to 1929. However, interpretation 1 does hold some weight too as the people of Germany were clearly seeking an alternative and Hitler was able to capitalise on this by telling people what they wanted to hear. Despite this message Hitler had was the same prior to the Great Depression but nobody wanted to listen so therefore it must have been circumstance that increased support for the Nazi Party 1929-1932. Therefore, the two are interlinked closely.

Analysis

Argues why you agree or disagree

Content

Discuss the content of the interpretations and uses evidence

Balance

Discuss both interpretations

Judgement

An overall judgement is given in detail

Knowledge

Specific subject knowledge

Germany at the end of the First World War, 1918

Growing problems in Germany

By 1918, Germany was facing mounting problems; Germany's Spring Offensive had failed, the allies were on the offensive, the country had lost over 2 million soldiers and there was feeling the army would collapse. Furthermore, the allied blockade of the ports was causing mass suffering due to food shortages.

It's not my fault, blame the English and French!



As a result, many civilians and soldiers became angry at Kaiser Wilhelm II (who had total control of Germany) for the failures and hardships.

Many were influenced by the recent Russian Revolution where the Tsar (King) was overthrown and replaced by a government of the people, some felt the same should happen in Germany.

Revolution spreads across Germany.

In late 1918, revolutionary feeling spread across the country, leading to the abdication (stepping down) of the Kaiser with Germany's first democratic government – the Weimar Republic.

29th October 1918

German sailors at Wilhelmshaven refuse to follow orders, this leads to the Kiel Mutiny where sailors refuse to go and fight the British navy.



4th November 1918

40,000 sailors join dock workers and set up a Workers' and Soldiers' council to rule themselves, they take over the dockyard. Government control of the country breaks down in areas like Bavaria and Hamburg.



9th November

Kaiser Wilhelm II realises he has lost control of Germany, and under pressure from his own ministers and Allies who say they will only negotiate with 'representatives of the people' decides to abdicate. He flees to Holland.



10th November

Power is given to Friedrich Ebert from the Social Democrat party (SPD), he becomes Chancellor of the new government called the Weimar Republic. Germany was now a democracy for the first time in its history.



Effects of the Revolution

- Short Term** – The new Weimar Republic immediately calls for a ceasefire (an end to the fighting) which leads the armistice on the 11th November 1918. Germany had lost the First World War.
- Long Term** – Politics in Germany became very unstable as extreme left-wing and right-wing groups fought for power over the country. There was so much trouble, the new government didn't fully take control until mid-1919.



The impact of the First World War

The First World War had significant impact on Germany, the Weimar Republic and the future of Germany.

New Government

Many were unsure of the new government, some wanted the Kaiser to return.

Deaths and Casualties

In total, Germany had over 7 million casualties (dead or injured).



Mass Starvation

The allied blockade of German ports led to mass starvation due to lack of food supplies. In total, 500,000 people died as a result of this.

Financial Problems

The war had almost bankrupted Germany, it cost them £37 billion. The allied blockade had nearly ended trade, leaving Germany in a poor situation.

Losing the war

The German population were deeply unhappy the Weimar Republic surrendered, they did not feel they had lost the war. They felt the government had 'stabbed them in the back' by giving in.

Social Unrest

Thousands of soldiers left the army, causing riots and problems with those back in Germany. One group were the **Freikorps** (ex soldiers who refused to give up their weapons)

What was the Weimar Republic?

At the end of WW1, Kaiser Willhem II, the king of Germany fled to Holland. As part of the Treaty of Versailles, It was agreed that Germany had to become a democracy and elections were held in 1919. They were won by Social Democrats (SPD) led by Friedrich Ebert – he set up Germanys first ever democratic government– the Weimar Republic



The Weimar Constitution

1. Everyone had freedom of speech, religion and to hold meetings
2. Personal freedom and equality
3. All men and women over 20 could vote
4. The Reichstag (government) was voted for by the people and made the laws

The first job was to establish the constitution (A set of rules used to govern a country)

The Weimar Republic

The Weimar Constitution was carefully created so that no one person or group could have too much power through proportional representation and the roles of President, Chancellor and Reichstag.

The voting system

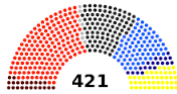
Proportional representation was the way that political parties were voted into government.

Every party could gain seats in the Reichstag (The parliament) if they are voted for

Political parties get percentage of seats in the government as a result of the 'proportion' of people who voted for them.

E.g. .33% of votes= 33% of seats in the government

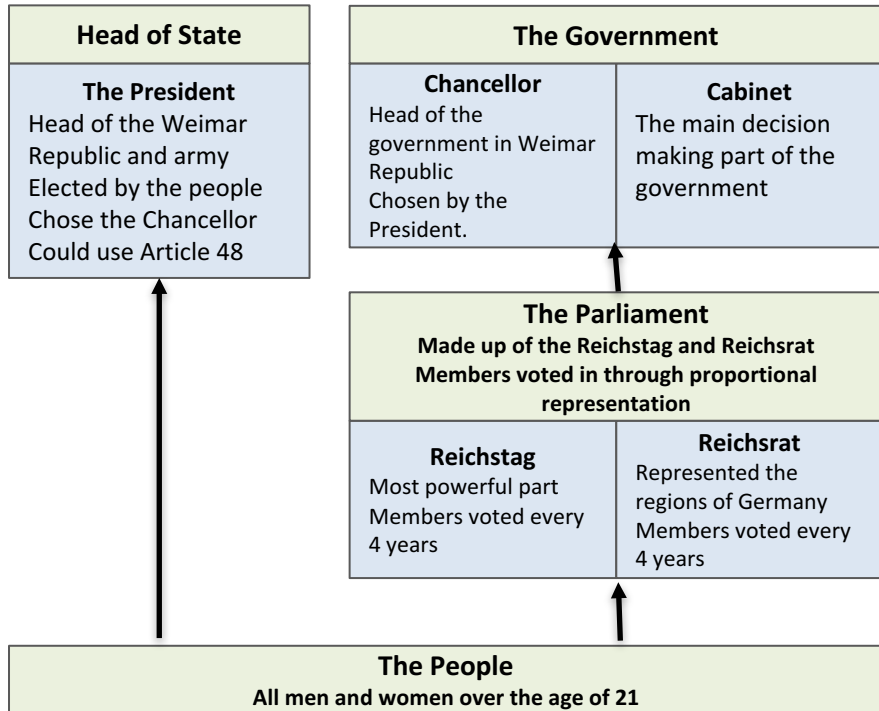
There were 421 seats in the Reichstag



Article 48

In an emergency or crisis, the President can use Article 48 to rule themselves.

They would not have to ask the Chancellor or Reichstag for permission to pass laws.



Strengths of the Weimar Constitution

- Proportional representation made sure small parties had a fair share of seats in the government
- The system meant that not one group or person could have too much power, it hoped to end dictatorships
- In 1919, Germany was the most democratic in Europe, by giving equal rights and votes to women, more than Britain
- There were elections for both the Reichstag and President
- There was free speech and freedom of religious beliefs

Weaknesses of the Weimar Constitution

- Proportional representation often led to coalition governments (made up of a few parties) who found it difficult to get along and agree, so they often collapsed.
- In the 1920s, there were 29 different parties, which meant less chance of one getting a majority.
- The army, judges and civil servants wanted a return of the Kaiser and were opposed to the Weimar Republic
- Article 48 meant that the President could take control if he thought there was an 'emergency' – leading to dictatorship.
- The Weimar Republic was hated by the people,

The Political Spectrum

There were over 29 different parties across the political spectrum, below are the main parties.

The SPD joined in a coalition with the DDP and Centre Party to control 80% of the Reichstag whilst the extreme right and left had the remaining 20% of the Reichstag.



The Treaty of Versailles



Although the Germans signed the armistice on 11 November 1918, it was not until 28 June 1919 that the treaty ending the First World War was signed, it was called the **Treaty of Versailles**. The treaty became the **first main reason why Germans hated the Weimar Republic**.

The Treaty of Versailles was decided by Britain, France and the United States of America and forced on Germany – they had no say in it. This automatically meant they hated it and they were horrified at the terms (points) of the treaty, as they believed they would be treated fairly by America’s Woodrow Wilson.

The Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

Military Terms

- The German army was limited to 100,000 men
- Conscription was banned
- No tanks or artillery



- The Navy was cut down to 6 battleships and submarines were banned
- The German air force was banned.



- The Rhineland (German land on the border with France) was demilitarized – no soldiers were allowed there.



Blame

- Germany had to accept full responsibility for starting the war. This was called Article 231 – The War Guilt Clause.
- They were not allowed to join the League of Nations.



Reparations

- Germany had to pay reparations of £6.6 Billion to Britain, France and Belgium as compensation for the war
- France was given the Saar coalfields to mine for 15 years
- Germany lost its merchant navy.



Territorial Terms

- In total, Germany lost 13% of its land and 6 million Germans
- 48% of their coal production was lost
- Germany’s overseas Empire was taken away and given to Britain and France
- Anschluss (union) with Austria was forbidden
- Germany lost the following areas:
 - Alsace-Lorraine was returned to France
 - Danzig became a free city
 - Malmedy was given to Belgium.
 - German territory in West Prussia and Upper Silesia was given to Poland to create the ‘Polish Corridor’ – cutting off East Prussia
 - The Saar Coalfields (rich in industry and raw materials) were given to France for 15 years



German Reactions to the Treaty of Versailles

For most Germans, the Treaty of Versailles was utterly humiliating and they hated it for a number of reasons:

The Diktat

The Germans were given no say in the treaty – sign it or risk invasion. This led to the Germans calling the Treaty the ‘**Diktat**’ – a dictated peace!



Ebert and the Weimar Government were called the ‘**November Criminals**’ who had stabbed Germany in the back to take power from the Kaiser and army (*The Dolchstoß Theory*)

War Guilt

Many German people hated Article 231 – they felt why should they be blamed for that the Kaiser and other countries had done.

They said it was unfair to blame the new Weimar government for the actions of the now abdicated Kaiser.

The German people were disgraced and humiliated by this clause.



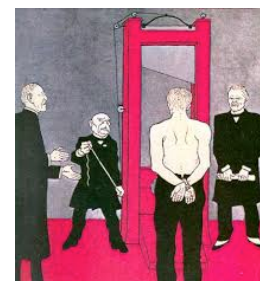
The Allies - Italy, Britain, America, Japan and France push guns at Germany signing the treaty. The Diktat.

The Terms of the Treaty

The loss of the armed forces hurt Germany’s pride and made them feel weak/insecure – how could they control their own country or defend themselves? The loss of territory split up the country and took away 13% of Germany’s population, this had financial and social consequences.

Germans were bitter and angry at the allies, who they thought were trying to destroy Germany.

The £6.6 billion fine would almost bankrupt Germany, and the loss of land would make it harder to pay back.



