**Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939**

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| **Key Topic One****The Weimar Republic 1918-29** | **Key Topic Two****Hitler’s Rise to Power, 1919-33** | **Key Topic Three****Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933-39** | **Key Topic Four****Life in Nazi Germany, 1933-39** |
| * 1. **The origins of the Republic, 1918-19**
* **Unknown.jpeg**WW1 had a terrible impact on Germany- blockade, feelings of defeat, lack of food etc
* German revolution- abdication of the Kaiser and creation of a republic.
* The Weimar constitution had a number of strengths such as both men and women could vote.
* There were also weakness such as many small parties would win seats which led to no majority in the Reichstag.
 | **2.1 Early development of the Nazi Party, 1920-22*** As part of his work for the army after WW1 Adolf Hitler attended meetings of the German Workers’ Party.
* Hitler joined the party and within 2 years had taken control. He created a 25-point programme.
* Hitler was a popular leader and worked hard to reorganise the party.
* The SA played an important role in the early party, they looked strong and organised.
 | **3.1 The creation of a dictatorship, 1933-34*** Hitler’s power as chancellor was limited by Von Papen his vice chancellor who was not a Nazi and the Reichstag.
* On the 27th of February there was a fire at the Reichstag. Hitler used this as an excuse to ban the Communist party and pass emergency powers.
* The Enabling Act was passed by the Reichstag on the 24th March 1933, it changed the constitution and gave Hitler more power.
* Trade unions and other political parties were banned.
 | **4.1 Nazi policies towards women*** Nazis believed women should be housewives and mothers. They should dress traditionally
* The Law for the Encouragement of marriage gave financial incentives for people to get married.
* The mother cross medals encouraged large families.
* The Lebensborn programme encouraged single women to have babies with SS men.
* Propaganda and polices discouraged women from working. e.g. women banned from professional jobs.
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| * 1. **Early challenges to the Republic, 1919-23**
* The Weimar government was unpopular, it was linked to defeat and the peace treaty, the Treaty of Versailles.
* The treaty meant Germany lost colonies, had to pay reparations and had limits on the armed forces.
* In January 1919, the Spartacist uprising (left wing) tried to seize Germany, it was crushed by the Freicorps.
* In 1920 the Kapp Putsch (right wing) tried to seize power, the rebellion failed.
* Political violence was almost constant- 1919-23.
* 1923 saw the French occupation of the Ruhr due to missed reparations payments and hyperinflation.
 | * 1. **The Munich Putsch and lean years, 1923-29**
* In 1923 Hitler tried to seize power in Germany.
* Long term causes- WW1 and consequences, Weimar
* Medium term- influenced by Italian fascists
* Short term- hyperinflation
* The putsch was a failure and Hitler was imprisoned. The Nazi party was banned. The party lost support.
* In prison Hitler wrote Mein Kampf, clarifying his ideas.
* **Unknown.png**The party was again reorganised- headquarters were set up, the SS were strengthened and a national system of organisation was created.
* Bamberg Conference (1926)- confirmed Hitler as leader.
 | **3E43462500000578-4312838-image-a-60_1489505027685.jpg3.2 The Police state*** A police state is a country where the police are used to help keep control.
* Nazi police and security services had a lot of power in Germany- SS (private police force), SD (monitored opponents), Gestapo (secret police). SA (Nazi army) also supported.
* Concentration camps were set up to house opponents of the state.
* Judges and courts were controlled.
* The Nazis also controlled religious views. Hitler tried to work with the churches at first but later he Nazified them.
 | **62001389fee71d95e31a4eaf75226528_400x400.jpeg4.2 Nazi policies towards the young*** Hitler wanted to create a ‘Thousand Year Reich’, to do this he needed young people.
* In March 1939, it became compulsory to join the Hitler Youth- girls and boys youth groups organised by age.
* Boys- Political, military, character and physical training.
* Girls- Political, character and physical training. Focus on role as wives and mothers.
* Teachers had to join the Nazi Teacher’s league and promoted Nazi ideas and practices in the classroom.
* The Nazis controlled the curriculum and ensured students learnt about race, did lots of exercise and that all subjects indoctrinated students.
