

YEAR 9 REVISION PACK: HISTORY ASSESSMENT JUNE

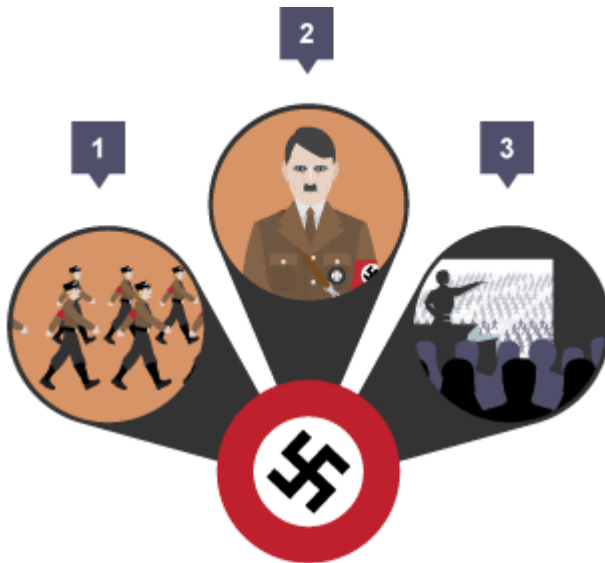
1. Nazi Germany

What were the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Germany was severely punished by the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. The key points were:

- Germany had to accept full blame for the war. This was known as the 'war guilt clause.' (BLAME)
- Germany had to pay full reparations for the damage caused by the war. This was later calculated to be £6.6 billion. (MONEY)
- Alsace-Lorraine, which had been taken from France by Germany in the 1871 war, was returned to the French. (LAND)
- Germany was only allowed to have 100,000 soldiers, no tanks and no air force. Their navy could only have 6 battleships. (ARMY)
- The Rhineland, an area of Germany on the border with France, was demilitarised.
- Anschluss was banned.
- Woodrow Wilson's idea for a League of Nations was agreed. Its aim was to avoid the mistakes that helped cause World War One, although it was largely seen as unsuccessful.

The appeal of Hitler and the Nazis



1 Role of the SA

2 Appeal of Hitler

3 Propaganda

Because the Nazis' 25 Point Programme appealed to people all over the country from all walks of life, they became popular. Other extremist groups like the communists only really appealed to the industrial workers in Germany's cities and couldn't keep up.

- Wealthy businessmen: were frightened communists would take their wealth away and did not want to see any more increase in support for them. To combat this, they began to give money to Hitler and the Nazis, hoping they would gain more seats – not the communists.
- The middle-class: were generally quite traditional and were not convinced by the Weimar democracy. Hitler promised them a strong government and won their votes.
- Nationalists: they blamed the legacy of the Treaty of Versailles and reparations for causing the depression and so lent their support to the Nazis who had promised to make Germany strong again.
- Rural areas: The Nazis appealed to people in the countryside - especially middle class shopkeepers and craftsmen, farmers and agricultural labourers.

The effects of propaganda

Nazi propaganda was controlled by Joseph Goebbels and had three main themes:

- The Führer cult. Hitler was always portrayed as Germany's saviour – the man who would rescue the country from the grip of depression.
- Volksgemeinschaft (people's community). This was the idea that the Nazis would create one German community that would make religion or social class less relevant to people.
- Scapegoating the Jews (and others) for Germany's ills. Jews were often portrayed as sub-human, or as a threat to both the racial purity and economic future of the country.
- Hitler was a great speaker with an extraordinary power to win people over. Goebbels' propaganda campaign was very effective (he used aeroplanes to bring Hitler to speak across the country, radios to broadcast important speeches and rallies to make supporters excited) and brought huge support for the Nazis by targeting specific groups of society with different slogans and policies to win their support.