Threats from the left and right

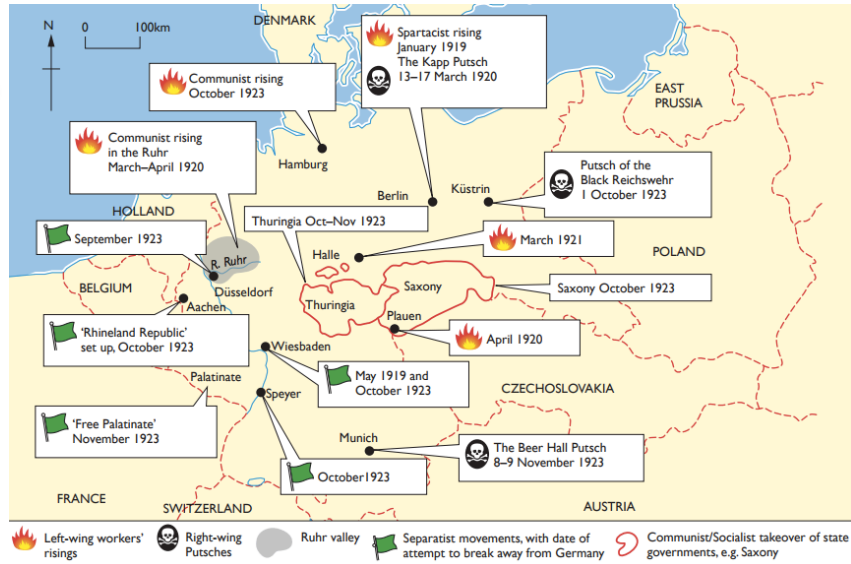
In the early years (1918-23) there were constant threats from the left and right, assassinations and several uprisings across Germany



Unrest spread for many reasons - many hated the Weimar Republic for signing the Treaty of Versailles or high taxes they introduced to pay reparations, others fought to take control for political reasons whilst many were unhappy at the social problems facing Germany.

Adding to these problems was the communist Revolution in Russia in October 1917, which spread ideas of a revolution to Germany.

Two different groups attempted to takeover Germany – **the left and right wing**. These groups had vastly different ideas.



The extreme left (communists) wanted everyone to be equal and for the people to own the businesses and share profits out.

The extreme right wanted a strong army and military leadership. They believed it was 'survival of the fittest'. They would ignore the Treaty of Versailles.

Challenge from the left:

Background

In 1918, revolution was in the air and many workers began to set up council

This worried the army and Weimar Republic, who wanted to stop the chance of a communist revolution.

The Spartacist Uprising

The Spartacists were an extreme group led by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg who aimed to turn Germany into a communist country.



In January 1919, 50,000 Spartacists attempted to overthrow Ebert and the Weimar Republic. They captured the government newspaper but failed to take any others, or get any support from other left wing groups.



Ebert used the army (Reichswehr) and Freikorps to put down the rebellion. The Spartacist were defeated, Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were murdered. The communist threat ended after the swift and violent put down.

Other Problems

Violence and Murder

The army continued to put down any threats, killing hundreds.

There were 376 murders (most of them by the right wing) in the period 1919-22.

Two Weimar politicians were assassinated in this time:

- Matthias Erzberger in 1921, a 'November Criminal' who signed the Treaty of Versailles
- Walther Rathenau, 1922, the German Foreign Minister.



Further uprisings

In 1920, a week after the Kapp Putsch, a communist group called the Red Army rebelled in the Ruhr but were taken down by the army.



In 1923, Hitler and the Nazis attempt the Munich Putsch. This was their attempt to seize power but it failed. (See page...) for information.

Challenge from the right:

Background

Right wing groups like the army hated the Weimar Republic for signing the Treaty of Versailles, they agreed with the Dolschtoss Theory that they had been stabbed in the back. They wanted to set up a military right wing dictatorship

The Kapp Putsch

In 1920, after the crushing of the left, Ebert tried to reduce the size of the army and disband the Freikorps, causing uproar.

The leader of the Freikorps and Berlin politician **Wolfgang Kapp** then took the government buildings using the army. They declared a new right wing government.



The Weimar government fled to Dresden and ordered the army to stop the Putsch (armed takeover) but they refused. Ebert then called on the workers of Berlin to not support the putsch and go on strike, the workers supported this and agreed.



The Kapp Putsch failed but despite 400 army officers being involved, very few were punished.



Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions.

Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

1. Explain why there were economic problems for the Weimar Republic from 1919 - 1923 :

- reparations
- The French occupation of the Ruhr

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)



Using these this box to micro-plan your answer in 3-4 paragraphs using key words/terms for each.

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

2. Give two things you can infer from Source A about the state of Germany in 1918. (4 Marks)

Source A: From the papers of Jan Smuts, a South African politician who visited Germany in 1918.

'...motherland of our civilisation (Germany) lies in ruins, exhausted by the most terrible struggle in history, with its peoples broke, starving, despairing from sheer nervous exhaustion, mechanically struggling forward along the paths of anarchy (disorder with no strong authority) and war'

Answer your question under this headings:

- What I can infer
- Details in the source that tell me this

3. Give two things you can infer from Source B about German reactions to the Treaty of Versailles. (4 Marks)

Source B: From an article in Deutsche Zeitung, A German newspaper 28th June 1919.

'Vengeance, German nation: Today, in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles, a disgraceful treaty if being signed. Never forget it! On that spot...German honor is being dragged to its grave. There will be revenge for the shame of 1919.'

Answer your question under this headings:

- What I can infer
- Details in the source that tell me this

Study Interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the effects of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany.

- 1. What is the main difference between these views? (4 marks)**
- 2. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the effects of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany**
- 3. How far do you agree with Interpretation 1 about the effects of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany?**

Interpretation 1 From Versailles and After, 1919-1933 by Dr. Ruth Henig, published in 1995

Compared to the treaties which Germany had imposed on and Rumania in defeated Russia 1918, the Treaty of Versailles was quite moderate... The Treaty of Versailles was not excessively harsh on Germany, either territorially or economically. However, the German people were expecting victory not defeat. It was the acknowledgement defeat as much as the treaty terms themselves, which they found so hard to accept.

Interpretation 2 From an online article The Treaty of Versailles – The peace to end all peace by Alan Woods Monday, 2009

The Versailles Treaty of 1919 was one of the most outrageous treaties in history. It was a blatant act of plunder perpetrated by a gang of robbers against a prostrate and bleed ing Germany. Among its numerous provisions, it required Germany and its allies to accept full responsibility for causing the war and, under the terms of articles 231-248, to disarm, make substantial territorial concessions and pay reparations to the Entente powers.

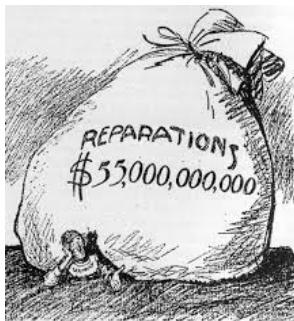
The Crises of 1923 – The Ruhr Crisis



Background

By 1923, Germany was struggling to keep up with its reparations payments of £6.6 billion (loss of territory and bankrupt from WW1).

In January 1923, Germany defaulted on their payments to France – they didn't pay up

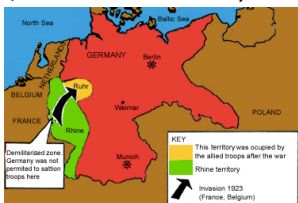


France was angry as they also needed money to pay off their war debts to USA.

They decided to take raw materials like coal and steel for themselves by going into the Ruhr where 80% of Germanys steel was produced, they thought taking the Ruhr would make up for Reparations Germany had missed.

The Ruhr Crisis, 1923

On 11th January, 60,000 French and Belgian troops march into the Ruhr. They seized control of all mines, factories and railways.



The French believe the Germans will work for them, but this does not happen.

The people support the Weimar Republic's decision not to work.

The workers decided on 'passive resistance' and go on strike, refusing to work. Some even burn factories



Industry in the Ruhr came to a standstill so the French brought in their own workers.



The French arrested, imprisoned and deported the resistance leaders

As a result there was violence with huge protests over the French treatment of the workers.



The French then shoot a number of strikers and some French soldiers are also killed.



German industrial production fell dramatically

Results of the Crisis

The invasion united the German people against the French and impact of the Treaty of Versailles.



To support the workers, the government prints more money to pay them



However, as the government had no money, this caused the value of the mark (money) to drop.



This led to the second crisis **Hyperinflation!**



Exam Questions

Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions.

Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.



1. What does Source A suggest about German attitudes to the French occupation of the Ruhr in 1923? (4 Marks)

One thing I can infer

Another thing I can infer



Source A, German poster from 1923. The poster is titled: 'Keep your hands off the Ruhr'

The Crises of 1923: Hyperinflation



What does hyperinflation mean?

Inflation

Is when money loses its value, so you need more money to pay for the same thing.



Hyperinflation

When out of control inflation happens very quickly, over weeks and months



The causes of Hyperinflation

The Hyperinflation crisis of 1923 was caused by two problems.

- **The reparations** – The £6.6 billions reparations had almost financially bankrupted Germany after WW1.
- **The occupation of the Ruhr** – When the government did not have enough money from reparations and the French taking their main industry in the Ruhr, they simply printed more money. However, **When a government prints more money**, which it does not have, **the value of the money goes down but prices go up.**



Effects of Hyperinflation

Hyperinflation had serious effects on Germany, the mark (currency) became worthless and millions faced starvation and poverty.

Prices went up so fast that workers had to rush into shops after being paid, as prices went up by the hour.

At one point it cost 80 million marks for a single egg

Children played with the worthless money in the, some used it as fuel as it was cheaper than wood!



Cost of Bread in Germany

This is a great example of hyperinflation

- Nov 1918 – 1 mark
- Nov 1922 – 163 marks
- Sep 1923 – 1.5 million marks
- Nov 1923 – 200 billion marks



Workers

Works did well, they had few savings, so not badly affected. Those employed were paid higher wages

Pensioners

Their pensions and savings became worthless as prices rose. They could not work either so faced starvation, or could afford to heat their homes.

Middle class

Savings were made worthless by inflation. Businessmen could no buy goods from abroad as German money was worthless. Many became bankrupt. The only consolation was that debts could be paid off easily

Impact of Hyperinflation

Farmers

Farmers were spared the worst, they could grow and eat their own food. It could be also used to trade or sell for goods and money

The rich

The rich had land, possessions and foreign currency. Possessions could be bartered (swapped) for food and other essentials. They could even but small businesses.



Source A, German poster from 1923. It had a caption 'Paper Money' at the top and 'Bread' at the bottom

Exam Questions

Source B – A man whose father owned a small business

“My father began to pay wages largely in goods, mostly food. My mother stacked these in the flat where we lived. Livestock, such as chickens, was kept in the bathroom and on the balcony. Flour, fats etc. were bought in bulk as soon as money became available. My mother had to parcel all this food out in rough proportion to the employee’s entitlement. Come pay-day the workforce assembled in the flat in groups for their handouts.”

Source C – The memories of a German writer.

One fine day I dropped into a café to have a coffee. As I went in, I noticed the price was 5000 marks –just about what I had in my pocket. I sat down, read my paper, drunk my coffee and spent altogether about one hour in the café, and then asked for the bill. The waiter duly presented me with a bill for 8000 marks. Why 8000? I asked. The mark had dropped in the meantime, I was told. So I gave the waiter all the money I had and he was generous enough to leave it at that.



