



**GCE AS/A level**

473/09

**HISTORY – HI3**

**UNIT 3**

**IN-DEPTH STUDY 9**

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

P.M. MONDAY, 2 June 2008

1½ hours

**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.*

‘Among industrial workers there are many who do not give a damn about the success of the Hitler system and have only scorn and contempt for the whole show. Others say that there are lots of things that Hitler does not know about and which he does not want. But one is never quite sure with them whether they mean it seriously or only want to protect their backs. Naturally there are also many who have become unpolitical. In particular a large number of the skilled workers who were unemployed for a long time are not enthusiastic Nazis. They often complain about the fact that they earn much less now than in 1929, but at the end of the day, they always say “It’s all the same to us; at least we have work.” The years of unemployment have not been forgotten. The mood in the factories is one of depression. It is true that even in the old days work was no fun and was regarded by many as a necessary evil. But in those days one had the feeling that if you didn’t like something you could get it off your chest frankly and in public. Now one goes into the factory with a heavy heart because one is always afraid of saying a word too many and landing oneself in a spot. There is a dark cloud over one’s whole life. One even looks forward less to getting home than in the old days because there is no longer any relaxed comradeship with friends and neighbours. Those who have their duty to perform, whether in the SS, the SA, the Party or the Welfare, are even worse off. They have to slave away in the evenings as well.’

[A SOPADE report on working-class attitudes to the Nazi regime in central Germany, written in September 1938. SOPADE was the German social democratic party in exile.]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase ‘the SS’ (line 15) [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Hitler’s leadership of Germany? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source 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 source.)* [20]

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

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

- ‘Karma explained to me “We went to every American film going, no matter how bad it was. And there were shops where, if they knew you, you could get jazz records in the back room. And of course those were THE things to have. What you did NOT do, was to copy the Nazi version of beauty, sex or culture. Women under Hitler, that was something completely dreadful, so prudish and hypocritical, it still brings a chill to my spine.” Karma and a friend spent a lot of time in the attic, reading forbidden books her parents had dutifully ‘cleansed’ from the house. “Normally they would have been too boring for us but because they were forbidden they had to be interesting.” Karma also evaded membership of the Bund deutscher Madel (BdM) which was a notable feat. “One really had to be in the BdM. The trick was that in my private girls’ school in Berlin I always let on that I was in the BdM at home. That stupid uniform, I would have died rather than put it on.” Karma said that her teachers ‘silently overlooked’ her avoidance of the BdM because her school still retained the tone of its old Director, a Social Democrat. She had hired teachers who were not 100% Nazis, though later they did all have to be in the Party or leave. In 1984, Karma met many of her former classmates at a reunion. Several had been enthusiastic senior group leaders in the BdM. At the reunion one girl told Karma: “You were always an outsider, we could never understand you. You were so unathletic. And you were politically unreliable.” Another girl remembered the time when Karma brought a record player to school and played records by a Jewish composer.’

[From Alison Owings, a journalist and author, writing in a compilation of interviews with women who lived during the Third Reich, *Frauen: German Women Recall the Third Reich* (1993)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the term ‘Bund deutscher Madel’ (line 8) [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Nazi policy towards the young? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of Nazi social, religious and racial policies, 1933-1945?  
(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 consolidation of power, 1933-1934.

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

#### Source A

“All the evidence shows that the SA leaders were taken completely by surprise. On the very day he was supposed to be storming the Chancellery in Berlin, Rohm was seized in bed at the hotel in Wiessee. The whole story of an imminent coup d’etat was a lie, either invented later by Hitler as an excuse for his own action, or possibly made use of at the time by Goering and Himmler to deceive Hitler and force him to move against Rohm.”

[Alan Bullock, an academic historian writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany, *Hitler: A Study in Tyranny* (1952)]

