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AQA - GCSE (Grade 9-1)

STUDY GUIDE

Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and Dictatorship

GCSEHistory.com



28

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Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and Dictatorship

AQA - GCSE



Published by Clever Lili Limited.

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First published 2020

ISBN 978-1-913887-27-8

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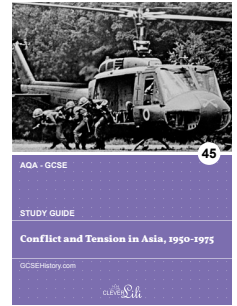
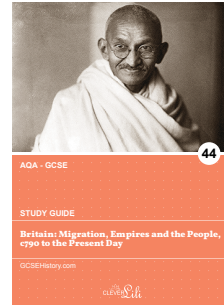
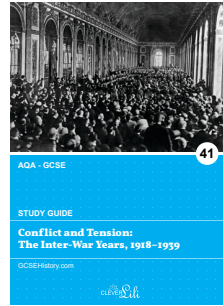
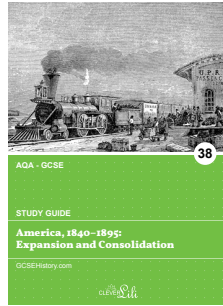
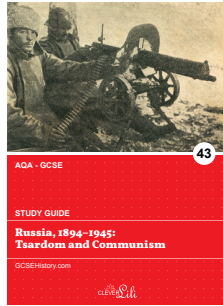
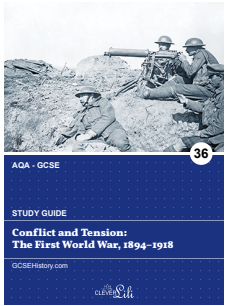
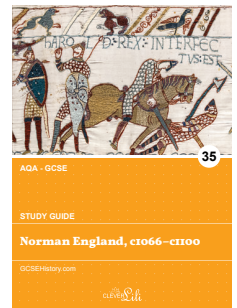
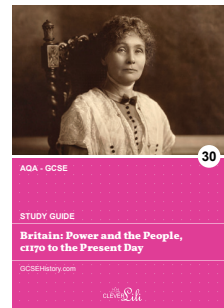
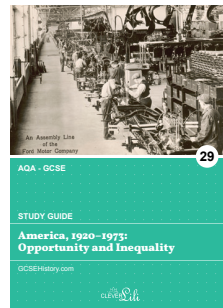
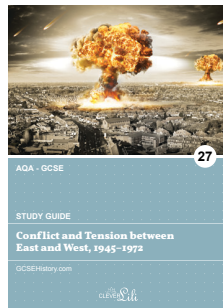
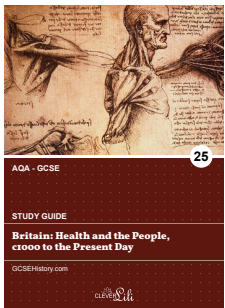
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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

In this study guide, you will see a series of icons, highlighted words and page references. The key below will help you quickly establish what these mean and where to go for more information.

Icons

-  **WHAT** questions cover the key events and themes.
-  **WHO** questions cover the key people involved.
-  **WHEN** questions cover the timings of key events.
-  **WHERE** questions cover the locations of key moments.
-  **WHY** questions cover the reasons behind key events.
-  **HOW** questions take a closer look at the way in which events, situations and trends occur.
-  **IMPORTANCE** questions take a closer look at the significance of events, situations, and recurrent trends and themes.
-  **DECISIONS** questions take a closer look at choices made at events and situations during this era.

Highlighted words

Abdicate - occasionally, you will see certain words highlighted within an answer. This means that, if you need it, you'll find an explanation of the word or phrase in the glossary which starts on **page 20**.

Page references

Tudor (p.7) - occasionally, a certain subject within an answer is covered in more depth on a different page. If you'd like to learn more about it, you can go directly to the page indicated.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?




Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship, is a period study that investigates Germany's journey from an Imperial power to a democracy, and then investigates how it was transformed into a dictatorship. The course focuses on the relatively new German Empire and its early problems, culminating in the First World War. The course also investigates the origins of the Weimar Republic, its challenges, and how it sought to overcome those challenges. You will study a range of significant events, people and situations, which shaped the German landscape throughout this tumultuous time period, and you will look at the significant shifts in German society from internal and external pressures.

Purpose

This study enables you to understand the complexities and challenges facing Germany, politically and socially, from its early relationships with other imperial powers to its development as a democracy, and how this was dismantled to form a one party state under the Nazis. You will explore themes such as: nationalism and the meaning of statehood, the struggle for democracy, and the rise of fascism. Through the study of this topic you will develop key historical skills such as cause and consequence, and change and continuity. You will also be encouraged to develop your critical thinking skills through the analysis of interpretations.