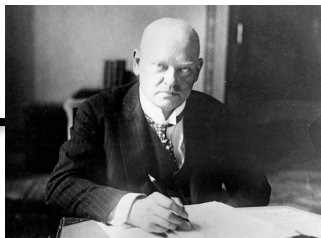
Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions. Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

1. What does source A suggest about the impact of hyperinflation on Germany (4 Marks)
2. How useful are sources B and C in telling us about the impact of the Hyperinflation in 1923

How did the Weimar Republic recover?

The GOLDEN YEARS

In August 1923, Gustav Stresemann became Chancellor. Historians have claimed that this period was the Weimar governments '**Golden Years**' as he was able to help the country recover from the crises and bring about a period of prosperity.



The Dawes Plan

First of all he tackled the problem of **hyperinflation**. Stresemann gained help from US banker Charles Dawes to create the **Dawes Plan**.

Dawes ordered all of the currency (the mark) to be burned and destroyed. This immediately ended the huge prices. He introduced a temporary new currency (**The Rentenmark**) which reset the prices of goods.



Germany was also given more time to pay their reparations and set payments at 2.5 billion marks a year.

US banks agreed to loan money to Germany, 800 million at first.

Over 6 years, \$3 billion was given, This was used to build railways, roads and factories to boost the economy.



Solving the Ruhr Crisis

The Dawes plan also helped to solve the **Ruhr crisis**.

With a new stable currency and reduced reparations payments, Germany was able to start paying their debts.



Stresemann ordered an end to the strike in the Ruhr.



France and Belgium pulled their troops out of the Ruhr as Germany were now cooperating.

German Industry was able to start up again, helping the German economy recover.



International Respect

In 1925, **Stresemann signed the Locarno Treaty** with France and Belgium, Great Britain and Italy.

This pact agreed that the countries borders should stay the same. This improved the friendship between the countries in Europe and Germany



Although Germany was banned when it was set up in 1919, German had earned enough trust to be allowed to **join the League of Nations in 1925**. This increased Germany's international respect and made them a 'Great Power' again.



Germany also **signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact in 1928**. 64 countries agreed to keep their armies for self defence but they agreed to solve all future disagreements by 'peaceful means'.



The Young Plan

Germany also negotiated the Young Plan in 1929. Reparations were reduced from £6 billion to \$1.85 billion, whilst it was agreed they would pay for 60 years.

Political Stability

Stresemann also was able to organise a coalition of different parties in the Reichstag (parliament). They agreed to work together and this meant decisions could be made and the long arguments in the Reichstag stopped, the Weimar Republic was now able to make decisions quickly. This brought stability to Germany, people began to have more faith in the government.



The extent of German recovery 1924-29



Some historians have called Stresemann a 'Superman' who was able to help Germany recover between the years 1924-29 whilst others have argued the recovery was not as

Therefore, we must discuss **was Stresemann really a 'superman'?**

Yes	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stresemann successfully ended the Ruhr Crisis and Hyperinflation - Germany's most serious crises in 1923 Stresemann had hugely improved Germany's international reputation with the Locarno Treaty, entry to the League of Nations and Kellogg Briand Pact. The ending of hyperinflation meant that people could buy goods again, workers could be paid and families no longer risked starvation As a result of the loans and ending hyperinflation, industry grew between 1924-29 by 40% Wages increased, working hours did not increase and as a result workers were happier. There was less striking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Germany was very reliant on the loans from America – if they were to go, Germany would fall into crisis (This happened in 1929 after the Wall Street Crash) Unemployment still remained a problem, it peaked at 10% in 1927 The middle classes never recovered from hyperinflation and the economic crises, they felt they were ignored by the Weimar Republic and hated them. Farmers continued to struggle in the 1920s, their profits drooped and production never Hatred towards the Weimar Republic never went away, some like the Nazis thought that Stresemann had given in to the French in the Ruhr.

Exam Questions



Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions. Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help you in your answers.

1. Explain how Gustav Stresemann was able to bring about recovery in Germany, 1924-29.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Dawes Plan
- The Locarno Pact

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)

2. Study interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the extent of German recovery in the years 1924-29 . What is the main difference between these views? Explain your answer using details from both interpretations.

3. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the extent of German recovery in the years 1924-29.

4. How far do you agree with interpretation 2 about the recovery of Germany 1924-29 . Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your own knowledge of the historical context. (16 Marks)

Interpretation 1 From Weimar and Nazi Germany, F Reynoldson, published in 1996.

From 1924 to 1929 the Weimar Republic was much stronger than it had been just after the war. Led by Stresemann in the Reichstag, the different parties managed to work together. The extreme parties such as the Nazis gained fewer seats in the elections. The German people were better off and more contented. The Weimar Republic looked safe

Interpretation 2 From Weimar and Nazi Germany, E. Wimplott, published in 1997

German prosperity was built on quicksand foundations The Weimar economy was dependent upon high-interest American loans, which usually had to be repaid or renewed within three months. In times of depression, US moneylenders could demand repayment. Moreover, unemployment never fell below 1.3 million. Although big business grew in the 1920s, small firms struggled and many went bankrupt.

Golden Years

How did society change in the Weimar Republic?

The period between 1924 and 1929 is often described as a 'golden age' in the Weimar Republic due to significant changes in culture, the standard of living and the position of women.

Many welcomed these new ideas as they challenged tradition and seemed to strengthen support for the Weimar Republic. Others, however, criticised these changes and believed that they seriously weakened German society and values, causing even more opposition to the Weimar Republic.

The standard of living

For many, there was an improvement in their standard of living, especially in wages, housing and unemployment insurance.

Wages and employment

Wages increased every year from 1924, 10% in total and by 1928 German workers were some of the best paid in Europe.



However, many of the middleclass did not experience a rise in wages and unemployment remained high (128,000 in 1928) in professions such as lawyers, civil servants and teachers.

Housing

The Weimar government attempted to deal with a critical shortage of housing. Between 1924 and 1931 more than two million new homes were built, while almost 200,000 were improved.



By 1928, homelessness had been reduced by more than 60 per cent. The effect of this was to considerably improve the quality of homes for many Germans.

Unemployment insurance

The Weimar Republic improved health and welfare insurance by adding unemployment insurance law in 1927. This required workers and employees to make contributions to a national scheme for unemployment welfare.



Other reforms provided benefits and assistance to war veterans, wives and dependents of the war dead, single mothers and the disabled

Women

Politics

In 1919, women over 20 years old were given the vote and took an increasing interest in politics.



The Weimar Constitution also introduced equality in education for the sexes, equal opportunity in profession. By 1926, there were 26 women deputies in the Reichstag.

Leisure

Women enjoyed much more freedom socially in the Weimar Republic. They went out unescorted, drank and smoked in public.



Women were fashion conscious, often wearing relatively short skirts, had their hair cut short and wore make-up.

Employment

There was an increase in women working in new jobs such as in the teaching, social work or work in shops or on the assembly line. Pay in civil service was also equal to men. By 1933, there were 100,000 women teachers and 3,000 doctors.



However, there was still hostility to women completing 'men's work' and married women working.

Culture and the arts

Germany became a cultural capital of Europe, censorship was removed and exciting art and culture emerged from the period.

Architecture and Art

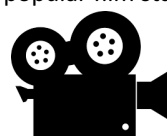
A new group of architects and designers emerged called the Bauhaus. They used bold designs, unusual materials with basic colours, their slogan was 'Art and Technology' – they designed new buildings and furniture



Neue Sachlichkeit became a new type of art which showed society in an objective way, artists include Otto Dix

Cinema and Theatre

It was a golden age for German cinema, the best known film of the era was Metropolis which was the most advanced film in the decade. Marlene Dietrich became one of the most popular film stars in the world playing glamorous women.



METROPOLIS



New operas and plays focused on realism commenting on the problems in German society, like the Salesman of Berlin.

Explain why there was a golden age in the Weimar Republic

You may use the following in your answer:

- Women
- Culture

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)



The Weimar Republic Exam Questions



Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions. Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

1. Explain why Germans hated the Treaty of Versailles (1919)

You may use the following in your answer:

- the economic affects
- Article 231

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)

2. Explain why there were challenges to the Weimar Republic in the years 1919-23. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Kapp Putsch, 1920
- The Ruhr Crisis, 1923

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)



Using these two boxes to micro-plan your answer to the above questions

You only need to plan out your 3-4 paragraphs, and key words/terms you would include in each

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

Interpretation 2 From Weimar and Nazi Germany, by Stephen Lee published in 1996.

The 1920s saw a huge cultural revival in Germany. Indeed, these years have been seen as the greatest period of experimentation in the whole of Germany's history. As things settled down politically, writers and artists had more of a chance to try out new ideas. The results were impressive and spread across all areas of the Arts.

Interpretation 2 From an article on women in Weimar Germany, written by Rudiger Graf in 2009.

Because of women's improved position in the workforce and their newly acquired rights as citizens women themselves seemed to have changed Magazines... presented a new generation women that differed fundamentally from their mothers.

3. Study interpretations 1 and 2. They give different about the attitudes towards women in Weimar Germany.

What is the main difference between these views? Explain your answer using details from both interpretations.

4. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the attitudes towards women in Weimar Germany.

5. How far do you agree with interpretation 2 about the attitudes towards women in Weimar Germany.

Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your own knowledge of the historical context. (16 Marks)

Hitler and the early Nazi Party



The roots of the Nazi party start in 1889, with the birth of Adolf Hitler but the political beginnings of the party start in 1919 with the set up of the German Workers Party, the DAP. This party was one of the many new parties that set up in the political chaos after the First World War and it was the joining of Adolf Hitler that changed Germany's future forever.

The early life of Hitler

Hitler wanted to become an artist but was rejected by the Vienna Art School

In 1913, he moved to Munich and became obsessed with all things German

Hitler was shocked by Germany's defeat in WWI and blamed the Weimar Republic



Hitler was born in Austria in 1889 to an abusive father.



Between 1908-13, he was homeless and sold paintings



He fought in the First World War, winning the Iron Cross but was wounded by gas in 1918

In 1919, Hitler begins to spy on the German Workers Party (DAP) but then joins the party, soon taking over.



Who were the DAP?

The German Workers Party (DAP) was set up by Anton Drexler in 1919 in Munich.

At first there were only a small group of 50 members



The DAP were **national socialists**:

Nationalists – believed that all policies should be organised to make the nation stronger

Socialists – believed that the country's land, industry and wealth should belong to the workers.

They also hated the Weimar Republic, Treaty of Versailles and Jews who they blamed for the problems.



Hitler and the birth of the Nazi Party 1919-21

25 Point Plan

1. Hitler is invited to join the party in 1919 after Drexler hears him debating at a DAP meeting (which he was spying on!)

2. Hitler becomes Drexler's right-hand man and in 1920 together they announced the party's **25 Point Programme**.



3. **Hitler's personal appeal** and ability as an energetic and **passionate speaker** along with hatred of the Weimar Republic meant membership grew to 3000 by 1920.