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| * 1. **The recovery of the Republic, 1924-29**
* In August 1923 Stresemann was appointed chancellor.
* A period of economic recovery began
* The Rentenmark was a new currency which people trusted and so it stabilised the economy.
* The Dawes Plan (1924) temporarily reduced payments and provided US loans to support the economy.
* The Young Plan (1929) reduced the amount of reparations and extended the amount of time to pay. There were drawbacks but 85% supported it.
* The Locarno Pact, joining The League of Nations and the Kellogg-Briand Pact were foreign policy successes.
 | **2.3 Growth in Nazi support, 1929-32*** Stresemann died in October 1929
* In October 1929, the American stock market collapsed (Wall Street Crash) causing a worldwide depression.
* The effects on Germany were devastated- businesses closed and unemployment soared. The Weimar government seemed unable to act.
* This economic crisis made people turn to extremist groups like the Nazis to solve the problem.
* The Nazis appealed to many groups in society such as farmers and industrialists by having policies that had mass appeal.
 | **3.3 Controlling and influencing attitudes*** Joseph Goebbels was in charge of propaganda- films, posters, newspaper and radio that persuaded people to believe Nazi ideas.
* **ns_stud.jpg**The Nazis also used rallies, big gatherings to spread Nazi ideas and impress people.
* Some ideas were censored or prevented from being published.
* The Berlin Olympic Games of 1936 was a big propaganda opportunity.
* The Nazis controlled the art, architecture, music and literature that was created.
 | **4.3 Employment and living standards*** Hitler’s key aim was to reduce unemployment.
* Labour Service (RAD)- provided paid work for unemployed people and Autobahns (motorways) were built, creating many jobs.
* Rearmament also reduced unemployment.
* Unemployment figures looked better than they were because many people such as Jews and those in concentration camps didn’t count.
* Living standards also rose due to schemes such as Strength Through Joy, the VW and Beauty of Labour.
* German workers had to work more hours a week.
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| * 1. **Changes in Society, 1924-29**
* Living standards suffered as a result of the economic problems
* There were some gradual improvements after 1924 including lower unemployment, less working hours, better houses and education.
* **Unknown.jpeg**Women’s lives changed- they had the vote, new rights and more access to professional jobs.
* There were cultural changes; Bauhaus movement in art, cinema, architecture.
* Some were opposed to these cultural changes and thought Germany should remain traditional.
 | **2.4 How Hitler became Chancellor, 1932-33*** **I**n the early 1930s there were a number of elections for both president and chancellor.
* 30 May 1932: Von Papen became chancellor. He and Von Schleicher thought they could control Hitler and the Nazis.
* In July 1932, there were further elections and campaigning caused violence on the streets. The Nazis won the largest share of the votes.
* President Hindenburg refused to make Hitler Chancellor and elections were called for November. He hoped the Nazis would lose support.
* In the elections the Nazis were still the largest party and with civil unrest looming, Hitler was made chancellor in January 1933.
 | **3.4 Opposition, resistance and conformity*** Most Germans supported or conformed to the Nazis due to fear, propaganda and Hitler’s successes.
* There were some areas of opposition-
1. **The church-** The Pastor’s emergency league and Pastor Niemoller led the opposition. The Confessing Church was created. Some Catholic priests also spoke out. This had limited success.
2. **Young people**- Opposition groups were the Edelweiss Pirates and Swing Youth. The wrote anti-Nazi graffiti and did not join the Hitler Youth. Success limited.
3. **The army-** Several plots attempted to kill Hitler- all failed.
4. **Political parties-** The SPD campaigned against the Nazis with limited success.
 | **4.4 The persecution of minorities*** The Nazis had 2 key beliefs about race- Eugenics and racial hygiene- all Germans should be white and healthy (Master race/Ayran).
* Those not seen as fit to be ‘German’ were classified as ‘Untermenschen’ or sub-human). Groups included in this were Slavs, Roma people, homosexuals and people with disabilities, mental or physical.
* The Nazis were Anti-Semitic, they hated Jewish people and passed laws to make their lives unbearable. Many Jews had died in concentration camps by 1939.
* Jews were targeted in Kristallnacht in November 1938.
* Many German people did not speak out against the treatment of these minority groups.
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