Enquiries

Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship features 3 key enquiry topics:

-  Enquiry 1 looks at the growth of democracy in Germany. It focuses on the problems faced by the Kaiser in ruling Germany; and the growth of socialism. You will study the increase in international tensions, the outbreak of the First World War, and its impact on Germany. This enquiry ends with the growth of democracy in Germany, its initial struggles with the economy, rebellion and isolation, and, finally, how it overcame these problems. You will study the 'golden age' of Weimar, and how key figures such as Gustav Stresemann stimulated recovery and international cooperation.
-  Enquiry 2 looks at Germany and the devastating impact of the Wall Street Crash and the Great Depression on Germany. You will investigate how this resulted in the rise of extremist parties such as the Nazis. You will study the collapse of democracy and how key individuals contributed to this. You will investigate the rise of Adolf Hitler to the position of Chancellor in 1933, how he consolidated his power, and how this culminated in his becoming Führer.
-  Enquiry 3 looks the experiences of Germans under the Nazis. You will investigate the benefits and drawbacks of the economic changes, from the problems of self-sufficiency, employment, and the Four Year Plan. You will study the huge social shifts in the role of women, the persecution of the Jews and other undesirables, and the indoctrination of Germany's children. You will learn about the bravery and futility of those who resisted the Nazis. Finally, you will investigate the origins of Nazi ideology and culture, and how this led to a path of persecution, culminating in the Second World War and the Holocaust.




Key Individuals

Some of the key individuals studied on this course include:

-  Kaiser Wilhelm II.
-  Friedrich Ebert.
-  Rosa Luxemburg.
-  Wolfgang Kapp.
-  Gustav Stresemann.
-  Paul von Hindenburg.
-  Franz von Papen.
-  Adolf Hitler.
-  Joseph Goebbels.
-  Hans and Sophie Scholl.

Key Events

Some of the key events you will study on this course include:

-  The outbreak of the First World War in 1914, and the end of the German Empire.
-  The signing of the Treaty of Versailles.
-  The Year of Crisis in 1923.

- ★ The impact of the Wall Street Crash and Depression on Germany.
- ★ Hitler becoming chancellor in 1933.
- ★ The Night of the Long Knives in 1934.
- ★ The Nuremberg Laws in 1935.
- ★ Kristallnacht in 1938.
- ★ The growth of opposition to the Nazis during the Second World War, including the Swing Youth and the White Rose Group.

Assessment

Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship is the Period Study component of your AQA qualification. It forms the first part of Paper 1. You will have two hours for Paper 1, and you should spend one hour on this section. There are 6 questions on this section of the paper, with a total of 40 marks.

- ★ Question 1 is worth 4 marks. This question requires you to describe and explain how two interpretations are different.
- ★ Question 2 is worth 4 marks. This question requires you to describe and explain why the two interpretations are different.
- ★ Question 3 is worth 8 marks. This question requires you to explain how convincing the interpretations are. You must give a substantiated judgement based on the interpretations and your contextual knowledge.
- ★ Question 4 is worth 4 marks. This is a describe question in which you must provide 2 detailed reasons/examples/features about a particular topic covered in Germany 1890-1945.
- ★ Question 5 is worth 8 marks. This question will test your understanding of second order concepts (cause, consequence, change, continuity, etc.). In this question you must demonstrate your knowledge of a topic you have covered, and give different reasons based on the second order concept you have been given.
- ★ Question 6 is worth 12 marks. This question will ask you to write about two events, individuals or situations, and will ask you to make a sustained judgement about which was the more important factor, using your contextual knowledge and understanding of second order concepts.

