

473/09

**HISTORY – HI3**

**UNIT 3**

**IN-DEPTH STUDY 9**

**NAZI GERMANY, c. 1933-1945**

P.M. FRIDAY, 12 January 2007

(1 hour 30 minutes)

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in the unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

**You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.**

**UNIT 3**  
**IN-DEPTH STUDY 9**  
**NAZI GERMANY, c. 1933-1945**

*Answer one question in Section A and one question in Section B.*

**SECTION A**

*Answer one question.*

**1. German foreign policy and involvement in the Second World War.**

*Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.*

‘I was not exactly certain when the withdrawal from the League of Nations would occur. However, it was clear that this withdrawal had to be the first step towards Germany’s revival. And it was further clear that we would have to choose the first appropriate moment. We could see from the start that the next step would have to be rearmament without the permission of foreign countries, but naturally we could not gauge the exact speed and extent of this rearmament right from the start. It was further obvious that, after a certain period of rearmament, Germany would have to take the daring step of proclaiming to the world its freedom of restrictions on rearmament. At the beginning, naturally one could not foresee the right moment for this step. Finally, it was clear that every further step must first involve the remilitarisation of the Rhineland. The date for this was in fact envisaged as being one year later. I did not think I could carry it out until 1937. The circumstances at the time made it seem appropriate to carry it out as early as 1936. It was also quite obvious that the Austrian and the Czech problems would have to be solved in order to further strengthen Germany’s political, and in particular her strategic, position. To start with, I was not quite sure whether both problems could be solved simultaneously or whether one should deal first with the question of Czechoslovakia or with the Austrian question.’

[Hitler gives an overview of his foreign policy, in a secret speech to senior officers (February 10th 1939)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the phrase ‘the remilitarisation of the Rhineland’ (line 9). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Hitler’s aims in foreign policy? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of German foreign policy and involvement in the Second World War, 1933-1945?  
*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)* [20]

## 2. Nazi consolidation of power, 1933-1934.

*Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.*

‘Following the Day of Potsdam, the new Reichstag met at the Kroll Opera House in Berlin. The meeting was attended by the 288 Nazi deputies elected on March 5th and the 52 Nationalists. The 81 Communist deputies had been outlawed and many of the Socialists were also absent, either out of fear or because they were in hospital, or had fled the country. The atmosphere in the building was described by an eye-witness as one of death and destruction. The building was surrounded by members of the SS in their sinister black uniforms, while inside stood long lines of SA troops, a spectacle designed to intimidate representatives of the other political parties as they took their seats. The main purpose of the session was to give Hitler the legal power to rule by decree for four years; this would make him independent of the President. The need for such legal power had been discussed at a cabinet meeting on March 7th. Rule by decree would make Hitler a virtual dictator for it would transfer the power to draft laws and sign treaties with foreign states from the Reichstag to the Chancellor. With the support of his Nazi deputies and the Nationalists, Hitler could depend on gaining 341 of the 432 votes he needed to secure a two thirds majority. The exclusion of the Communist deputies meant that the outcome depended on the Catholic Centre Party, which had originally been opposed to the Act, but it relented after Hitler promised to respect the rights of the Catholic Church.’

[Jane Jenkins and Edward Feuchtwanger, writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany, *Hitler’s Germany* (2000)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the phrase ‘members of the SS’ (line 6). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Hitler’s position as Chancellor in 1933? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of the Nazi consolidation of power 1933-1934?  
*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)* [20]

## SECTION B

*Answer one question.*

### 3. The Nazi political system and economic policies, 1933-1945.

*Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.*

#### Source A

‘Thousands of people came from all over Germany to the Harvest Festival celebrations. We all felt the same happiness and joy. Harvest Festival was the thank you for us farmers having a future again. I believe no statesman has ever been as well loved as Adolf Hitler was at that time. Those were happy times.’

[Lusse Essig’s memories of the 1930s in Germany. She was a farm worker who went on to work for the Agriculture Ministry between 1937-1945]

#### Source B

‘The greatest dissatisfaction can be found primarily among the older farmers. They remember the great promises with which they were persuaded to vote for Hitler prior to the seizure of power. These promises have been largely unfulfilled.’

[An extract from a SOPADE report of 1937, on the views of German farmers. SOPADE were the socialist opposition in exile]

#### Source C

Sources of information	Number of cases reported	% of total
1. Reports from the population	123	59
2. Information from other control organisations	8	4
3. Observations by Gestapo and Agents	1	0.5
4. Information via communal or state authorities	0	0
5. Statements at interrogations	26	12
6. Information from businesses	1	0.5
7. Information via Nazi Party, Nazi organisations, or Party members	27	13
8. Source not known	24	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>100</b>

[Statistics taken from the official Gestapo case files from Lower Franconia, 1933-1945]

Source D

‘It is nearly impossible to relate what happened for four and a half hours, from 5.00pm to 9.30pm in that interrogation room. Every conceivable cruel method of blackmail was used against me to obtain by force and at all costs confessions and statements both about comrades who had been arrested, and about political activities. They reasoned with me, but that approach proved unsuccessful. I was then brutally assaulted and in the process had four teeth knocked out. This proved unsuccessful too.’

[From a statement by Ernst Thalmann, leader of the German Communist Party. He was arrested by the Gestapo in March 1933, but later smuggled out details of his interrogation]

Source E

‘Attention! The Fuhrer is speaking on the radio. On Wednesday 21st March, the Fuhrer is speaking on all German stations from 11 a.m. to 11.50 a.m. The district Party headquarters have ordered that all factory owners, department stores, offices, shops, pubs and blocks of flats put up loudspeakers an hour before the broadcast of the Fuhrer’s speech so that the whole workforce and all national comrades can participate fully in the broadcast.’

[A German newspaper announcement (March 16th 1934)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show differing views of Hitler’s agricultural policy? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying the effectiveness of the Gestapo? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of the Nazi political system and economic policies, 1933-1945?  
*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)* [24]

#### 4. Social, religious and racial policies of the Third Reich.

*Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.*

##### Source A

‘It is a happy accident that my first speech since taking charge at the Ministry for Propaganda and People’s Enlightenment is to German women. Although I agree that men make history, I do not forget that women raise boys to manhood. We do not see the woman as inferior, but rather as having a different mission, a different value, than that of man.’

[A speech by Goebbels, on the occasion of the opening of an exhibition about the role of women in Berlin (March 18th 1933)]

##### Source B



[A Social Democrat Party election poster from 1933. It gives an impression of the status of women under Nazi rule]

##### Source C

‘Until Kristallnacht many Germans believed Hitler was not engaged in mass murder. The treatment of Jews seemed to be a minor form of harassment of a disliked minority. It would be fair to point out that I myself never met even the most fanatic Nazi who wanted the extermination of the Jews. Certainly we wanted the Jews out of Germany, but we did not want them to be killed.’

[Alfons Heck, a member of the Hitler Youth in 1938, interviewed for a BBC television programme in 1989]

Source D



[A cartoon from the anti-semitic Nazi newspaper, *Der Stürmer*, abusing Jewish butchers (1935)]

Source E

‘Most post-war accounts have concentrated on the few German clerics who did behave bravely. But these were few. Most German church leaders were shamefully silent. As late as January 1945, the Catholic bishop of Würzburg was urging his flock to fight on for Fatherland, saying that “salvation lies in sacrifice.”’

[Charles Wheeler, a British historian and journalist, in a documentary for the BBC television programme, *Newsnight* (1996)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show contrasting views of the status of women in Nazi Germany? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying anti-Semitism in Germany? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of the social, religious and racial policies of the Third Reich?  
*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)* [24]