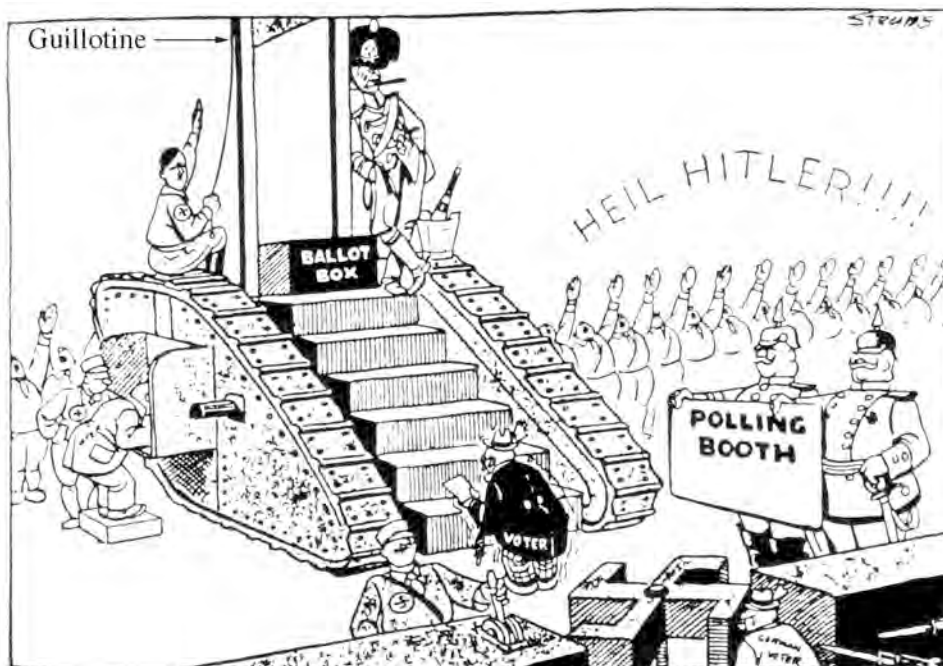
#### Source B

“Chief of Staff Rohm entered into an agreement with General Schleicher. General Schleicher spelt out the secret aims of Chief of Staff Rohm.

1. The present regime in Germany is not to be tolerated.
  2. Above all, the Army and all national associations must be united in a single band.
  3. The only man to be considered for such a position is Chief of Staff Rohm.
- The preparations made for this revolt were very extensive.”

[From Hitler’s speech to the Reichstag, justifying the purge of the SA (13<sup>th</sup> July 1934)]

#### Source C



[A cartoon from the British newspaper, *The Daily Express*, entitled *The People Vote* (4<sup>th</sup> March, 1933)]

Source D

“The Nazi success at the polls was due in large measure to an eight per cent increase at the poll which brought out the uncommitted voters anxious to climb on the Nazi bandwagon. Broadly speaking, the middle classes, who were drifting away from Hitler in the autumn of 1932, were stampeded back again to support the Nazis by the fear of the ‘Red Peril.’”

[W. Carr, an academic historian writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany, *A History of Germany 1815-1845* (1979)]

Source E

“I swear by almighty God this sacred oath: I will render unconditional obedience to Adolf Hitler, the Fuhrer of the German nation and people, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and will be ready as a brave soldier to risk my life at any time for this oath.”

[The oath of loyalty which all German soldiers were forced to swear to Hitler following the death of Hindenburg in August 1934]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show contrasting views of the alleged S.A. plot against Hitler in 1934? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying the election of March 5<sup>th</sup> 1933? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of Nazi consolidation of power, 1933-1934? (You are advised to use relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.) [24]

#### 4. 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

“It was Goering rather than Hitler who pushed the pace along. Probably because of his interest in seizing Austrian economic assets and avoiding the flight of capital which a prolonged crisis would have provoked.”

[Ian Kershaw, an academic historian writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany, *The Nazi Dictatorship* (1985)]

##### Source B

“1. If other measures prove unsuccessful, I intend to invade Austria with armed forces to establish constitutional conditions and to prevent further outrages against the pro-German population.  
2. The whole operation will be directed by myself.”

[From the secret Directive Number One for Operation Otto against Austria issued by Hitler to the army commanders (March 1938)]

##### Source C



[A Soviet newspaper cartoon of 1938, referring to the Anglo-French attitude to Germany during the Czechoslovakia crisis. The signpost reading СССР points to the Soviet Union whereas the other sign points to Western Europe.]

Source D

“I told him that on our part there can be no question of menacing the Soviet Union. Our aims were in an entirely different direction. German policy was aimed at Britain. I could imagine a far-reaching arrangement of mutual interests with due consideration for vital Russian problems. There was no problem between these two countries that could not be solved.”

[From Karl Schnurre, the chief German negotiator, in a personal record of his conversation with Astakhov, a senior Russian diplomat (July 1939)]

Source E

“The Polish regime will not resist pressure from Russia. Poland sees danger in a German victory in the West and will try to deprive us of our victory. There is therefore no question of sparing Poland, and the decision remains to attack Poland at the first suitable opportunity. We cannot expect a repetition of Czechoslovakia. There will be fighting. The task is to isolate Poland.”

[Hitler, in a record of a private conversation with a group of German generals (May 1939)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show differing views of the reasons for the invasion of Austria? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying Nazi-Soviet relations? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of German foreign policy and involvement in the Second World War?  
*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)* [24]

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The extract from *Frauen: German Women recall the Third Reich* is published with the kind permission of Rutgers University Press.