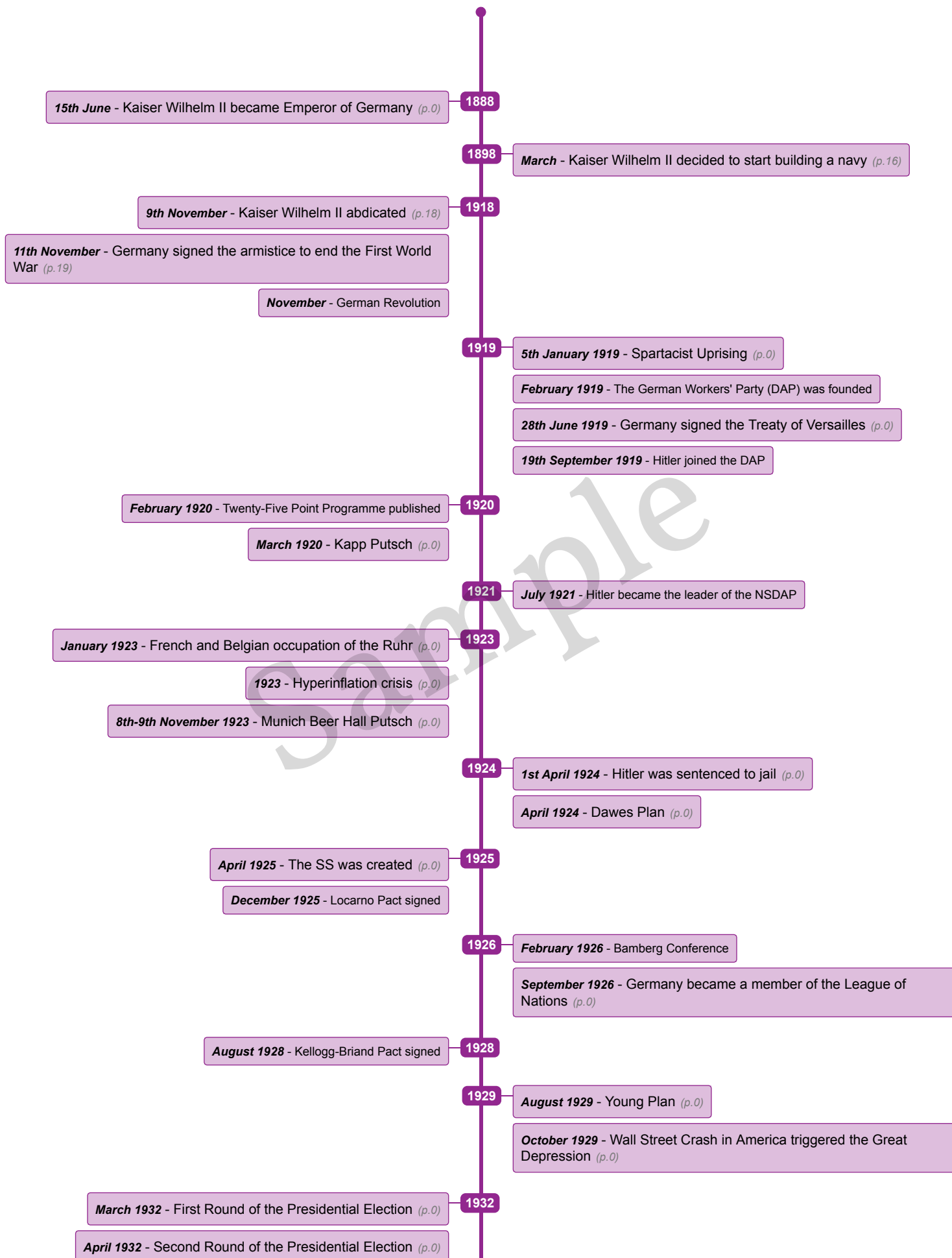


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GERMANY, 1890-1945

TIMELINE



GERMANY, 1890-1945

May 1932 - Franz von Papen was appointed chancellor (p.0)

July 1932 - July election (p.0)

December 1932 - General von Schleicher became chancellor (p.0)

1933

30th January 1933 - Hitler appointed chancellor of Germany (p.0)

27th February 1933 - Reichstag Fire (p.0)

March 1933 - March election (p.0)

March 1933 - First concentration camp was set up (p.0)

24th March 1933 - The Enabling Act (p.0)

April 1933 - SA boycott of Jewish shops

April 1933 - The Gestapo was set up (p.0)

May 1933 - German Labour Front (DAF) was set up

May 1933 - Berlin book burning (p.0)

14th July 1933 - Law for the Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring (p.0)

July 1933 - The Concordat with the Nazis

1934

June 1934 - Night of the Long Knives (p.0)

2nd August 1934 - President Paul von Hindenburg died. Hitler became the Führer

1935

November 1935 - The Nuremberg Laws (p.0)

1936

Berlin Olympics (p.0)

1936 - The Reich Church was created

1938

November 1938 - Kristallnacht (Night of the Broken Glass or Crystal Night) (p.0)

1939

March 1939 - The Hitler Youth was made compulsory (p.0)

1st September 1939 - Germany invaded Poland. The Second World War began

1940

April 1940 - Auschwitz was built

1941

22nd June 1941 - Germany invaded the USSR in Operation Barbarossa

1942

January 1942 - Wannsee Conference on the 'Final Solution'

1942 - Albert Speer was appointed minister for armaments

1944

Home Guard, or Volkssturm, were formed

20th July 1944 - July Bomb Plot

1945

30th April 1945 - Hitler committed suicide

8th May 1945 - Germany surrendered

Sample



THE FORMATION AND UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

The formation of the German Empire changed the dynamic of European politics, which culminated in the First World War.