4. Hitler suggests the DAP change its name to the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP or Nazis for short). They also choose the Swastika as their symbol.



5. In July 1921, Hitler becomes leader of the Nazi Party



The 25 point plan was the Nazi manifesto (their policies) it included their beliefs and ideology.

The key points included:

1. The creation of a strong central government
2. The union of all Germans in a Greater Germany
3. Get rid of the Treaty of Versailles.
4. Increase pensions for the elderly
5. Nationalise industries (government control)
6. Everybody should have a job.
7. Build up Germany's armed forces
8. Only German races may be members of the nation, no Jews and all other non Germans must leave.
9. Expand Germany across new territory to feed the people and to settle surplus population (Lebensraum).
10. All citizens should have equal rights and duties.
11. Every hard-working German to have the chance of higher education.
12. State must protect mothers and infants, stop children working.



The 25 Point Programme appealed to many Germans (workers, soldiers, women) especially at a time when the Weimar Republic was in serious trouble.



Give two things you can infer from the 25 Point Programme about the NSDAP in the 1920s (4 Marks)

Hitler and the early Nazi Party

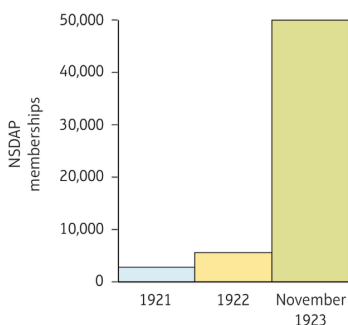
Organisation of the party

Hitler made his personal mark on the party by introducing a number of changes:

- The NSDAP set up a permanent office in Munich
- They also bought two newspapers the Volkischer Beobachter ("Peoples observer") and Der Sturmer, this allowed the Nazis message to spread across Germany
- Hitler carefully selected party leaders for their skills and to help the Nazi image, they included: Rudolf Hess (Hitler's deputy), Hermann Goering (WW1 hero), Julius Streicher (Publisher) and Ernst Rohm (a popular ex army officer)



- Hitler also made powerful friends such as General Ludendorff, leader of the German Army during WW1



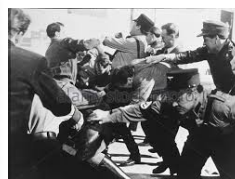
The role of Sturmabteilung (SA)

Hitler used the SA (Sturmabteilung), Stormtroopers or Brownshirts as a way to control of the party.

They were setup in August 1921 as a paramilitary force who dressed in brownshirts. Many of them SA were ex-soldiers or Freikorps.



The SA paraded in the streets as a show of force. By August 1922, they numbered about 800 and impressed people with a sense of power and organisation.



The SA control the crowds at meetings often using violence. They were also sent to attack and beat opposition, like communists. Therefore, the SA strengthened the NSDAP and made Hitler more powerful.

Hitler gains complete control of the NSDAP

By the party conference of January 1922, Hitler's control of the NSDAP was complete. He persuaded the members to give up their right to elect their leader.

This was the **Führerprinzip** – where Hitler at the top (leader) of the party had complete power and authority over everything. The NSDAP was his party.

Hitler's leadership ensured that Nazi membership grew from about 1,100 in June 1920 to about 55,000 in November 1923.

Exam Questions

Source D: The pledge of loyalty and obedience taken by members of the SA

As a member of the NSDAP, I pledge myself by its storm flag to:

- Be always ready to stake like and limb in the struggle for the aims of the movement
- Give absolute military obedience to my military superiors and leaders
- Bear myself honourable in and out of service

Source E: A member of the Nazi Party describing one of Hitler's speeches in 1922

My critical faculty was swept away. Learning forward as if he were trying to force his inner self into the consciousness of all these thousands, he was holding the masses, and me with them, under a hypnotic spell by the sheer force of his belief...I forgot everything but the man; then glancing around, I saw that his magnetism was holding these thousands as one.

1. How useful are sources D and E for an enquiry into the early Nazi Party? Explain your answer using Sources D and E and your knowledge of the historical context. (8 marks)

Source A: Extracts from the Twenty-Five Point Programme, originally produced by the DAP in February 1920.

- 1 We demand the union of all Germans in a Greater Germany.
- 2 We demand equality of rights for the German people in its dealings with other nations.
- 3 We demand land and colonies to feed our people and settle our surplus population.
- 4 Only those of German blood are members of the nation. No Jew may be a member of the nation.
- 7 We demand that the State's primary duty must be to promote work and the livelihood of its citizens.
- 9 All citizens shall have equal rights and equal duties.
- 17 We demand a law to take from the owners any land needed for the common good of the people.
- 22 We demand... the creation of a people's
- 25 We demand the creation of a strong central state power for the Reich

2. Give two things you can infer from Source A about the NSDAP in the 1920s (4 marks)

I can infer

Details in the source that tell me this

I can infer

Details in the source that tell me this

The Munich Putsch, 1923



In November 1923, Hitler launched **the Munich Putsch** (The Beer Hall Putsch) a violent uprising to overthrow the Weimar Republic and set up Nazi state.

It ended in failure with 14 dead Nazis and Hitler in prison, and until 1928 the Nazis struggled to get any support. However, the Munich putsch is seen by historians a significant factor in Hitler's eventual rise to power.

Reasons for the Munich Putsch

The Munich Putsch happened for a variety of different causes:

Longer-term causes

From 1918 there was a long list of issues that caused anger amongst Germans, such as; the 'stab in the back', reparations, the loss of the war and the loss of Germany's colonies. Also, there was resentment of the Weimar Republic, particularly in areas like Bavaria where the Nazis were based. Local leader Gustav von Kahr shared many of the Nazi views.



Medium-term causes

From 1921 to 1922, the Nazis were heavily influenced by the Fascists in Italy led by Mussolini (they copied the salute and flags). Mussolini had taken power in Rome by overthrowing the democratic government, perhaps the Nazis could do this too?



Short-term causes

During 1923, Germany was in chaos with hyperinflation and the Ruhr crisis. Hyperinflation in Germany reached its peak and millions of Germans were deeply unhappy. Many saw the Weimar republic as weak and unable to solve people's problems. The time was ripe to exploit these feelings and Hitler decided it was a perfect time to take power.

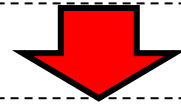
Events of the Munich Putsch

8th November 1923

Hitler with 600 SA entered a beer hall in Munich where the Bavarian government were meeting. At gunpoint, Hitler forced government leaders (Von Kahr, Lossow, and Von Seisser) to support him.



Rohm and the SA then took over the local police and army headquarters but not the local army base. When Hitler left Ludendorff, then let the government leaders go, they refused to support the putsch.

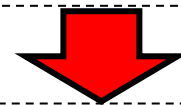


9th November 1923

Hitler gathered with 1000 SA and 2000 volunteers supporters and marched on Munich town center to declare himself the President of Germany. He hoped the local people would support them, but they did not and neither did the army.



The group was met by state police. Someone opened fire and there was chaos. Ludendorff, Rohm and Streicher were arrested.



11th November 1923

Hitler was found hiding at a friend's house in a wardrobe and was arrested. 14 Nazis were dead, Hitler dislocated his shoulder and his allies were in jail. The Putsch had failed.

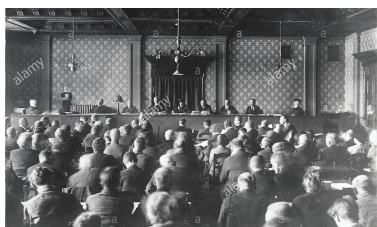


Consequences of the Munich Putsch

In the short term, the putsch was a disaster for the Nazis.

The uprising had failed due to a lack of support and leading Nazis like Ludendorff, Rohm and Hitler were put on trial in 1924 for treason.

- Ludendorff was found not guilty, as a respected ex-soldier from WW1 the judge let him off
- **Hitler was sentenced to 5 years in prison**
- **The Nazi party was banned**



In the long term, the putsch could be seen as a success.

1. **Hitler only served 9 months in jail** and he used his trial to get national publicity for the Nazis. He spent his testimony attacking the Weimar Republic, the 'November Criminals', Treaty of Versailles and Jews.
2. Hitler used his time in prison to write **Mein Kampf** (My Struggle) which contained his political ideas and it became the inspiration for the future Nazi party.
3. Hitler realised he needed a new strategy – **violence would not work, the Nazis must get to power democratically.** The Nazis must now win public support to get voted into power.
4. **The ban on the NSDAP was lifted in 1925** and the new Nazi party relaunched, getting 32 seats in the election.



The 'Lean Years' 1924-28

The Munich Putsch has proved a political disaster for the Nazi Party - 16 Nazis were killed, the putsch was not supported, Hitler was imprisoned and the Nazi party was banned.



However, Hitler used his time to collect his thoughts in Mein Kampf and plan the reorganisation of the Nazi Party



Hitler was released in December 1924, after only 9 months and 2 weeks later the ban on the Nazis was lifted.

Mein Kampf

Mein Kampf became the basis for Nazi party beliefs and policies from 1924, it included the following:

- 1. Nationalism** – He wanted to 'make Germany great again' by reversing the Treaty of Versailles buildin up the army, invading communist Russia and conquer lands for the German people.
- 2.** Hitler believed the German (Aryan) race was destined to rule the world, but was at risk from Jews who wanted to weaken Ayrans and take over
- 3. Socialism** –Using the wealth of Germany to benefit the working people
- 4. Totalitarianism** – removing democracy and replacing with one leader
- 5. Traditional vales** – Strong Christian family values with clear gender roles.



Relaunch of the party

On 27th Feb 1925, Hitler re-launched the Nazi party at Munich Beer Hall where the Munich Putsch failed. 4000 people came to hear him speak.

Once the Nazi Party was re-launched, Hitler began to take control once more and began to make changes to the Nazi party and its structure.

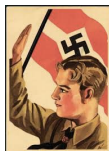


The reorganisation of the Nazi Party

Nazi Organisation

The Nazi party was based in Munich, with departments for finance, education and industry. They also raised money from businessmen who supported the Nazis.

Germany was split into 35 Gaue (regions) with a local leader, the Gauleiter. Hitler used these to keep control over the party.



The Nazis also set up the German Women's Order and Hitler Youth to gain women and youth members.

By 1929, the Nazi party had over 100,000 members.

Leadership of the party

At the 1926 Bamberg Conference, Hitler strengthened his position. He beat Josef Goebbels and Gregor Strasser for leadership of the party, Goebbels was made Gauleiter for Berlin as a reward.



At Bamberg, Hitler also squashed any splits between the nationalist and socialist parts of the party – he had control over policy.

Ersnt Rohm was removed as leader of the SA as he was seen as a threat

Hitler also set up the SS (Schutzstaffel or protection squad). These were selected members who worked as Hitler's personal bodyguard.



Developing support for the Nazis

Goebbels was also put in charge of propaganda. He and Hitler believed that the best way to get the support of the masses was by appealing to peoples their feelings

The Nazis targeted wealthy businessmen, farmers, women, soldiers and anyone who hated the Weimar Republic, the Treaty of Versailles and Jews. Promises were made to all groups



They waged a propaganda campaign using posters, leaflets, radio and film, and organised rallies.

