**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. |
| * 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. |
| * 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. |
| * 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. |