What was German unification?

In 1871, several Germanic **states** in central Europe came together to form one united country called Germany.



What was the situation before German unification?

Before 1871, there were several small German **states**, loosely linked together by **culture** and language. These included Bavaria, Hesse, Saxony, and Prussia (which was by far the largest).



When was German unification?

The unification of Germany was officially proclaimed 18th January, 1871.



How did German unification happen in 1871?

The unification of Germany happened through a series of small wars.



Who led German unification in 1871?

The most powerful **state** before the unification had been Prussia, so the Prussian generals, army officers and **tactics** formed the basis of the new united German Army. The Prussian ruler, Wilhelm I, became its first Kaiser, and the Prussian system of government was adapted to rule all of Germany.



Why did Germany unify in 1871?

The Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 brought all the Germanic **states** into an **alliance** against a common enemy, France. This spurred on unification under the Prussian ruler and his leading **minister**, Bismarck.

DID YOU KNOW?

The German Empire was founded in the same place as the signing of the Treaty of Versailles.

The various independent German states unified in January 1871 in the Hall of Mirrors, in the Palace of Versailles - where the treaty was subsequently signed in 1919.



THE GERMAN SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

After the unification of Germany, the government was reorganised into a federation of states.



How did the Kaiser rule Germany?

The Kaiser was an autocratic ruler. He had advisers, and debated ideas with the government; but he also had the power to overrule them and act on his own ideas.



Who helped the Kaiser to rule Germany?

The Kaiser ruled over Germany, but he was supported by 3 key features:



- ✓ Each former **state** sent representatives to the Bundesrat to consult the Kaiser over new laws, and to give local advice on situations. They also discussed laws proposed by the Kaiser and his advisers.
- ✓ The Kaiser was supported by personal advisers, or **ministers** - mostly large landowners and business/factory owners. The most important of these ministers was his **chancellor** (like a Prime Minister).
- ✓ The Reichstag was a **parliament** of elected officials, and all men aged over 25 could vote for them. This was where laws drawn up by the Kaiser and his **ministers** were discussed.



What were the Kaiser's policies when he ruled Germany?

The Kaiser had several important policies, but the most important were ideas of expansion of the German power base. These were mostly seen in the ideas of Weltpolitik (p. 15) and Flottenpolitik (p. 16).

DID YOU KNOW?

The German Empire had three emperors between 1871 and 1918.

The Emperors who ruled were Wilhelm I, Frederick III (who ruled for only 99 days), and Wilhelm II.



WELTPOLITIK

'Germany must have her place in the sun.' - Kaiser Wilhelm II



What was Weltpolitik?

Weltpolitik means 'world politics.' It was the idea that Germany wanted its 'place in the sun' - in other words, an **empire**. Germany wanted influence in world affairs and to become a world power like Britain.



When was Weltpolitik implemented?

Weltpolitik was implemented from the 1880s, but became more noticeable after 1900 as Germany pushed for an **empire** and became more involved in international affairs.



Why did they have Weltpolitik?

Kaiser Wilhelm II was jealous of the **empire** held by his cousin, George V of England. He longed to rule a country like that of his beloved grandmother, Queen Victoria. Weltpolitik would make Germany stronger and more powerful internationally.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wilhelm II became very jealous of the power and status of the other major European empires, especially the British Empire. This was made worse as he was related to many of their rulers.

Wilhelm was related to the British and Russian monarchs by blood. They were his cousins, and he would often write to and visit them in his youth.



FLOTTENPOLITIK

Britain had the most powerful navy in the world before the outbreak of the First World War. Kaiser Wilhelm II believed a strong navy would enable Germany to compete with the British Empire.



What was Flottenpolitik?

Flottenpolitik was the idea of building up the navy, so that Germany could become a great power and a world player.



When was Flottenpolitik introduced?

A series of naval laws were introduced between 1898 and 1912, which saw the massive development of the German navy. This began a naval arms race with Britain, costing huge sums of money.



Why did they have Flottenpolitik?

The German navy needed to grow, in order to acquire and protect any German **colonies**, and to allow for the growth of German power. Wilhelm had always admired the navy of his grandmother, Queen Victoria, and he wanted Germany to copy Britain's example.



What was the impact of Flottenpolitik?

Flottenpolitik began a naval arms race with Britain, and contributed to the outbreak of the First World War. It also put Germany in **debt** before the war began. Taxes were raised to pay for the navy, and this was unpopular, leading to workers' **strikes**.

DID YOU KNOW?

The new type of battleship, the dreadnought, was of such advanced design it made all previous battleships obsolete.

