



**GCE AS/A level**

1232/09

**HISTORY – HY2**

**UNIT 2**

**IN-DEPTH STUDY 9**

**NAZI GERMANY c. 1933-1945**

A.M. THURSDAY, 20 January 2011

1½ hours

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

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

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **one** question.

### **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 this 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 2

## IN-DEPTH STUDY 9

## NAZI GERMANY, c. 1933-1945

*Answer one question.*

1. *Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.*

**Source A**

‘The first steps on the road to dictatorship took place within hours of Hitler’s cabinet being sworn in. By calling elections on March 5<sup>th</sup> 1933, Hitler could fight them from a position of strength. He controlled the radio and he could suppress the newspapers of the opposition, break up their meetings and generally harass them. Goering enlisted 50,000 Nazi Storm Troopers as auxiliary police and gave them licence to hunt down their opponents. He issued a notorious decree giving full support to any policeman using his weapon against ‘opponents of the national parties’.’

[E. Feuchtwanger, an academic historian and specialist in Nazi Germany, writing in an historical magazine for A level students, *New Perspective* (2001)]

**Source B**

‘Residents of Northeim! You want to continue your work in peace and quiet! You’ve had enough of the impudent behavior of the SPD and KPD! You want the red Senators, Councilmen and all their armed followers to go to the devil! The NSDAP, the SA and the SS are fighting for you, even here in Northeim! Tomorrow is the day of the awakened nation! At the ballot boxes the German people thank the great Fuhrer for their salvation in the last hour! A Nazi storm will sweep through Germany.’

[An extract from a pamphlet published by the local Nazi party in Northeim, appealing for support from the population in the March 5<sup>th</sup> election (1933)]

**Source C**

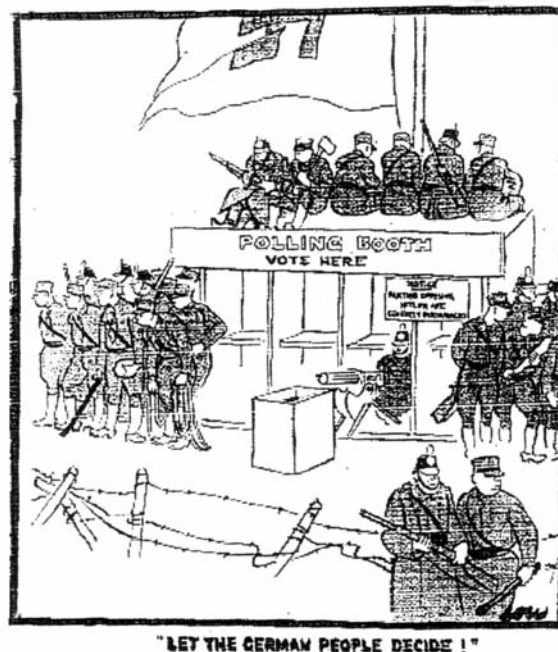
‘Goering set out with all the folly of the amateur to carry out a programme of economic self-sufficiency, or autarky, envisaged in the Four Year Plan. He exploited the unlimited powers Hitler had given him as Chief of the Four Year Plan operations in order to extend his own influence over economic policy. Goering’s policy of recklessly exploiting Germany’s economy brought me into more acute conflict with him, and on his part he exploited his powers, to undermine my activity as Minister of Economics to an ever increasing degree.’

[H. Schacht, writing in his book *Account Settled* in 1949. He was a former Economics Minister who became a critic of the Four Year Plan and resigned from the Nazi Cabinet in 1937]

**Source D**

‘Superficially it seemed that by the end of 1936, the Nazi regime had produced a considerable degree of economic recovery. This was caused mostly by the spur to industry of war preparations. But this boom was only achieved at frightful cost. The economic fabric of the country stretched and sagged. Germany must feed sixty-five million people; it must borrow or export enough to pay for imports; it lives by the manufacture of raw materials, and no financial hocus pocus can alter the inflexible law that goods somehow must be paid for. The day of reckoning will come for Hitler, in gold as well as guns.’

