

473/09

HISTORY – HI3

UNIT 3

IN-DEPTH STUDY 9

NAZI GERMANY, c. 1933-1945

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 7 June 2006

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

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

‘A popular image exists that Hitler’s government coincided with a solution to Germany’s most pressing economic difficulty, mass and long term unemployment, and ushered in a period of growth and prosperity. While it is true that unemployment did disappear, this is not the whole story. First, the German economy was beginning to show signs of recovery in the second half of
5 1932, and much of the recovery in 1933 can be put down to programmes initiated by earlier Chancellors. Second, the fundamentals of Nazi economic policy were not breathtakingly original. Budgets were not too unbalanced, high tax levels were maintained and savings encouraged, and the prime goal of reducing unemployment was not to encourage inflation, of which Hitler had a great fear. Third, most of the Fuhrer’s economic policies were not part of a coherent, long-term
10 plan. Fourth, the apparent rapid solution of the problem of unemployment was based less upon the creation of real jobs than on various measures which took people out of the labour market without placing them on the unemployment register. Married women were actively discouraged from seeking jobs and many in employment dismissed. State marriage loans encouraged single women to leave their unemployment; whilst those men and women purged from the civil service in 1933
15 were not allowed to register as unemployed. Many of the young unemployed males were drafted into the Reich Labour Service, whilst the reintroduction of conscription in 1935 removed even more of them from the job market.’

[Dick Geary, an academic historian, writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany,
Hitler and Nazism (1993)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase ‘Reich Labour Service’ (line 16) [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Nazi economic policy? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of the Nazi political system and economic policies, 1933-1945? [20]
(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This extract is published with the kind permission of Professor Dick Geary.

2. Nazi consolidation of power, 1933-1934.

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

‘Even with the support of the Nationalists, Hitler still did not have enough votes in March 1933 to pass the Enabling Bill by a two-thirds majority. So, he persuaded the Centre Party to vote for the Bill by agreeing to its demand that he repeal the Reichstag Fire Decrees. By abolishing the basic rights, including the freedom of worship which was very important to the Centre Party’s Catholic constituency, the Reichstag Fire Decrees had gone further than the proposed Enabling Law. The Centre Party leaders reasoned that they could probably not block the passage of the Enabling Bill one way or another. They hoped that if they supported Hitler, he would treat the Centre Party with respect and support Catholic interests in Germany by restoring the basic rights that had been suspended. Hitler agreed verbally to the Centre Party’s demands and promised to send the Centre Party a written document confirming this. On the 23rd of March, this document had not arrived. Only when Frick, the Nazi Minister of the Interior, assured the leader of the Centre Party, Ludwig Kaas, that the letter was on its way did the party agree to vote for the Bill. Needless to say, no letter ever arrived and nor would Hitler give the Centre Party or Catholic Church special treatment. The Centre Party’s decision to support the Enabling Bill showed that it cared more for the freedom of the Catholic Church than it did for the freedom of Catholics.’

[K. Fischer, an academic historian, writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany, *Nazi Germany: a New History* (1995)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the term ‘Centre Party’ (line 2) [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Hitler’s political authority? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of the Nazi consolidation of power, 1933-1934? [20]

(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)

SECTION B

Answer **one** question.

3. German foreign policy and involvement in the Second World War.

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

Source A

‘Certain foreign newspapers have said that we fell on Austria with brutal methods. I can only say, even in death they cannot stop lying. When I crossed the former frontier into Austria there met me such a stream of love, as I have never experienced. Not as tyrants have we come, but as liberators.’

[From a speech by Adolf Hitler (25th March 1938)]

Source B



[An anti-Nazi cartoon, entitled *Local Boy Makes Good*, taken from the *New York Post* newspaper in March 1938. Hitler is portrayed as brutally ‘papering’ Austria with swastikas]

Source C

‘We were dominated by the determination to have a war of revenge and destruction against Czechoslovakia. Thus, we conducted a second phase of discussions with Chamberlain at Bad Godesburg in such a way that, despite our agreement, what had been decided was bound to fail.’

[A diary entry by Weizacker, state secretary in the German Foreign Ministry (9th October 1938)]

Source D

‘This action of the Nazi regime in Czechoslovakia has torn to shreds the last semblance of an excuse for their policy. Hitherto there has always been some attempt to justify their actions in terms either of the re-incorporation of those of German race or destroying some part of the Versailles Treaty they felt unjust. But today, this veil is no longer deemed necessary and aggression stands forth, naked and arrogant.’

[From *The Daily Herald*, a left-wing British newspaper (March 1939)]

Source E

‘The next step was Bohemia, Moravia and Poland. It was clear to me from the first moment that I could not be satisfied with the Sudeten territory. That was only a partial solution. The decision to march into Bohemia was made. Then followed the establishment of the protectorate and with that the basis for the conquest of Poland was laid.’

[Hitler addressing his generals in November 1939]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show contrasting views of the German occupation of Austria in 1938? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying Hitler’s foreign policy? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of Nazi foreign policy and the Second World War, 1933-1945? [24]
(You are advised to use relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)

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

‘Dr. Goebbels told the Party leaders assembled that there had been anti-Jewish demonstrations during which Jewish shops were demolished and synagogues were set on fire. The Fuhrer, at Goebbels’ suggestion, had decided that the Nazi Party should not outwardly appear as the originator of the demonstrations but that in reality it should organize them and carry them out.’

[A secret report prepared by the Nazi Party Supreme Court after the events of Kristallnacht (9th-10th November, 1938)]

Source B

‘The shattering of shop windows and looting of stores and dwellings of Jews which began in the early hours of November 10th 1938, was hailed subsequently in the Nazi press as a spontaneous wave of righteous indignation throughout Germany. So far as a very high percentage of the German people is concerned, such a state of popular indignation that would spontaneously lead to such excesses can be considered as non-existent.’

[An extract from the diary of the American consul in Leipzig, describing the events of Kristallnacht, presented as evidence at the Nuremberg War Trials (1945)]

Source C

‘There were times when the ideal of the young man was the chap who could hold his drink and was good for a drink. But now his day is past and we like to see not the man who can hold his drink, but the hardened young man. Because what matters is not how many glasses of beer he can drink, but how many blows he can stand.’

[From Hitler’s speech at the Nuremberg Party Rally (14th September 1935)]

Source D

[The newly elected Protestant Bishop of Germany, Ludwig Muller, gives the Nazi salute in 1933. Muller was a Nazi supporter and had recently won a fixed election. The photograph was used as Nazi propaganda.]

Source E

‘Concepts within National Socialist ideology, such as ‘extermination’, ‘liquidation’, and ‘useless life’ are unknown in the divine order. The annihilation of people merely because they are old or mentally sick, or because they belong to another race, is a wielding of a sword that is not given to authority. Man’s life belongs to God alone.’

[The Twelfth Prussian Confessional Synod of the Protestant Church attacks the Nazi policies of extermination in a prepared public statement (October 16th, 1941)]

- (a) Compare Sources D and E. How do Sources D and E show contrasting views of the Protestant church towards National Socialism? [8]
- (b) Study Sources A and B. How reliable are Sources A and B as evidence to an historian studying Kristallnacht? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of social, religious and racial policies of the Third Reich? [24]
(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)