- ✓ The dreadnought was designed and launched in 1906 by the British.
- ✓ Germany quickly copied the design and began to make its own dreadnoughts.
- ✓ Any battleships built before 1906 became known as 'pre-dreadnoughts'.



THE RISE OF SOCIALISM

The 20th century was a period of great political and social change in Europe. The working classes in many countries began to demand better housing, pay, and living conditions.



What was socialism in Germany?

Socialism is the belief that the community should be able to share in the benefits of work.



When did socialism start in Germany?

During the 1880s, German politicians began moving towards **socialist** ideas. Groups such as the Centre Party and the Social Democrats were formed, and pushed for a German **welfare state** to support and protect all workers.



Why did German socialism grow?

Germany **industrialised** in the 1880s, and workers in factories began pushing for better working conditions and rights. They joined together to form Trade Unions, to fight for their rights.



What was socialism in Germany like before World War I?

The Social Democratic Party (SPD) grew from the 1890s. They hoped that they could persuade the Kaiser to share some of his power with the people. Around 1/3 of workers voted for the SPD at this time.



Who led the socialist party in Germany?

Friedrich Ebert led the SPD during the First World War. At the end of the war, when the Kaiser **abdicated**, he became the temporary leader of Germany and arranged Germany's surrender. He also acted as **president** from 1919 until his death in 1925.



What did socialists do in Weimar Germany?

The SPD was a **left-wing** party, and remained the most popular political party for the majority of the Weimar period. They took part in **coalitions** in 1918-21, 1923, and 1928-30. The rest of the time they were the major opposition party.



When did the Nazis ban the socialists in Germany?

Like all other political parties, the SPD were banned by the Nazis (p.0) from 1933, following the Enabling Act.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many countries in Europe today have policies and laws in place that were demanded by the working classes during the early 20th century.



THE IMPACT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

The First World War had a massive impact on Germany, which resulted in the collapse of the monarchy and the creation of the Weimar Republic.



What happened with Germany and the First World War?

The First World War had a huge impact on Germany's society, politics and **economy**.



How did Germany enter the First World War?

The following 3 key events led to Germany entering the First World War.

- ✓ Germany declared war on Russia on the 1st August, 1914.
- ✓ After Germany invaded France via Belgium, Great Britain declared war on Germany on the 4th August.
- ✓ This was followed by the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) joining the war a few months later, in October, where it supported Germany.



How was Germany affected by the First World War?

Germany was affected in 3 key ways:

- ✓ Germany was economically damaged and the country's **debt** increased to 150 billion marks.
- ✓ They were affected socially with two million troops and approximately 763,000 **civilians** dead.
- ✓ They were affected politically with many groups attempting to seize power, the Kaiser's abdication and Germany becoming a **republic**.



How did the First World War affect people socially in Germany?

Germany was badly hit by the war because of the Allied Naval Blockade that stopped supplies getting into Germany during the war, and remained in place until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, leaving many starving and ill.



How many casualties did the First World War claim in Germany?

Germany was affected socially by the First World War in 5 key ways:

- ✓ They had a high **casualty** rate with approximately two million dead soldiers.
- ✓ Some 600,000 women were left as widows.
- ✓ The war also took its toll on **civilians**, with approximately 763,000 people dying from starvation.
- ✓ The gap between rich and poor had grown as a result of the war and increased social divisions.
- ✓ Over 1 and a half million soldiers returned home following the war, many struggling to adapt back to **civilian** life and accept defeat.



What happened to Germany's economy after the First World War?

There were 7 significant negative effects on the **economy**:

- ✓ By 1918, **industrial production** was reduced by a third from 1913 levels.
- ✓ Fuel was short as a result of the war and consequently 300,000 people died from hypothermia.
- ✓ The government's budget was stretched by paying pensions to the 600,000 widows and 2 million orphans left after the war.
- ✓ Germany's **debt** was 50 billion German marks in 1914. This rapidly increased to 150 billion by 1918.
- ✓ Germany was **bankrupt** as it had spent all its gold reserves on the war.
- ✓ **Inflation** increased as a result of the weak German mark so the prices of goods were increasing.
- ✓ Germany was forced to begin **interim** payments to the Allies immediately after **armistice** was signed.



What happened to Germany politically at the end of the First World War?

There were 5 important political effects:

- ✓ There was massive political unrest with uprisings and **strikes**, such as the naval **mutiny** in Kiel in October, 1918.
- ✓ The unrest spread to become the German Revolution (*p.0*) began, with huge consequences for the government and **constitution** of Germany.
- ✓ A **communist state** was declared in Bavaria on 7th November, 1918.
- ✓ The **kaiser** lost control and **abdicated**.
- ✓ The new Weimar Republic (*p.0*) was created, and by signing the Treaty of Versailles, was greatly resented by the German people.