[John Gunther, an American journalist and researcher, writing about German economic policy in his book, *Inside Europe* (1936)]

**Source E**

[A cartoon from the British newspaper ‘*Daily Express*’, entitled ‘Let the German People Decide’, published on March 1<sup>st</sup> 1933. The notice on the polling booth reads: *parties opposing Hitler are severely discouraged*]

- (a) Study Source B. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the term “SS”. [4]
- (b) Study Sources A and B. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of the election of March 5<sup>th</sup> 1933. [8]
- (c) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D in explaining Nazi economic policy? [16]
- (d) Study Sources A and E. How far does Source E support or contradict the interpretation of the methods used by the Nazis given in Source A? [20]
- (e) How useful are the sources in understanding Nazi Germany between 1933-1939? [32]  
*(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study, as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions.)*

2. Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

**Source A**

‘In 1933, Hitler’s immediate priorities were to consolidate the Nazi takeover of power and to rebuild Germany’s military strength. This would eventually put him in a position to destroy what remained of the Versailles system step by step over the next few years. He was naturally anxious to withdraw Germany from the World Disarmament Conference, but was careful to wait until the autumn before he risked both withdrawing from the Conference and the League of Nations.’

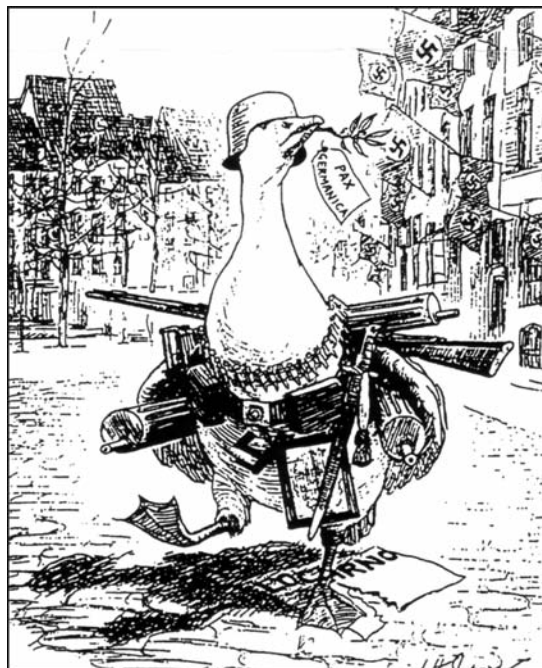
[David Williamson, an academic historian writing in a A-level study guide, *International Relations: 1914-1945* (1994)]

**Source B**

‘In considering at what point German rearmament will become dangerous it would be unwise to assume that this will only be when Germany has attained the position of being able to wage an aggressive war against a major Power or a combination of Powers. A danger point will be reached long before then. When this is reached, Germany’s policy will become increasingly arrogant without being actually aggressive. Germany will make demands and assert rights. She will begin by freeing herself from the Treaty of Versailles. Once she has achieved that, she may be expected to turn her attention to union with Austria and the invasion of central Europe.’

[From an official report on German rearmament prepared by the British Foreign Office for the Prime Minister (November 1934)]

**Source C**



**‘The Goose Step**

Goosey Goosey Gander, Whither dost thou wander?  
Only through the Rhineland, Pray excuse my blunder.’

[From *Punch*, a British satirical magazine, published a few days after the German occupation of the Rhineland (1936)]

**Source D**

‘I know there are some people in Germany who feel sick at the sight of this black uniform. We do not expect many of our people to love us. All those who have the interest of Germany at heart, however, should respect us and those who have guilty consciences towards the Fuhrer or the nation should fear us. To deal with these people we have built up our security service, and the SS provide men for service in the Gestapo. We shall ensure that never again will the Jewish-Bolshevik threat of sub-humanity be unleashed on Germany. We shall be a merciless sword of judgement for all these dangerous forces.’

[Heinrich Himmler, in a speech to SS leaders (November 1935)]

**Source E**

‘I was never anti-Semitic on the basis of racial principles. At first I thought that the anti-Semitic demands of the Party were a matter of propaganda. The people had a tendency to be anti-Semitic at that time. The Jews had a particularly strong influence on cultural life which I felt to be definitely un-German, especially in the spheres of painting and music. The Reich Chamber of Culture Law was created, excluding Jews from German cultural life, with the possibility of making exceptions. I applied these exceptions whenever I was in a position to do so. The Law was decreed by the Reich Cabinet, which bears the responsibility for it.’

[Walter Funk, Secretary in the Ministry of Propaganda, giving evidence at the Nuremberg War Trials (1946)]

- (a) Study Source D. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the term “the Gestapo”. [4]
- (b) Study Sources A and B. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of German rearmament. [8]
- (c) Study Sources D and E. How reliable are Sources D and E in explaining anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany? [16]
- (d) Study Sources A and C. How far does Source C support or contradict the interpretation of Nazi foreign policy given in Source A? [20]
- (e) How useful are the sources in understanding Nazi Germany between 1933-1939? [32]  
*(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study, as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions.)*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The extract from *International Relations* is published with the permission of Hodder and Stoughton Ltd.