The Lean Years – A lack of success

Despite the Hitler's changes, the Nazis were failing where it mattered – votes in the polling booth! In 1928, the Nazis only got 3% of the votes, they were the 7th biggest party in the Reichstag.

So why were the Nazis failing to secure more votes?

- The 'Golden Years' - Under Stresemann Germany was economically better off, people had more money and jobs. Therefore they supported extreme parties like the Nazis less. Also, Stresemann improved Germany's international standing, making the people happier.
- Ex army general and war hero Hindenburg became President, he was respected and this increased support the Weimar Republic and cut those who were against it.
- The Nazis struggled to get any support from the working classes (who were the majority), they only got 1% of their votes in Berlin and the Ruhr. IT was very clear, when the economy was strong, few people voted the Nazis.

Date of Election	May 1924	Dec 1924	May 1928
SPD Social Democrats	100	131	153
Communists KPD/USPD	62	45	54
Centre Party (Catholics)	65	69	62
DDP (Democrats)	28	32	25
Right-wing parties (BVP/DVP/DNVP)	156	174	134
NSDAP (Nazis)	32	14	12
Others	29	29	51
Total Deputies	472	493	491

Nazis in the 1920s Exam Questions



Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions.

Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

1. Explain why the Munich Putsch (1923) failed

You may use the following in your answer:

- the German Army
- Bavarian leaders

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)

2. Explain why Hitler carried out the Munich Putsch

You may use the following in your answer:

- Ludendorff
- French occupation of the Ruhr

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)



Using these two boxes to micro-plan your answer to the above questions

You only need to plan out your 3-4 paragraphs, and key words/terms you would include in each

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

Interpretation 1 From Weimar and Nazi Germany, F Reynoldson, published in 1996.

From 1924 to 1929 the Weimar Republic was much stronger than it had been just after the war. Led by Stresemann in the Reichstag, the different parties managed to work together. The extreme parties such as the Nazis gained fewer seats in the elections. The German people were better off and more contented. The Weimar Republic looked safe

Interpretation 2 From Weimar and Nazi Germany, E. Wimplott, published in 1997

German prosperity was built on quicksand foundations The Weimar economy was dependent upon high-interest American loans, which usually had to be repaid or renewed within three months. In times of depression, US moneylenders could demand repayment. Moreover, unemployment never fell below 1.3 million. Although big business grew in the 1920s, small firms struggled and many went bankrupt.

2. Study interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the extent of German recovery in the years 1924-29 . What is the main difference between these views? Explain your answer using details from both interpretations.

3. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the extent of German recovery in the years 1924-29.

4. How far do you agree with interpretation 2 about the recovery of Germany 1924-29 . Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your own knowledge of the historical context. (16 Marks)

How did Hitler become Chancellor in 1933?



1. The Depression

In October 1929, Wall Street in America crashed. As a result US banks lost billions of dollars, businesses and banks shut down causing a world wide depression which spread to Germany. Firstly the US stopped lending money to Germany and demanded all the loans be repaid.

This caused serious problems within Germany.

German businesses

They were forced to pay back their loans and now received no investments from US banks. Industrial production dropped 40% by 1932 and wages dropped 15%

As a result businessmen lost money and had to fire workers and close their factories and companies causing bankruptcy.

The German Government

The government refused to print more money, so Chancellor Brüning decided to raise taxes and cut unemployment benefits.

They also struggled to agree on how to fix the economy, so nothing happened.

The German people

It led to **mass unemployment** of workers, 3 million workers in 1930 then **6 million by 1932**

The farmers, the middle classes and businessmen lost their savings, businesses and went bankrupt

With no work, raised taxes and benefits slashed the German people suffered terrible poverty

How did the Depression help the Nazis?

The **depression caused more hatred towards the Weimar Republic** who made problems worse. As a result the people began to vote for extreme parties like the communists and Nazis.

The Nazis used the depression to get more votes as they promised to fix the economy. In speeches Hitler promised 'bread and work' to all workers in Germany, whilst they opened soup kitchens for the poor.

There is a **direct link between the depression and Nazi votes**, as unemployment rose so did Nazi votes.

Year	Unemployed	Nazi Seats in the Reichstag
1930	3 million	107
Nov 1932	6 million	230
July 1932	5 million	196
1933	4.8 million	288

The depression was a gift to the Nazis, it helped them finally get into power.



2. The Fear of Communism

The depression also led to a rise of support for the communist party (KPD) from the working classes. They felt they were their best hope.

By 1932 they had 100 members of parliament.



Hitler and the Nazis hated communism (they thought it was linked to a Jewish conspiracy to destroy Germany) and they vowed to destroy communism



The Nazis used the SA to fight the communists in the streets and disrupt meetings.

As communist support grew, this worried the middle and upper classes and German businessmen. They were frightened of a Communist revolution as they would suffer. So they began to support the Nazis giving them votes and money.



3. The Weaknesses of the Weimar Republic

Many people hated the Weimar Republic and they never forgave them for the loss of WW1, the 'stab in the back', the Treaty of Versailles and the Depression which they failed to fix.

Between 1919-1933, there were 20 different coalition governments who constantly fell out, this meant nothing got done so President Hindenburg had to keep using Article 48 to pass every law. This made the Weimar Republic look weak and useless.

This helped increase votes for the Nazis as Hitler who promised a strong government like they previous had in the Weimar Republic.



How did Hitler become Chancellor in 1933?

4. The Organisation of the Nazis and the Role of Hitler

Organisation

The Nazis were very organised, they set up Nazi offices all over Germany to recruit more voters and got financial support from wealthy businessmen and industrialists like Krupp and Bosch. They even set up groups like the Hitler Youth to reach the young of Germany.



The SA

The SA made the Nazis seem organised, disciplined and reliable. In a time of the depression, they looked strong.



The SA were also used to disrupt other parties like the communists and openly fought with them on the streets. In one clash 18 were killed

Role of Hitler

Hitler was shown as the strong, decisive leader that Germany needed. He was a veteran, worker and appealed to all Germans. Germany propaganda called Hitler *'our last hope'*

Hitler was an excellent orator (speaker) who drew large crowds, he would fly around 6 cities a day, delivering simple but powerful speeches.



In the 1932 Presidential election, Hitler received 11 million votes (30%) which highlighted how the people saw Hitler as a future leader of Germany.

Propaganda

Josef Goebbels used modern technology such as radios, films, and loudspeakers alongside posters and leaflets. They owned 140 newspapers!

They had simple messages like *'One People, One Nation, One Leader'*



Propaganda targeted specific groups; workers, farmers and businessmen.

Goebbels was able to make sure the Nazi message was heard everywhere, locally and nationally. The message was 'unity', bringing Germany together again

Promises

The Nazis **promised something to everyone, it is what gained them votes.**

Above all Hitler promised to make Germany great again by restoring law and order, destroying communism, abolishing the Treaty of Versailles and fixing the depression.

He also attacked the Weimar government and blamed Jews for the problems. Specific groups were targeted with propaganda:

- **Big Business:** Promised Hitler was their best protection from communism
- **Working Class:** They promised 'Work and Bread' and a return to traditional German values
- **Middle Class:** Hitler was the strong leader to bring economic recovery, he would protect them from communism and he would overturn the changes made under the Weimar Republic
- **Farmers:** Promised protection from communism and taking land from Jews

5. Hitler becomes chancellor in 1933



May 1932

- In early 1932, the Nazis were far from being in power but things began to change.
- Brüning resigns after losing support, so Hindenburg makes Franz von Papen Chancellor

July 1932

- The Nazis get their most votes, 240 seats (38%)
- However, Hindenburg refuses to make Hitler Chancellor as he despises him, calling him a 'jumped up corporal'



Nov 1932

- Von Papen loses support and quits as Chancellor
- The Nazis drop to 196 votes in the election, but are still the largest party

Dec 1932

- Schleicher is persuaded to become Chancellor, but he has no power or support in the Reichstag
- Von Papen persuades Hindenburg to sack Schleicher who wants to use the army to take power.
- They foolishly think they can make Hitler Chancellor whilst controlling him.



Jan 1933

- On 30th January 1933, Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany
- The Nazis have got into power legally and democratically



How did Hitler become Dictator in 1934?

1, The Reichstag Fire, 27th Feb 1933

On February 27th 1933, the Reichstag (German parliament) was burnt down with a communist Van Der Lubbe arrested at the scene (There are rumours the Nazis did it.)

As Hitler had been warning of a communist plot to overthrow the government, the fire was the 'proof' he needed to show that communists want to destroy Germany.

This led to

Hitler persuaded Hindenburg to sign '**The Reichstag Decree**', also called the Emergency Decree, which gave Hitler many powers.

1. The laws allow the Nazi controlled police to arrest anyone suspected of opposing the government, ban meetings, close newspapers and hold people without trial.
2. German had now become a police state

2. The Enabling Act, 1933

On 23rd March 1933, the Reichstag passes Enabling Act which **gives Hitler power** to pass any law without approval of the Reichstag.

He immediately begins to use these powers to gain more control over Germany.



May 1933, Trade Unions banned

The banning of Trade Unions removed workers rights and brings them under his control.



July 1933, Political parties banned

Hitler bans all political parties except the Nazis, the leaders of the other parties are imprisoned. This gives Hitler total control. Democracy is over



Results

Hitler has been given complete power over the government and laws, which effectively makes Germany a dictatorship under Hitler.

The Enabling Act ends all democracy in Germany



This gave Hitler more power because...

Results

The Nazis arrest over 4000 communists and ban the communist party.

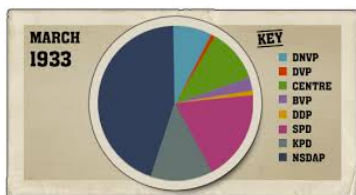
They shut down political opponents meetings and newspapers, whilst thousands are sent to concentration camps

This reduces Nazi political opposition.

The March 1933 Election

In the March 1933 election, the Nazis get their their best ever result (44%) However, it still failed to give the Nazis an overall majority.

This persuaded Hitler to pass the Enabling Act, as he wanted to end democracy.



April 1933, People's Courts

Hitler sets up the 'People's Courts' to give him control over the justice system and laws. Judges are made to swear an oath of loyalty to Hitler.



Jan, 1934, Local Government

Hitler abolishes local Lander parliaments and replaced them with a governor (Gauleiter) who directly serves Hitler.



4. The Death of Hindenburg

On 2nd August 1934, President Hindenburg dies

Within hours, Hitler combines the role of President with Chancellor to create a new title '*Fuhrer of the Third Reich*'



He also forced the army to swear a unconditional oath of loyalty and obedience to him. This bring them under Hitlers control.

Hitler is now the complete ruler of Germany

3. The Night of the Long Knives, 1934

Hitler begins to fear from threats in his own party, the SA (Brownshirts)

The SA are a force of 3 million men under ex soldier Ernst Rohm. They were originally used to intimidate Nazi opposition and were important in Hitler coming to power in 1933. Hitler believed Rohm wants to overthrow him, whilst the army despised the power the SA had and Himmler and the SS hated Rohm and wanted to replace the SA with the SS.