Appealing to all Germans

The Nazis increased their popularity by appearing to provide the solution to all of Germany's problems. They adopted policies that could be supported by many different groups of Germans:

- Socialists – they promised that farmers would be given their land, pensions would improve and public industries such as electricity and water would be owned by the state.
- Nationalists – they promised that all German-speaking people would be united in one country, the Treaty of Versailles would be abandoned and there would be special laws for foreigners.
- Racists – they promised that Jews would not be German citizens and immigration would be stopped.
- Fascists – they promised a strong central government and control of the newspapers.
- Businessmen, landowners, the rich and the army – they promised that remilitarisation would begin and contracts would be awarded to Germans. They also promised protection from the communists.

- The unemployed and workers – they promised an increase in employment and wages.

Charismatic leadership

- Hitler was a popular and effective public speaker, at a time when politicians had to speak at public meetings on a regular basis.
- He used these meetings to tell many Germans what they wanted to hear – that there was a political party which would solve all their problems.
- He used simplistic language and short phrases to convey his message.
- He came across as energetic and passionate - as someone who cared about the plight of the German people.

Use of propaganda

- Hitler put Josef Goebbels in charge of Nazi propaganda. Methods of campaigning that the Nazis used in the 1920s included radio, mass rallies, newspapers (eg. Der Sturmer), Hitler's speeches and posters.
- The Nazis used simple slogans to introduce their ideas and to make them appeal to the ordinary people of Germany.

Organisation of the Party

- The Nazis were present in many German cities and towns with many local offices. Nazi party members worked efficiently to spread policies through propaganda.
- The SA (stormtroopers) appeared to be a strong organisation which could protect Germany from its enemies - both within Germany and abroad.
- The Nazis were able to fund their campaigns through funding from 'big business'. Many of Germany's rich industrialists supported the Nazis and wanted to see them in power.

Nazi policy towards women

In Weimar Germany, there had been new opportunities for women. They experimented with their appearances, some took jobs and women were treated as equal citizens within the constitution, having the right to vote. However, there is debate about how many women experienced these changes. Life had altered in some ways, with some greater freedoms acquired but some women had experienced very little change. The Nazis had clear ideas of what they wanted from women. They were expected to stay at home, look after the family and produce children in order to secure the future of the Aryan race – the traditional role of the woman that had existed before the 1920s.

Hitler believed women's lives should revolve round the three 'Ks': Kinder Kuche Kirche (Children Kitchen, Church)

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

Marriage and family

Hitler wanted a high birth rate so that the Aryan population would grow. He tried to achieve this by:

- introducing the Law for the Encouragement of Marriage which gave newlywed couples a loan of 1,000 marks, and allowed them to keep 250 marks for each child they had
- giving an award called the Mother's Cross to women who had large numbers of children

- allowing women to volunteer to have a baby for an Aryan member of the SS

Employment

Measures were introduced which strongly discouraged women from working, including:

- the introduction of the Law for the Reduction of Unemployment, which gave women financial incentives to stay at home
- not conscripting women to help in the war effort until 1943

However, female labour was cheap and between 1933 and 1939 the number of women in employment actually rose by 2.4 million. As the German economy grew, women were needed in the workplace.

Appearance

Women were expected to emulate traditional German peasant fashions - plain peasant costumes, hair in plaits or buns and flat shoes. They were not expected to wear make-up or trousers, dye their hair or smoke in public. They were discouraged from staying slim, because it was thought that thin women had trouble giving birth.

2. Holocaust

Assimilated	Assimilated Jews are those who have been absorbed into the regular community – they don't stand out as Jewish because they live their lives like everyone else.
Orthodox	The most traditional observant branch of Judaism. Orthodox Jews believe in the strict interpretation and application of Jewish laws and traditions.
Reform	A modern movement in Judaism that started in the 18 th century. Reform Jews realise that Judaism needs to adapt to modern needs. They are nowhere near as strict as Orthodox Jews.
Ashkenazi	Jews whose ancestors originally came from France and Germany. In the 16 th century, the Ashkenazi Jewish community was focused in Poland.
Sephardi	Jews whose ancestors originally came from Spain. The Hebrew word for Spain is 'Sepharad'. The Jews were thrown out of Spain in 1492 and had to find somewhere else to live.
Shtetl	A small town with a large Yiddish speaking, Jewish population.
Hebrew	The language of Israel. The language has been used for prayer and worship for 2000 years. It is the language of the Jewish bible.

