
A-level HISTORY

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

Paper 20

Specimen 2014

Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 **20**.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- 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:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
-

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a newspaper article by Ernst Röhm, published in June 1933.

The SA and the SS are the foundation pillars of the coming National Socialist state. The SA and the SS are the militant-spiritual bearers of the Will of the German Revolution. Anyone who only wanted to be a fellow-traveller during shining torchlight processions and impressive parades with rumbling drums, with blaring trumpets and under waving flags and believes he has 'taken part' in the German Revolution – he can go home! The fighters in the simple brown service shirts of the SA and the SS will not miss him on their path forwards to the German Revolution; just as they did not miss him when, in long years marked by sacrifices and blood, they fought their passionate fight for a new Germany. We, the SA, will not tolerate the German Revolution going to sleep or being betrayed at the half-way stage by non-combatants. For the Brown Army is the last fighting force of the nation, the last bastion against Communism. If the German Revolution is wrecked by reactionary opposition, by incompetence or idleness, the German people will fall into despair. If bourgeois simpletons think it is enough that the state apparatus has received a new sign, if they think the 'national' revolution has already gone on too long, then for once we agree with them. It is in fact high time that the national revolution stopped and became the National Socialist one.

Source B

From a speech by Franz von Papen, the German Vice Chancellor, at Marburg 17 June 1934.

No nation can afford an eternal revolt from below if that nation wishes to continue to exist. At some time the movement must come to an end; at some time a firm social structure must emerge and it must be supported by an incorruptible judiciary and an uncontested state authority. Permanent dynamism cannot shape anything lasting. We must not let Germany become a train tearing along the way to nowhere. The German government is well informed concerning the selfishness, beastliness and arrogance that are now spreading under the disguise of the German Revolution.

Source C

From 'Knaves, Fools and Heroes', the memoirs of Sir John Wheeler-Bennett, published in 1974. In 1934 Wheeler-Bennett was a young Englishman living in Berlin who had good contacts with the British Embassy and with leading officers in the German Army.

The impact of Papen's Marburg speech upon the Nazi hierarchy was one of near-panic, as rumours reached them that Papen's warning, with its barely concealed attack on Goebbels, had the backing of Field Marshal Hindenburg and the Army. I am not likely to forget those last two weeks of June 1934 in Berlin. The atmosphere, both meteorologically and politically, was stormy. Oppressive thunderstorms worked their way up and down the River Spree, without actually breaking. In the same way, apprehensive rumours flew around the capital, as was only possible in Berlin. I was deeply depressed and not a little fearful. Everyone seemed to feel that a storm was about to burst. The days went on, the days of awful waiting. Would there be an anti-climax? Or would Hitler strike? And against whom?

0	1
---	---

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the events leading up to the 'Night of the Long Knives', 30 June 1934.

[30 marks]

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0	2
---	---

'By 1928, the Weimar Republic was both economically prosperous and politically stable.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0	3
---	---

'The Nazi economic miracle was the main reason for the popularity of Hitler's regime in the years 1933 to 1940.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0	4
---	---

To what extent did the Nazi regime bring about a social revolution in Germany in the years 1933 to 1945?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Permission to reproduce all copyright has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.

Copyright © 2014 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.