In 1934, after encouragement from the Army and SS, Hitler orders the arrest of SA 'traitors'

On the night of 30th June 1934, the SS arrest 400 SA leaders, some are imprisoned and others are executed including Ernst Rohm.

Hitler also uses the opportunity to take out old political opponents, such as ex-chancellor Von Papen.

Hitler had now eradicated all threats within his party, the army were now more supportive and it showed Hitler agreed to murder to keep power.

The Nazi Police State

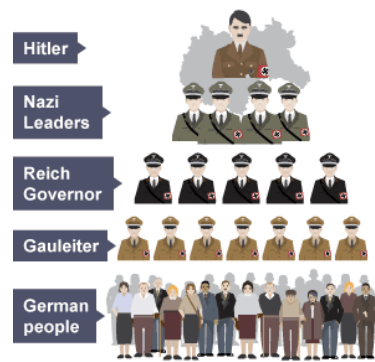
The Nazis used a number of ways to control the German population, one of these was the Police State. This meant the Nazis used the police (secret and regular) to control what the people did and said, it was control using fear and terror.



Hitler was the head of the Third Reich and the country was set up to follow his will, from the leaders to the 32 regional Gauleiter.

As head of the government, Hitler had complete control over Germany from politics, to the legal system and police.

All this meant there was very little opposition to Nazi rule between 1933-39



The Nazis use of threat, fear and intimidation was their most powerful tool to control the German people

The Gestapo



The Gestapo, set up in 1933 were the Nazi secret police, they were the most feared Nazi organization. They looked for enemies of the Nazi Regime and would use any methods necessary; torture, phone tapping, informers, searching mail and raids on houses. They wore no uniforms, meaning anyone could be a member of the Gestapo. They could imprison you without trial, over 160,000 were arrested for 'political crimes' and thousands died in custody.

The SS

The SS were personal bodyguards of Adolf Hitler but became an intelligence, security and police force of 240,000 Ayrans under Himmler. They were nicknamed the 'Blackshirts' after their uniform. They had unlimited power to do what they want to rid of threats to Germany, The SS were put in charge of all the police and security forces in Germany, they also ran the concentration camps in Germany.



Concentration Camps

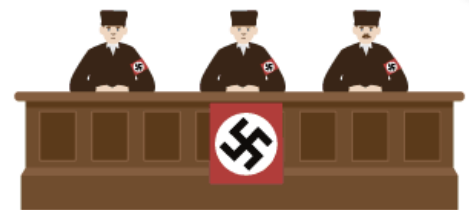


The first camp set up at Dachau in 1933 and run by the SS. By 1939 there were over 150,000 Germans in these concentration camps. At first camps were used for political enemies and opponents but they eventually became execution camps for Undesirables like homosexuals and Jews. Beatings and murder were common place in the Nazi efforts to 're-educate' the inmates

The Legal System

The Nazis also controlled the legal system – the Enabling Act meant that the Nazis could pass any law they wanted without any opposition.

The 'People's Court' used Nazi judges who swore on oath of loyalty to Hitler. There were no juries, judges decided the fate of the accused often in secret trials. Over 44 crimes became punishable by death and between 1933-39, 534 were executed.



The SD

The SD (Security Force) was a force under Reinhard Heydrich to monitor Nazi opponents. They kept files on everyone suspected of opposing the Nazi party or Hitler.



Local Control

The Nazis used Block Wardens in towns who were the eyes and ears of the party. The Gestapo also used informers who would report anyone who told anti-Hitler jokes or attended illegal meetings.



Exam Question

Explain why the Nazis police state was successful between 1933-39

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Gestapo
- Concentration camps

You must also use information of your own (12 Marks)



Nazi Propaganda, Censorship and the Fuhrer Cult



In Nazi Germany, the Nazi party wanted to control the attitudes and ideas of the German people, it c this three ways; propaganda, censorship, the Furher cult.

It was the job of Josef Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda to use these methods to indoctrinate (brainwash) the Germans using these methods.



HOW DID THE NAZIS USE PROPAGANDA?

Propaganda focused a variety of Nazi ideology;

- The greatness of Germany
- The Fuhrer cult
- The Aryan Race
- Attacking Germany's enemy's (Communists and Jews)
- Increasing Nazi support

Rallies/Speeches

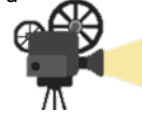
The yearly Nuremberg rallies were huge spectacles to show Nazi power and national unity

At the 1934 rally, 200,000 attended to see thousands of banners, 20,000 Nazi flags, a 100 foot Nazi eagle and to hear Hitlers speech



Film

With audiences of over 250 million in 1933, film was a key propaganda tool. All films included a 45 minute newsreel of Nazi 'news' whilst Goebbels oversaw every film produced, 1300 films in total.



The *Eternal Jew* and *Triumph of the Will* were two Nazi 'masterpieces'. They showed German triumphs, attacked Jews and enemies like communists.

Newspapers

The Nazis controlled all newspapers, journalists were told what to write and the government gave out the information to include in the papers.



Anti-Nazi papers were shutdown (1600 in 1935) negative news was censored. There was no free press, every newspaper was a Nazi one.

Culture

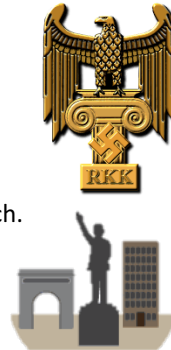
The Nazis opposed the culture popular in the Weimar Republic and wanted to change it.

The Reich Chamber of Culture (under Goebbels) controlled Art, Theatre, Music, Architecture and Literature. It all had to follow the Nazi message.

All artists had to be members of the Chamber of Visual Arts, 42,000 joined as it was the only way to get your work produced. All art had to fit Nazi beliefs, even Picasso was banned.

Music had to emphasise German culture, like Wagner, Beethoven and Bach. Literature focussed on German history and clature.

Architecture had to emphasise Nazi power, so buildings were huge, copying Roman styles. Giant flags and statues of Hitler were erected



Radio

The Reich Radio company to controlled all stations and cheap Nazi radios were made so that over 70% of homes had one. Foreign radio was also banned



Hitler's speeches and history were common radio shows. Loudspeakers were put up in streets so all could listen

Events

The 1936 Olympics were used to showcase Aryan superiority (33 gold medals) and power with the stadium being the largest in the world.

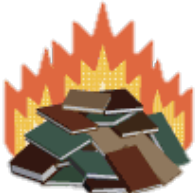


Censorship

The Nazis censored everything – all anti-Nazi ideas were banned.



Millions of books were burnt, in 1933 20,000 Jewish and communist books were burnt in the centre of Berlin. Even the works of Einstein were out



Writers, film makers and artists could only produce pro Nazi arts

Jazz music was banned as it came from black culture, so it was inferior.

Telling an Anti-Nazi joke was a crime, leading to a fine or imprisonment.



The Fuhrer Cult

The Nazis developed he 'Fuhrer cult', which showed Hitler as both superman and man of the people.

Hitler was presented as a brave WW1 veteran, a generous worker and fond of children.



'One people, one Reich, one Fuhrer'

The aim was for Germans to idolise and follow their leader – like a god.

Pictures of Hitler were everywhere - 'Heil Hitler' even became the national greeting

Total and utter obedience to Hitler was essential to Nazi rule

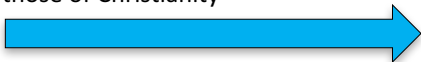


The Nazis and the Church





Hitler believed that religion was a threat to the Nazis' control over people's minds as they would worship god over him but he knew that attacking the Church could cause serious opposition from a very religious German people who were 2/3 Protestant and 1/3 Catholic.

Nazi views were essentially opposite to those of Christianity



It is clear why Hitler would see the church as a threat to his power.

Nazism 	Christianity 
Glorified strength and violence	Teaches love and forgiveness
Despised the weak	Helps the weak
Believed in racial superiority	Respect for all people
Saw Hitler as god-like figure	Belief in God

Despite these differences, at first Hitler attempted to work with the Catholic and Protestant Church but this eventually changed to the Nazis using their fear and terror methods to take control.

The Roman Catholic Church

The Concordat, July 1933

Hitler and the Pope sign an agreement to not interfere in each others business.

This was a Nazi attempt to keep the 33 million German Catholics on side



Hitler breaks the Concordat

Despite his promises, Hitler did persecute Catholics:

- Many catholic priests were sent to concentration camps
- Catholic schools were brought under Nazi control
- Groups like the Catholic Youth League were banned

Further persecution

In 1937, the Pope openly criticises the Nazi regime and as a result 400 priests are sent to the concentration camps.



All catholic schools were shut down in 1939, monasteries were closed and RE is banned in schools in 1938.

The Protestant Church

German Faith Movement, 1934

In 1934 the Nazis set up their own religion, the German Faith Movement. It replaced Christian teachings with pagan ones.



The Reich Church, 1936

The Nazis set up the Reich Church, bringing all protestant churches under Nazi control.

Ludwig Muller is made the Reich Bishop.

The bible is replaced by Mein Kampf, the Swastika replaced the cross and all Jewish teachings from the Old Testament were removed



Did the Nazis succeed in controlling the Church?

The Nazis did not manage to fully control the Church despite their efforts, the majority of Germans chose to keep quiet and still practiced their religion.

Hitler did manage to weaken the churches resistance to his policies and Protestant churches did become 'Nazified'



However, there was still open opposition by Protestants like Martin Niemoller who set up the PEL (Protestant Emergency League) to campaign against the Nazis. The PEL was banned and Niemoller sent to a concentration camp until 1945.



Exam Question

Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam question Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

Explain why the Nazis tried to control the Church in Germany

You may use the following in your answer:

- Roman Catholic Church
- German Faith Movement

You must also use information of your own (12 Marks)



Opposition to the Nazis



Living under fear/terror and propaganda/censorship effectively ended open opposition to Hitler and the Nazis, but between 1933-39 1.3 million Germans were sent to camps and opposition did exist from some groups; the young, churches, the army and secret political opposition

Youth Opposition

Despite Nazi youth groups being compulsory, resistance amongst the youth centered on Nazi control and the lack of freedom. As a result, small anti Nazi groups grew



The Edelweiss Pirates



The Edelweiss Pirates were working class youths who used the symbol of the edelweiss flower for resistance.

They resented the military style Hitler Youth and the lack of freedom for young people. They often grew their hair long and wore American style clothing and makeup.

They went on hikes and camping to avoid Nazi restrictions and would often taunt or attack Hitler Youth members.

The Swing Youth

The swing youth were mainly teenagers from wealthy families who admired American culture over Nazi culture.

They listened to jazz and swing records illegally, danced the jitterbug, smoked and drunk alcohol in groups and parties of upto 6,000.

Himmler hated the Swing Youth



results

By 1939, opposition from these groups was limited. They did little to oppose the Nazis despite some anti-Nazi graffiti and telling anti-Nazi jokes and there were too few of them, around 2,000 Edelweiss Pirates compared to 8 million Hitler Youth.