What were the events of the revolution in Germany before the end of the First World War?

There were 10 main events that occurred during the German Revolution (*p.0*):

- ✓ The **allies** offered Germany an **armistice** to end the war. Part of their deal included that Germany become a **democracy** and the Kaiser should **abdicate**.
- ✓ The **kaiser** declined these terms, wishing to continue with the war.
- ✓ In response, the German Navy **mutinied** at the end of October 1918, refusing to follow the Kaiser's orders.
- ✓ Soon a domino effect occurred and by November 1918, there were demonstrations and **strikes** all across Germany and a **communist state** declared in Bavaria.
- ✓ On the advice of his government and the army, Kaiser Wilhelm **abdicated** on 9th November, 1918 and fled to the Netherlands.
- ✓ Philipp Scheidemann, a member of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), announced that Germany was a **republic** to **prevent** a **communist** government being declared on 9th November, 1918.



- ✓ Prince Max von Baden stepped down as the **kaiser's chancellor**. Friedrich Ebert, the leader of the SPD, took over as the chancellor of Germany.
- ✓ On 10th November, 1918, Ebert suspended the Reichstag (**parliament**) and formed the Council of People's Representatives to run the country until a new **constitution** was written.
- ✓ Germany signed a **ceasefire** or **armistice** with the Allies on 11th November, 1918 to end the fighting in the First World War.
- ✓ In January 1919, there were elections to the Constituent Assembly, or National Assembly, which would decide on the new **constitution**.



What were the consequences of the German Revolution before the end of the First World War?

There were 3 key results of the German revolution (p.0):

- ✓ The **kaiser abdicated**.
- ✓ Germany became a **republic**.
- ✓ This led to the end of the First World War.

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GLOSSARY

A

Abdicate - to give up a position of power or a responsibility.

Abolish, Abolished - to stop something, or get rid of it.

Alliance - loyalty to a person, group or cause.

Alliance - a union between groups or countries that benefits each member.

Allies - parties working together for a common objective, such as countries involved in a war. In both world wars, 'Allies' refers to those countries on the side of Great Britain.

Anti-Semitic - to be against, or hostile to, Jews.

Armistice - an agreement between two or more opposing sides in a war to stop fighting.

Arson - the act of deliberately starting a fire.

Artillery - large guns used in warfare.

Aryan - a member of the 'master race' perceived by the Nazis, who had the idea of a pure German race.

Assassinate - to murder someone, usually an important figure, often for religious or political reasons.

Assassination - the act of murdering someone, usually an important person.

Autarky - the German policy of self-sufficiency. The idea was that Germany could be economically able to survive without importing goods or services.

Autobahn - the German motorway system.

B

Bankrupt - to be insolvent; to have run out of resources with which to pay existing debts.

Blockade - a way of blocking or sealing an area to prevent goods, supplies or people from entering or leaving. It often refers to blocking transport routes.

Boycott - a way of protesting or bringing about change by refusing to buy something or use services.

C

Cabinet - politically, the group of senior ministers responsible for controlling government policy.

Campaign - a political movement to get something changed; in military terms, it refers to a series of operations to achieve a goal.

Casualties - people who have been injured or killed, such as during a war, accident or catastrophe.

Catholic - a Christian who belongs to the Roman Catholic Church.

Ceasefire - when the various sides involved in conflict agree to stop fighting.

Censorship - the control of information in the media by a government, whereby information considered obscene or

unacceptable is suppressed.

Chancellor - a senior state official who, in some countries, is the head of the government and responsible for the day-to-day running of the nation.

Civil liberties - the set of basic freedoms citizens expect in a democracy, such as freedom of speech or freedom of religion.

Civil rights - the rights a citizen has to political or social freedoms, such as the right to vote or freedom of speech.

Civil servant - a person who works for the government, either at national or local level.

Civilian - a non-military person.

Claim - someone's assertion of their right to something - for example, a claim to the throne.

Coalition government - a government formed by more than one political party.

Coalition, Coalitions - a temporary alliance, such as when a group of countries fights together.

Colonies, Colony - a country or area controlled by another country and occupied by settlers.

Communism - the belief, based on the ideas of Karl Marx, that all people should be equal in society without government, money or private property. Everything is owned by the people, and each person receives according to need.

Communist - a believer in communism.

Concentration camp - a place where large numbers of people are imprisoned with inadequate facilities. Conditions are harsh and they are forced to work or kept there to await execution. The term is most frequently used in connection with the Nazis.

Concordat - a treaty signed in July 1933 between the Catholic Church and the Nazis that effectively meant they would stay out of each others' affairs.

Conscription - mandatory enlistment of people into a state service, usually the military.