Yiddish	The language once used by Ashkenazi Jews in Eastern Europe. It is a combination of Hebrew and German. Yiddish is still used by Orthodox communities.
Ladino	The language used by Sephardi Jews. It is a combination of Hebrew and Spanish.

Nazi attitudes to Jewish people

The Nazis treatment of the Jewish people derived from their social and racial policies. The Nazis believed that only Germans could be citizens and that non-Germans should not have any citizenship rights.

The Nazis racial philosophy taught that some races were 'Untermenschen' ('subhuman'). Many scientists at this time believed that people with disabilities or social problems were genetically less human and that their genes needed to be eliminated from the human gene pool.

As a result of these beliefs, the Nazis took the following actions:

- Tried to eliminate the Jewish people.
- Killed 85 per cent of Germany's gypsies.
- Sterilised black people.
- Killed mentally ill patients.
- Sterilised physically disabled people, eg deaf people, and people with hereditary diseases.
- Imprisoned people they regarded as anti-social in concentration camps. These included homosexuals, prostitutes, Jehovah's Witnesses, alcoholics, pacifists, beggars, hooligans and criminals.

Persecution of Jewish people

The following shows how the Nazis treatment of the Jewish people developed during the 1930s.

1933

- Jewish people were removed from public office and professions – civil servants, lawyers and teachers were sacked.
- School lessons were to reflect the view that Jewish people were 'Untermensch'.

April Boycott

- On 1 April 1933, a boycott of Jewish shops and other businesses took place.
- SA officers actively encouraged Germans to avoid entering Jewish places of work.
- Many Jewish shops were vandalised.

1935

- The Nuremberg Laws were introduced at the Nuremberg Rally on 15 September and removed many Jewish rights.
- Jewish people were denied the right to be German citizens.
- Marriage and relationships between Jewish people and Germans became illegal.

1938

- Jewish people were banned from becoming doctors.

- Jewish people had to carry identity cards which showed a 'J' stamp.
- Jewish children were denied education and banned from schools.
- Jewish men had to add 'Israel' to their name, women had to add 'Sarah'.

Kristallnacht

- On the night of the 9 November 1938 Jewish homes, businesses and synagogues were attacked throughout Germany and Austria.
- Around 7,500 Jewish shops were damaged or destroyed. 400 synagogues were burned to the ground.
- Almost 100 Jewish people were killed and 30,000 were sent to concentration camps.

1939

- Jewish people were banned from owning businesses.
- The first ghettos (segregated housing within towns, with a controlled entrance and exit) were opened in Eastern Europe to separate Jewish people from 'ordinary' citizens

Final Solution

At the end of 1941, Hitler demanded an "aggressive policy" to rid Germany of the Jews.

On 20 January 1942, Reinhard Heydrich, the Head of the Sicherheitsdienst (SD), held a conference in the Wannsee suburb of Berlin to discuss what the new aggressive policy should be.

At this meeting, it was agreed that all Jews under German occupation would be brought to Poland, where those fit enough would be worked to death and the rest exterminated.

This led to the horror of the Nazi death camps, six of which were built specifically to murder those brought to them. The biggest and most notorious camp was Auschwitz-Birkenau, where 2.5 million Jews were murdered.

Jews arrived at the camps on trains, where they were separated into two groups: those fit enough to work and those to be killed immediately – usually women, children and the elderly. The latter group was ushered into what they thought were showers, where they were gassed to death using pellets of cyanide known as Zyklon B. It took up to 30 minutes for victims to die. Their bodies were then burnt in huge ovens.

Auschwitz was also used as a site for medical examination by Dr Mengele. Jews from all over Nazi-occupied Europe, as well as from Germany, were sent to the camps.

Altogether, it is thought around six million Jews were murdered, as well as several million other victims, including Sinti and Roma, homosexuals, Soviet prisoners of war, Jehovah's Witnesses and other 'undesirables'. This is known as the Holocaust.