The fact there were youth groups shows there was some small opposition, but it was mainly cultural

Church Opposition

Church Opposition

In 1934, the Confessors Church set up, it was a protestant church opposed to the Reich Church.

About 6,000 pastors joined in opposition to the Nazis, however over 800 were sent to the camps.

Some Catholics spoke out against Nazi ideas but 400 Catholics were arrested and were imprisoned in the Priests Block in Dachau



Martin Niemoller



Niemoller helped set up the Pastors Emergency League, membership rose to 7000

He said people must obey God, not a man

Niemoller was arrested after being spied on by the Gestapo, he spent the war in Dachau Concentration Camp until 1945.

results

Whilst many Germans still continued to go church and some leaders voiced their opposition, most Germans were not foolish enough to openly challenge the Nazis.

The church focused on opposing interference on their traditions, rather than Nazi rule.

Nazi Control Exam Questions

Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam question Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.



1. Explain why there was so little resistance and opposition to Hitler and the Nazis in Germany in the years 1933-39

You may use the following in your answer:

- Nazi Propaganda
- The Gestapo

You must also use information of your own (12 Marks)

2. Give two things you can infer from Source A about the Catholic Church in Nazi Germany (12 Marks)

Source A: From police reports in Bavaria in 1937 and 1938.

The influence of the Catholic Church on the population is so strong that the Nazi spirit cannot penetrate. The local population is ever under the strong influence of the priests. These people prefer to believe what the priests say from the pulpit than the words of the best Nazi speakers.

Nazi Youth



Hitler saw the youth of Germany as the future of the German Third Reich, they had to become indoctrinated (brainwashed) in Nazi ideals to become loyal followers of Hitler. Education and Youth Groups was central to this.

In 1933, Bernhard Rust became the head of Nazi Education and National Culture

Nazi Education

The school system became the main tool to indoctrinate Germany children where they had to go to school until they were 14. There were separate schools for girls and boys:

- Military skills for boys
- Domestic skills (housework) for girls.

The number of PE lessons doubled, RE was stopped. Race and Nazi beliefs were introduced.

All textbooks were rewritten to fit the Nazi view of history and Mein Kampf became a core textbook. Every lesson also began with a 'Heil Hitler' salute

Nazi ideology was included in all lessons for example:

- History books emphasized Germany's military success and blamed Jews for the the loss of WW1.
- Math's taught military tactics or how to solve the economic cost of the disabled in Germany
- Race studies were introduced to push Nazi racial policies on Aryans

Girls were taught about motherhood, genetics and how to be an ideal Nazi housewife.



Jewish Children

Encouraged a hatred of Jews, they were openly bullied by students and teachers.

Germans were taught their racial weaknesses of Jews

Jews were banned from schools in 1938



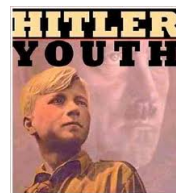
All teachers had to join The Nazi Teachers' Alliance (97% joined) and had to teach the Nazi curriculum or risk being fired. Students were encouraged to inform on their teachers if they were not pro Nazi.

The Nazis also set up specialist 'Leadership Schools', such as Adolf Hitler Schools to train future Nazi leaders and *Napolas* for political leaders and SS officers.

Nazi Youth Groups

The Nazis saw the youth as the future of Germany and they wanted to control all of their free time.

Baldur Von Shirach became leader of the Nazi youth organisations, one of the first things he did was ban other youth organisations (e.g. scouts)



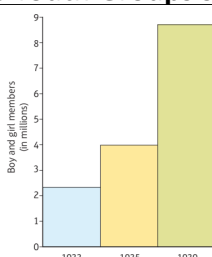
Boys	Girls
<p>6-10 – Pimpfe 10-14 - German Young People (Cubs) 14-18 – The Hitler Youth</p>	<p>10-14 – Young Girls League 14-18 – League of German Girls (BDM)</p>
<p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical training for the military • Brainwashing in Nazi ideology 	<p>Aims:</p> <p>Preparing lives as wives and mothers</p>
<p>Activities:</p> <p>Military style training; marching, camping, hiking, map reading and rifle shooting. They had uniforms and ranks like the army</p> <p>All members had to swear an oath of loyalty and they also learnt Nazi ideology and race theory with lessons called 'German Heroes' and 'The evil of the Jews'</p> <p>1932 – Membership: 108,000 1936 – Hitler Youth Act passed, membership was compulsory</p>	<p>Activities:</p> <p>Sports were intended to enhance fitness, strength and beauty. Girls had to be able to run 60 metres in 14 seconds</p> <p>Girls were trained to cook, iron, sew and prepare for life as a housewife. They were also taught the importance of 'racial hygiene', the need to only marry a pure Aryan man.</p> <p>There was significant emphasis on the importance of German mothers – to create and nurture Aryan children</p>

Were the Youth Groups successful?

Yes

Millions joined the Nazi Youth Groups and many went on to join the army and have Aryan children - it was popular and many of the young became fanatical Nazis

Many young enjoyed the comradeship of the Hitler Youth and feeling of importance to Germanys future

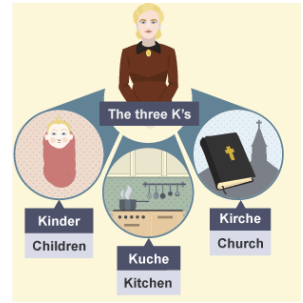


No

Secret youth groups like the Edelweiss Pirates and White Rose Movement which were anti Nazi began to start

Despite high membership, thousands avoided attending meetings and felt it was too much like military life.

Women in Nazi Germany



Life before the Nazis

The Weimar Republic had a very **progressive** attitude towards women's rights. Women could vote from 20, they could attend university and many had professional careers like teachers, doctors, lawyers, judges.



Josef Goebbels said: "The mission of women is to be beautiful and to bring children into the world."

Aims of the Nazis towards Women

1. They would not work but stay at home and look after the family
2. They were to breed more pure Aryan children

The life of women should revolve around the 3 K's – **kinder küche kirche** (Children, Church, Cooking)

Changes to Women: Work

Women were bribed by 'marriage credits' and child bonuses to not work

1933 – Women were banned from professional posts, e.g doctors, solicitors, civil servants and overall 15% of women were sacked such as 4000 teachers.

Girls were discouraged from going to university

However, from 1937 there was a shortage of workers so they introduced a compulsory 'duty year' where women had to work on farms or in homes. As a result women working increased to 14 million in 1939

Changes to Women: Life

- Organisations such the Women's Front and Reich Mothers Service were set up to brainwash women
- Women were supposed to wear traditional women's fashion like farmers
- They should not smoke and they should focus on keeping fit.
- The German Women's Enterprise organised classes and radio talks trained women on housework and bringing up children

Increasing birth



Hitler wanted more babies to expand the Aryan **Master Race** and **create more loyal Nazis**



The **Mothers Cross** was given out to reward women who had more children, it was given out on Hitler's mothers birthday

- 4 children = a bronze medal.
- 6 children = a silver medal.
- 8 or more children = gold medal.



Married couples were given a 'Marriage loan' of 1,000 marks. They could keep 250 marks for each child they had, so if they had 4 children they would pay nothing back.



The '**Lebensborn**' programme was introduced
Aryan women were encouraged 'donate' a child to the Fuhrer by getting pregnant with Aryan SS soldiers at special centres.



Abortion and contraception was banned.
The Sterilisation Law of 1933, sterilised non-Aryan women so they could not have children.
Men and women who could not have children were allowed to get divorced.

Results of Nazi policies towards women

In 1936 there were over 30% more births than there had been in 1933.

Marriages increased 21% between 1933-39

Women liked being important in Germany, support for the Nazis was high.

Nazis Women and Youth Exam Questions



Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions.

Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

1. Explain why there were changes in the lives of young people of Germany in the years 1933-39

- Nazi Ideals
- Education

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)

2. Explain why there were changes in the lives of women in Germany in the years 1933-39

- Work
- Birth policies

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)



Using these two boxes to micro-plan your answer to the above questions

You only need to plan out your 3-4 paragraphs, and key words/terms you would include in each

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

Source G The memories of a Hitler Youth leader

What I liked about the Hitler Youth was the comradeship. I was full of enthusiasm when joined the Young People at the age of ten. I can still remember how deeply moved I was when I heard the club mottoes: "Young People are hard. They can keep a secret. They are loyal. They are comrades." And then there were the trips! Is anything nicer than enjoying the splendours of the homeland in the company of one's comrades?

Source H From a British magazine, 1938

There seems little enthusiasm for the Hitler Youth, with membership falling. Many no longer want to be commanded, but wish to do as they like. Usually only a third of a group appears for roll call. At evening meetings it is a great event if 20 turn up out of 80, but usually there are only about 10 or 12.

3. How useful are Sources G and H for an enquiry into the Hitler Youth?

Explain your answer using Sources G and H and your knowledge of the historical context (8 marks)

Source I Hitler Youth member, private letter, 1936

How did we live in Camp S which is supposed to be an example to all the camps? We practically didn't have a minute of the day to ourselves. This isn't camp life, no sir! It's military barrack life! Drill starts right after a meagre breakfast. We would like to have athletics but there isn't any. Instead we have military exercises, down in the mud, till the tongue hangs out of your mouth. And we have only one wish: sleep, sleep....

3. What can you infer from Source I about the Hitler Youth in Germany? (4 Marks)

Economic conditions in 1933

There were two major economic problems facing Germany

1. Mass unemployment, about 25% of works which was 6 million in 1932.
2. The economic depression had ruined trade, business and production.



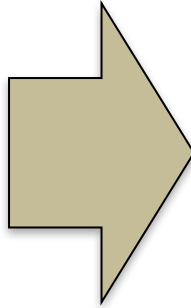
Hitler had two main aims:

1. Solve unemployment (unhappy unemployed workers would reduce Nazi support and Germany needed workers)
2. Begin to prepare Germany for war

The New Plan

In 1933 Hjalmar Schacht introduced his 'New Plan' to solve unemployment.

The Nazis began to use a variety of methods to 'solve' unemployment.



National Labour Service

Conscription and Rearmament

Autobahns

'Invisible Unemployment'

Ways the Nazis reduced unemployment

National Labour Service (RAD)

All young men between 18-25 years had to join the RAD for six months, it was paid work to help Germany.

They were given jobs in public works such as building schools, hospitals, planting trees and repairing roads.

Conditions were not great for works, they had to wear uniforms, live in camps and had to parade.

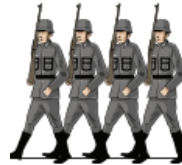
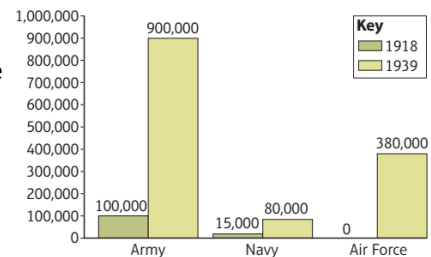
Many complained of low pay and poor food.



Conscription and Rearmament

The Nazis began rearmament and conscription (Breaking the Treaty of Versailles).

