



**General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary/Advanced**

473/09

**HISTORY – HI3
UNIT 3
IN-DEPTH STUDY 9
NAZI GERMANY, c. 1933-1945**

P.M. FRIDAY, 11 January 2008
(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.

‘The Reichstag, more tense than I have ever felt it, began promptly at noon. General von Blomberg, the War Minister, sitting with the Cabinet, was as white as a sheet and fumbled nervously with his fingers. Hitler began with a long rant about the injustice of the Versailles Treaty and the peacefulness of Germans. Then he said, “In the interests of the primitive rights of its
 5 people to the security of their defence, the German government has re-established, as from today, the absolute and unrestricted sovereignty of the Reich in the demilitarized zone.” Now the 600 deputies leap to their feet like robots, their right arms outstretched in the Nazi salute, and scream “Heil”. Hitler raises his hand for silence. He says in a deep resonant voice, “Men of the German Reichstag”. The silence is utter. “In this historic hour, when in the Reich’s western provinces
 10 German troops are at this minute marching into their future peace-time garrisons, we all unite in two sacred vows.” He can go no further. It is news to this ‘parliamentary’ mob that German soldiers are already on the move into the Rhineland. They spring, yelling and crying, to their feet. Their hands are raised in slavish salute, their eyes glued on the new god, the messiah. The messiah plays his role superbly, he waits patiently for silence. Then his voice still low, but choking with
 15 emotion, utters the two vows: “First, we swear to yield to no force whatever in the restoration of the honour of our people. Secondly, we pledge that now, more than ever, we shall strive for an understanding between the European peoples. We have no territorial demands to make in Europe. Germany will never break the peace.” A few generals made their way out. Behind their smiles you could not help detecting nervousness.’

[W.L. Shirer, an American newspaper correspondent in Berlin, describes in his diary the announcement of the reoccupation of the Rhineland (March 7th 1936)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the phrase ‘the Versailles Treaty’ (line 3). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about the aims of Nazi foreign policy in 1936? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of Nazi foreign policy and 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.

‘Hitler regarded the left wing of his party as a threat, and in the Night of the Long Knives, had them removed. Rohm and Gregor Strasser, the two most prominent left-wing National Socialists, were murdered, as were many others. On the 3rd of July, Hitler admitted to 77 victims, although it is likely that several hundred died. Hitler was not prepared to allow the SA to interfere with the professional army, which he needed for his future ambitions, nor was he prepared to make concessions to those of his colleagues who made the mistake of taking seriously the socialist promises of the early Nazi programme. Hitler had no intention of launching a ‘second revolution’, having won power in 1933. On 1st August 1934, with Hindenburg a dying man, Hitler announced the Law concerning Head of State. The next day the 87 year old Hindenburg died, and Hitler assumed his new title. The same day, Blomberg agreed to a new oath of allegiance for the army. “I swear by God this holy oath, that I will render unconditional obedience to the leader of the German Reich, Adolf Hitler, supreme commander of the armed forces and that, as a brave soldier, I will be ready at any time to stake my life for this oath.” All soldiers had now sworn loyalty, not to the state, but to one man. The same month a plebiscite approved Hitler’s assumption of sole executive power.’

[Historians Robert Wolfson and John Laver, writing in a history book,
Years of Change: Europe 1890-1945 (1978)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the term ‘the SA’ (line 4). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Hitler’s political authority before August 1934? [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

‘It is shocking how day after day naked acts of violence, breaches of the law and barbaric opinions appear quite undisguised as official decrees. The Socialist papers are permanently banned. I can no longer get rid of the feeling of disgust and shame. And no-one stirs; everyone trembles and keeps out of sight.’

[An extract from the diary of Victor Klemperer, a Jewish University lecturer who lived in Dresden (March 17th 1933)]

Source B

‘I have just returned from a visit to Germany where there is for the first time since the war a general sense of security. The people are more cheerful. It is the worship of a national hero who has saved his country from utter despondency and degradation.’

[From former British Prime Minister, David Lloyd George, writing for the *Daily Express* newspaper, following his arranged visit to Germany in 1936]

Source C

‘It was only after I had been a soldier in Russia that I realized that my father had been right all along in his conviction that Hitler, having been given supreme power by the establishment, was no more than a dog on a long lead, firmly held by the real ‘behind-the-scenes’ leaders of Germany.’

[Henry Metelmann, a former member of the Hitler Youth, writing in an article for an historical magazine, *Modern History Review* (September 2003)]

Source D

‘The Fuhrer is the bearer of the people’s will; he is independent of all groups, associations and interests. In his will, the will of the people is realized. He shapes the collective will of the people.’

[Ernst Huber, a Nazi supporter writing about Hitler in a propaganda pamphlet (1935)]

Source E

[A photograph of previously unemployed workers meeting to build the first autobahn,
(September 1933)]

- (a) Compare Sources C and D. How do Sources C and D show differing views of Hitler's leadership? [8]
- (b) Study Sources A and B. How reliable are Sources A and B as evidence to an historian studying Hitler's support in Germany? [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

‘The view that very little was known about the policy of extermination at the time, or that only unsubstantiated rumours about the Jews’ fate circulated in Germany is just not true. On the basis of the available evidence it is equally unlikely that the German people failed to comprehend the significance of the Nazis’ genocidal policy.’

[D. Bankier, an academic historian, writing in a specialist history book, *The Final Solution* (1996)]

Source B

‘I was strictly a bureaucrat. It was said that people were being sent to concentration camps and that those in poor health probably wouldn’t survive. The extermination, everyone condemned it. But as for knowing about it, we didn’t.’

[From an interview with the former Head of Reich Railways Department 33, for the film *Shoah*. The department was responsible for trains to the concentration camps (1985)]

Source C

‘The Fuhrer can be certain that we bishops are prepared to give all moral support to his struggle against Bolshevism. We will not criticise things which are purely political. What we ask is that our holy Church be permitted to enjoy her God-given rights and her freedom.’

[An extract from the Bavarian Catholic Bishops’ annual letter to their congregations (December 1933)]

Source D

‘Dr. Goebbels spoke to me about the sermon of the Bishop of Munster. He did not know what one could effectively do at the moment. I explained to him that in my opinion there could only be one effective measure, namely to hang the Bishop. Dr. Goebbels was however, afraid that if action was taken against the Bishop, the population of Munster could be written off for the duration of the war.’

[Walter Tiessler, an official in the Nazi Party responsible for propaganda, writing in a note to Hitler’s secretary, Martin Bormann (13th August 1941)]

Source E

[A young boy in the uniform of the Pimpfen (1930s)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show differing views of the Nazi treatment of the Jews? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying Church-State relations? [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]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The extract from *Years of Change* is published with the kind permission of Hodder and Stoughton.