Conservative - someone who dislikes change and prefers traditional values. It can also refer to a member of the Conservative Party.

Consolidate - to strengthen a position, often politically, by bringing several things together into a more effective whole.

Constitution - rules, laws or principles that set out how a country is governed.

Constitutional assembly - group of elected representatives gathered specifically to draft a new constitution for a country.

Consumer goods - products that people buy.

Corrupt - when someone is willing to act dishonestly for their own personal gain.

Council - an advisory or administrative body set up to manage the affairs of a place or organisation. The Council of the League of Nations contained the organisation's most powerful members.

Coup - a sudden, violent and illegal overthrow of the government

by a small group - for example, the chiefs of an army.

Culture - the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.

Currency - an umbrella term for any form of legal tender, but most commonly referring to money.

D

Death camp - another name for an extermination camp in Nazi Germany.

Debt - when something, usually money, is owed by a person, organisation or institution to another.

Decree - an official order with the force of law behind it.

Demilitarised - to remove all military forces from an area and forbid them to be stationed there.

Democracy - a political system where a population votes for its government on a regular basis. The word is Greek for 'the rule of people' or 'people power'.

Democratic - relating to or supporting the principles of democracy.

Dictatorship - a form of government where an individual or small group has total power, ruling without tolerance for other views or opposition.

Diktat - a penalty or settlement imposed on a defeated party. The Germans called the Treaty of Versailles a 'diktat', or 'dictated peace'.

E

Economic - relating to the economy; also used when justifying something in terms of profitability.

Economic depression - a sustained downturn in the economy.

Economy - a country, state or region's position in terms of production and consumption of goods and services, and the supply of money.

Electorate - a group of people who are eligible to vote.

Embassy - historically, a deputation sent by one ruler, state or country to another. More recently, it is also the accepted name for the official residence or offices of an ambassador.

Empire - a group of states or countries ruled over and controlled by a single monarch.

Enlightenment - a European movement in the 18th century that encouraged people to think for themselves and not look to the church for answers.

Exile - to be banned from one's original country, usually as a punishment or for political reasons.

Extreme - furthest from the centre or any given point. If someone holds extreme views, they are not moderate and are considered radical.

F

Fascism - an extreme right-wing belief system based around racism and national pride. It was created by the Italian dictator, Benito Mussolini, and later adopted by Adolf Hitler.

Fixed income - a regular, set amount of money received by someone, such as a salary or pension, which does not change.

Front - in war, the area where fighting is taking place.

G

Ghetto - part of a city, often a slum area, occupied by a minority group.

H

Hyperinflation - rapid acceleration of inflation which typically sees a currency lose its value and become worthless. As a result, the price of goods skyrockets for a short period of time.

I

Ideology - a set of ideas and ideals, particularly around political ideas or economic policy, often shared by a group of people.

Imperial, Imperialisation, Imperialism, Imperialist - is the practice or policy of taking possession of, and extending political and economic control over other areas or territories. Imperialism always requires the use of military, political or economic power by a stronger nation over that of a weaker one. An imperialist is someone who supports or practices imperialism and imperial relates to a system of empire, for example the British Empire.

Import - to bring goods or services into a different country to sell.

Independence, Independent - to be free of control, often meaning by another country, allowing the people of a nation the ability to govern themselves.

Indoctrinate, Indoctrination - to teach someone to accept a set of beliefs without reservation or question.

Industrial - related to industry, manufacturing and/or production.

Industrialisation, Industrialise, Industrialised - the process of developing industry in a country or region where previously there was little or none.

Industry - the part of the economy concerned with turning raw materials into manufactured goods, for example making furniture from wood.

Inferior - lower in rank, status or quality.

Inflation - the general increase in the prices of goods which means money does not buy as much as it used to.

Informant - someone who passes important information to another person or organisation, such as the police.

Interim - in the meantime; during an intervening period.

Investor - someone who puts money into something with the expectation of future profit.

Invisible unemployment - unemployment that is hidden because it is not counted in a government's official figures. For example, only those who are jobless but actively seeking work may be

included.

J

Juries, Jury - a group of people sworn to listen to evidence on a legal case and then deliver an impartial verdict based on what they have heard.

K

Kaiser - the German word for a king or emperor.

L

Left wing - used to describe political groups or individuals with beliefs that are usually centered around socialism and the idea of reform.

Legislation - a term for laws when they are considered collectively, for example housing legislation.

M

Mandate - authority to carry out a policy.

Mass - an act of worship in the Catholic Church.

Merchant, Merchants - someone who sells goods or services.

Middle class - refers to the socio-economic group which includes people who are educated and have professional jobs, such as teachers or lawyers.

Military force - the use of armed forces.

Mine - an explosive device usually hidden underground or underwater.

