

## AS HISTORY

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945  
Component 20 The Weimar Republic, 1918–1933

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Wednesday 25 May 2016    Afternoon    Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/20.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

From the recollections of Erna von Pustau, the daughter of a Hamburg fish merchant. She is describing her experiences of hyperinflation to an American writer in 1947.

We used to say, 'All of Germany is suffering from inflation.' I can say it was not true. There is no game in which everyone loses. Someone has to win. The winners in our inflation were big businessmen in the cities and the peasants and landowners in the country. The great losers were the working class and above all the middle class, who had most to lose. How did big business win? Well, from the very beginning they sold their goods at gold value prices and paid their workers in inflated marks. How did prices rise? Nobody really knew. Perhaps we thought somehow it had to do with the stock exchange, and somehow, maybe to do with the Jews.

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**Source B**

From Otto Strasser's book, 'Hitler and I', written in 1940. Strasser was a leading member of the radical wing of the NSDAP in the 1920s and was particularly anti-big business.

Inflation set in. Every week, every day, and every hour, the value of the mark declined; the consequence of a catastrophic defeat, which had ruined the country's economic life. A thing you wanted in the morning you bought at once, because by the afternoon the price might have doubled or trebled. Foreigners arrived in numbers, and with dollars, pounds, or francs bought objects of art or food and goods that ordinary Germans could not afford. In the face of this immoral spectacle hatred of foreigners grew. Anger mounted against ineffective government and business profiteers. The streets echoed with noisy demonstrations. Desperation was reflected on every face, desperation of the kind that can lead to outbursts of political violence. The future seemed hopeless.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the impact of the 1923 hyperinflation crisis?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2**

'Stresemann's foreign policy had done little to improve Germany's international position by 1929.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3**

'Von Schleicher was primarily responsible for Hitler becoming German chancellor in January 1933.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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

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