



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2011

## History

## HIS2M

**Unit 2M Life in Nazi Germany, 1933–1945**

**Thursday 19 May 2011 9.00 am to 10.30 am**

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2M.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

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Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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### Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A** From the memoirs of Erich Ebermeyer, describing the 'Day of Potsdam', 21 March 1933

Then Hitler speaks. Out of the party leader, the fanatic and agitator, a true statesman seems to be developing. The Government's declaration is marked by notable moderation. Not a word of hatred for the opposition, not a word of racial ideology, not a threat aimed at home or abroad. Hitler says only what the audience  
5 wants to hear: the continuation of the great traditions of our nation and the firmness of government. No one can escape the emotion of the moment; Father, too, is deeply impressed; Mother has tears in her eyes.

**Source B** Wilhelm Hoegner, a Bavarian SPD deputy, describing events at the Kroll Opera House when the new Reichstag assembled on 24 March 1933

The wide square in front of the Kroll Opera House was crowded with dark masses of people. We were received with wild choruses of 'We want the Enabling Act!' Youths with swastikas on their chests eyed us insolently, blocking our way, calling us names like 'Centre pig', 'Marxist sow'. The Kroll Opera House was crawling with armed SA  
5 and SS men. In the cloakroom we learned that Severing, an SPD leader, had been arrested on entering the building. When we Social Democrats had taken our seats on the extreme left, SA and SS men lined up at the exits and along the walls behind us in a semi-circle. Their expressions boded no good.

**Source C** The events of March 1933 reveal the dual nature of the Nazi state at its beginning. The Weimar constitution technically remained in force, subject to the modifications introduced by the Decree for the Protection of People and State, and the Enabling Act. Much government business was still conducted according to normal  
5 procedures. This was important, for while many of the government's supporters shared its aversion to parliamentary democracy, not all were eager to abandon the rule of law entirely. On the other hand, the new political order the Nazis wanted could neither be established nor maintained without the 'exceptional measures' that characterised the 'national revolution' during the spring of 1933. These measures  
10 included arbitrary arrest and imprisonment, violence and torture, and summary justice and execution.

Adapted from T KIRK, *Nazi Germany*, 2007

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Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the Nazis in Germany in March 1933. (12 marks)

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Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important was the use of legislation in the Nazi consolidation of power by the end of 1933? (24 marks)

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**EITHER****Question 2**

**0 3** Explain why the Nazis promoted the Strength through Joy (*KdF*) movement. (12 marks)

**0 4** 'Nazi policies towards German workers and peasants did little to improve the lives of these groups in the years 1933 to 1939.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (24 marks)

**OR****Question 3**

**0 5** Explain why the Nazi rise to power in 1933 caused problems for the German Churches. (12 marks)

**0 6** 'Nazi attempts to control the German Churches had limited success in the years 1933 to 1945.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (24 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source B: J NOAKES & G PRIDHAM (eds.), *Nazism Vol.1: The Rise to Power 1919–1934*, University of Exeter Press, 1998.

Question 1 Source C: T KIRK, *Nazi Germany*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. Reproduced by permission of Palgrave Macmillan.

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