In 1935 conscription was introduced for 18-25 year olds. The army grew from 1.4 million by 1939.



Spending on arms and equipment rose from 3.5 billion to 26 billion marks, this caused a big need for workers. By 1935, over 72,000 workers were involved in aircraft construction.

Invisible Unemployment

The Nazis also cheated unemployment statistics to show that unemployment had dropped, they made it 'invisible'

Women and Jews were forced out of their jobs and these were given to men.

They were also not included in unemployment figures



Those in prisons and concentration camps were taken off unemployment statistics
Part time workers were also classed as full time workers, whilst soldiers were also 'workers' even in peace time



Public Works

The 'autobahn' (motorway) project was a key method to reduce unemployment.

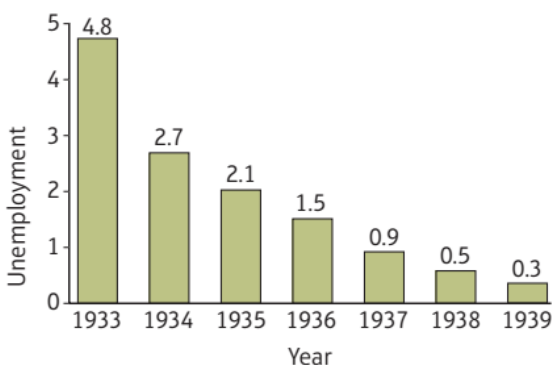
The Nazis planned to build 7000 miles of motorways to improve transports By 1935, 125,000 men were building new autobahns.



The Nazis spent over 38 billion marks a year by 1938 on public works, like schools, hospitals and bridges to benefit Germany. These would create jobs which would help the German economy and in turn create more jobs in trade or agriculture.



Results



The Nazis claimed they had solved unemployment and proudly announced unemployment had dropped from 4.8million to 300,000 by 1939. The Nazis had succeeded in their promise of bringing 'work' to the German people.

However, historians have argued that the Nazis manipulated the system by sacking workers, lying about statistics and using forced labour to rearm Germany.



Workers in Nazi Germany

Hitler knew that he had to keep German workers happy as they were the base of his support, therefore he set up three organisations to 'improve' the lives of workers.



The German Labour Front (DAF)

When Hitler took power, he banned all **trade unions** on 2nd May 1933 as he felt they were a threat, he then replaced it with the **German Labour Front (DAF)** to protect workers right. All workers had to join or they could not work.

Changes introduced by the DAF

- Strikes were made illegal, offenders would be sent the concentration camps
- Workers could not leave a job without permission
- Workers couldn't ask for higher wages
- Working hours were increased, 60+ hours a week



The DAF effectively took away the freedom of workers and their rights, it was a method of control.

Strength Through Joy (KdF)

Strength through Joy (KdF) was set up by the Nazis to provide leisure activities for workers that everyone could afford. It aimed to keep workers happy so they did not complain



The KdF

Workers could go on luxury holidays for cheap. The KdF even own their own cruise ship.

A ski trip cost one weeks wages

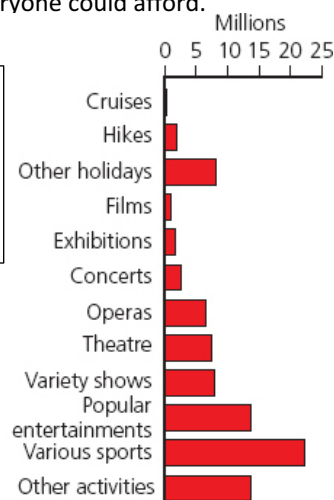


Over 7 million people took part in KdF sports events

Whilst over 10 million went on holidays in 1938, the most loyal workers got to go on the best holidays.

Free evening classes were offered in cookery.

Cultural nights like plays, the theatre films were popular.



KdF numbers in 1938

A savings scheme (5 marks a week) to help workers buy a Volkswagen (Peoples Car)

However, no cars were ever made as the factories focussed on rearmament.



Beauty of Labour

Beauty of Labour campaigned to improve better facilities for workers, for example; better toilets, changing rooms, showers and canteens

Beauty of Labour gave companies financial help to improve their buildings and safety for example; Reducing noise levels and improving lighting in factories



Did German workers benefit under the Nazis?

Yes

- There were more people working which meant people had more money to spend, which would increase the standard of living
- Between 1936-39, wages increased by 20% which meant workers, like those in armaments factories had more to spend
- The KdF offered workers opportunities for holiday and leisure that they could never afford, whilst Beauty of Labour improved working conditions for workers
- The German workers got their 'bread and work' as promised by Hitler before he was elected

No

- Despite higher wages, the price of goods like food rose by 20% between 1933-39 so the increase wages were cancelled out.
- Lower earners, like those in the RAD struggled to buy goods with the increased priced
- Working hours increase on average, from 43 hours per week to 49 hours in 1939.
- The DAF completely took away German workers rights (to strike, for higher pay and to leave jobs)
- Women and Jews were sacked from their jobs
- Workers were forced to work in poor jobs in the RAD

Nazi Persecution of Minorities

Once in power, the Nazis began to slowly but increasingly persecute and discriminate against the minorities of Germany – Jews, the disabled, gypsies, homosexuals and social outcasts

Nazi racial beliefs

Central to Nazi ideology was racial purity, the idea that the German race was the 'Master Race' and all others like Jews were 'subhumans'.

The Nazis believed Germans were a pure race of Aryans (blond hair, blue eyes, athletic)



Hitler believed that Germany's future was dependent on the creation of a pure Aryan state. This would be achieved in two ways:

- Breeding more Aryans
- Destroying Jews and other subhumans

Nazi views towards minorities

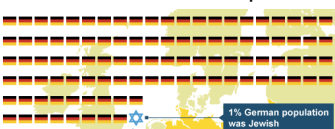
Ideal Germans were 'socially useful' to Nazi Germany, those that did not work or were racial impure were seen as worthless and a cost to Germany, they were not party of the Volksgemeinschaft (peoples community)



Persecution of minorities in the community	
Group	How were they persecuted?
The disabled 	In 1933, the Nazis passed a ' Sterilisation Law ' which forcibly sterilised the mentally ill, alcoholic, deaf, blind or deformed. 400,000 people were sterilised by 1939. In 1939, the Nazis started the T4 programme (Euthanasia) where young people with mental/physical disabilities were killed by lethal injection. Over 5000 children are killed.
Homo-sexuals 	The Nazis believed homosexuals were immoral and lowered racial purity. In 1935 the Nazis passed laws against Homosexuality, 4000 were arrested in 1936. Over 5000 homosexuals were sent to concentration camps
Gypsies 	They were non-Aryan and a threat to racial purity that needed to be cleansed. They were also seen as 'work shy' and did not fit ideal Nazi life. From 1935, Germans and Gypsies could not marry and between 1936-39 Germany's 35,000 gypsies were rounded up and put into camps to be eventually deported.

Nazi Persecution of Jews

In 1933 there were 437,000 Jews living in Germany, less than 1% of the population but Hitler had made it clear actions against the Jews was a priority, from then on anti-Semitic actions developed.



The Nazis began to use a variety of methods to discriminate against Jews; through work, education, propaganda and the arts.



By 1939, the Nazi plan was to deport all Jews from Germany.

In total over 250,000 Jews left Germany between 1933-39 to flee persecution.

Key events 1933-39



1933 – Jews are banned from public places (swimming pools & parks) and all government jobs.



1936 Jews banned from working as doctors, dentists and lawyers

1938, July – Jews have to carry ID cards



1938, December - Jews are banned from owning shops or businesses

1939, April - Jews can be evicted from their homes without reason.

1939, Nov – Jews kicked out of school

1933 1st April - Boycott of Jewish businesses. For one day, the SA stood outside Jewish businesses to prevent customers from entering. 'Jude' and Star of David's are painted on windows.

1935, September - The Nuremberg Laws
The Reich Law of Citizenship stated that Jews were no longer German citizens, this meant they could not vote any more.

The Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honour. Made marriage and sexual relations between Jews and Aryan Germans illegal

1938, March Jews had to register all their possessions, making it easier for Nazis to confiscate

9th and 10th November, 1938 – Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass)

After the murder of a Nazi diplomat in Paris by a young Jew, Goebbels uses it as an opportunity for most violent anti Jewish action to date. Nazis destroy 7,500 businesses, burn 400 synagogues and sent 20,000 Jews to concentration camps. 100 Jews are killed too. Jews are forced to pay £1 billion for the damage.
Turning point in persecution of Jews.

Nazi Workers and Persecution Exam Questions



Using your revision guide, the sources and A4 paper, practice the below exam questions.

Remember to use the 'how to' guides in the front of this book to help your in your answers.

1. Explain how the Nazis were able to solve the problems of unemployment between 1933-39

- The RAD
- Rearmament

You must also use your own information (12 Marks)



Using these this box to micro-plan your answer in 3-4 paragraphs using key words/terms for each.

P1.
P2.
P3.
P4.

2. Study interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the standard of living of German workers in Nazi Germany . What is the main difference between these views? Explain your answer using details from both interpretations.

3. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the the standard of living of German workers in Nazi Germany

4. How far do you agree with interpretation 2 about the the standard of living of German workers in Nazi Germany . Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your own knowledge of the historical context. (16 Marks)

Interpretation 1 From Life in Germany, by Steve Waugh published in 2009

From 1936 to 1939 wages increased, but this was due to a longer working day rather than an increase in hourly wage rates In addition, the cost of living rose in the 1930s, which meant that real wages (how much workers could buy) actually fell. There were also food sho because the government reduced agricultural uction to ers keep up prices to help farmers sale

Interpretation 2 From Nationalism, dictatorship and democracy in 20th Century Europe by Hall. Shutter Brown and Williams published in 2015

For Germans who conformed to Nazi expectations G living standards went up Unemployment dropped Nazi statistics show that real wages rose... though only if a worker worked overtime L The Strength Through Joy' programme provided Ex many extras. Some (benefits) such as loans [and] medical care were real enough. und You

Interpretation 1 From The Third Reich in Power, by Richard Ewans published in 2006.

The violence (during Kristallnacht was familiar from the behaviour of the brownshirts in 1933. But this time it went much further. It was clearly more widespread and more destructive. It demonstrated the hatred of the Jews now gripped t only the not stormtroopers and (Nazi party activists but was spreading to other parts of the population above all to the young, upon whom five years of Nazism in schools and the Hitler Youth had clearly had an effect.

Interpretation 2 From Life in Germany, by Steve Waugh, published in 2009.

This led to Kristallnacht, so called because of the thousands of Jewish shop windows which were smashed... Many Germans watched the events with alarm and concern. However, the Nazi. controlled press presented it as a reaction of ordinary Germans against Jews. Most Germans did not believe this, but hardly anyone protested for fear of arrest and death.

2. Study interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about events of Kristallnacht . What is the main difference between these views? Explain your answer using details from both interpretations.

3. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the events of Kristallnacht

4. How far do you agree with interpretation 2 about the events of Kristallnacht. Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your own knowledge of the historical context. (16 Marks)