Minister - a senior member of government, usually responsible for a particular area such as education or finance.

Moderate - someone who is not extreme.

Monarchy - a form of government in which the head of state is a monarch, a king or queen.

Mutiny - a rebellion or revolt, in particular by soldiers or sailors against their commanding officers.

N

Nationalism, Nationalist, Nationalistic - identifying with your own nation and supporting its interests, often to the detriment or exclusion of other nations.

Negative Cohesion - Where someone focuses on negative aspects to unite people in their dislike of something.

O

Oath - a solemn promise with special significance, often relating to future behaviour or actions.

Occupation - the action, state or period when somewhere is taken over and occupied by a military force.

Offensive - another way of saying an attack or campaign.

P

POW, Prisoner of war, Prisoners of war - somebody who has been captured and taken prisoner by enemy forces.

Parliament - a group of politicians who make the laws of their country, usually elected by the population.

Passive resistance - to resist something without using violence but by not cooperating.

Persecute - to treat someone unfairly because of their race, religion or political beliefs.

Persecution - hostility towards or harassment of someone, usually due to their race, religion or political beliefs.

Plebiscite - a vote or referendum on an important matter in an area or country.

Police state - a totalitarian country in which the police have a great deal of power to control the people and suppress opposition.

Pope - the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Population - the number of people who live in a specified place.

President - the elected head of state of a republic.

Prevent, Preventative, Preventive - steps taken to stop something from happening.

Production - a term used to describe how much of something is made, for example saying a factory has a high production rate.

Propaganda - biased information aimed at persuading people to think a certain way.

Proportional representation - a system of voting in which political parties gain seats in proportion to the number of votes they receive in an election.

Prosecute - to institute or conduct legal proceedings against a person or organisation.

Protestant - someone belonging to the branch of the Christian Church that separated from the Roman Catholic Church in the 16th century.

Putsch - a German word describing a coup or violent attempt to overthrow a government.

R

Rallies, Rally - a political event with speakers and a crowd, designed to increase support for a politician, political party or an idea.

Rebellion - armed resistance against a government or leader, or resistance to other authority or control.

Rebels - people who rise in opposition or armed resistance against an established government or leader.

Reparations - payments made by the defeated countries in a war to the victors to help pay for the cost of and damage from the fighting.

Repress, Repression - politically, to prevent something or control people by force.

Republic - a state or country run by elected representatives and an elected/nominated president. There is no monarch.

Revolution - the forced overthrow of a government or social system by its own people.

Right wing - a political view with beliefs centred around nationalism and a desire for an authoritarian government opposed to communism.

S

Sabotage - to deliberately destroy, damage or obstruct, especially to gain a political or military advantage.

Scapgoat - someone who is blamed for the wrongdoings or mistakes of others.

Slavic people, Slavs - the main ethnic group of people living in Eastern Europe.

Socialism - a political and economic system where most resources, such as factories and businesses, are owned by the state or workers with the aim of achieving greater equality between rich and poor.

Socialist - one who believes in the principles of socialism.

Spartacists - a group of communists in Germany who staged an unsuccessful revolution in 1919.

Standard of living - level of wealth and goods available to an individual or group.

State of emergency - where a national emergency, disaster or crisis has occurred in which normal government procedures are suspended so it can deal with the situation.

State, States - an area of land or a territory ruled by one government.

Sterilisation, Sterilise - to clean something so it is free of bacteria; also refers to a medical procedure that prevents a person from being able to reproduce.

Strike - a refusal by employees to work as a form of protest, usually to bring about change in their working conditions. It puts pressure on their employer, who cannot run the business without workers.

Superior - better or higher in rank, status or quality.

Synagogue - a Jewish place of worship.

T

Tactic - a strategy or method of achieving a goal.

Territorial - relating to land or territory.

Territories, Territory - an area of land under the control of a ruler/country.

Totalitarian - someone who wants a system of government in which the leader has total control, or a dictatorship, and also used to refer to that system of government.

Trade unions - organised groups of workers who cooperate to make their lives better at work. For example, they might negotiate for better pay and then organise a strike if one is refused.

Treaty - a formal agreement, signed and ratified by two or more parties.

U

Undesirable, Undesirables, Untermenschen - a German word meaning 'sub-human' which refers to those considered racially and/or socially inferior.

Upper class - a socio-economic group consisting of the richest people in a society who are wealthy because they own land or property.

W

Welfare - wellbeing; often refers to money and services given to the poorest people.

Weltpolitik - Germany's pre-First World War foreign policy which aimed to turn Germany into a global power by acquiring overseas colonies and developing its navy.

Working class - socio-economic group consisting of those engaged in waged labour, especially manual work or industry, who typically do not have much money.

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