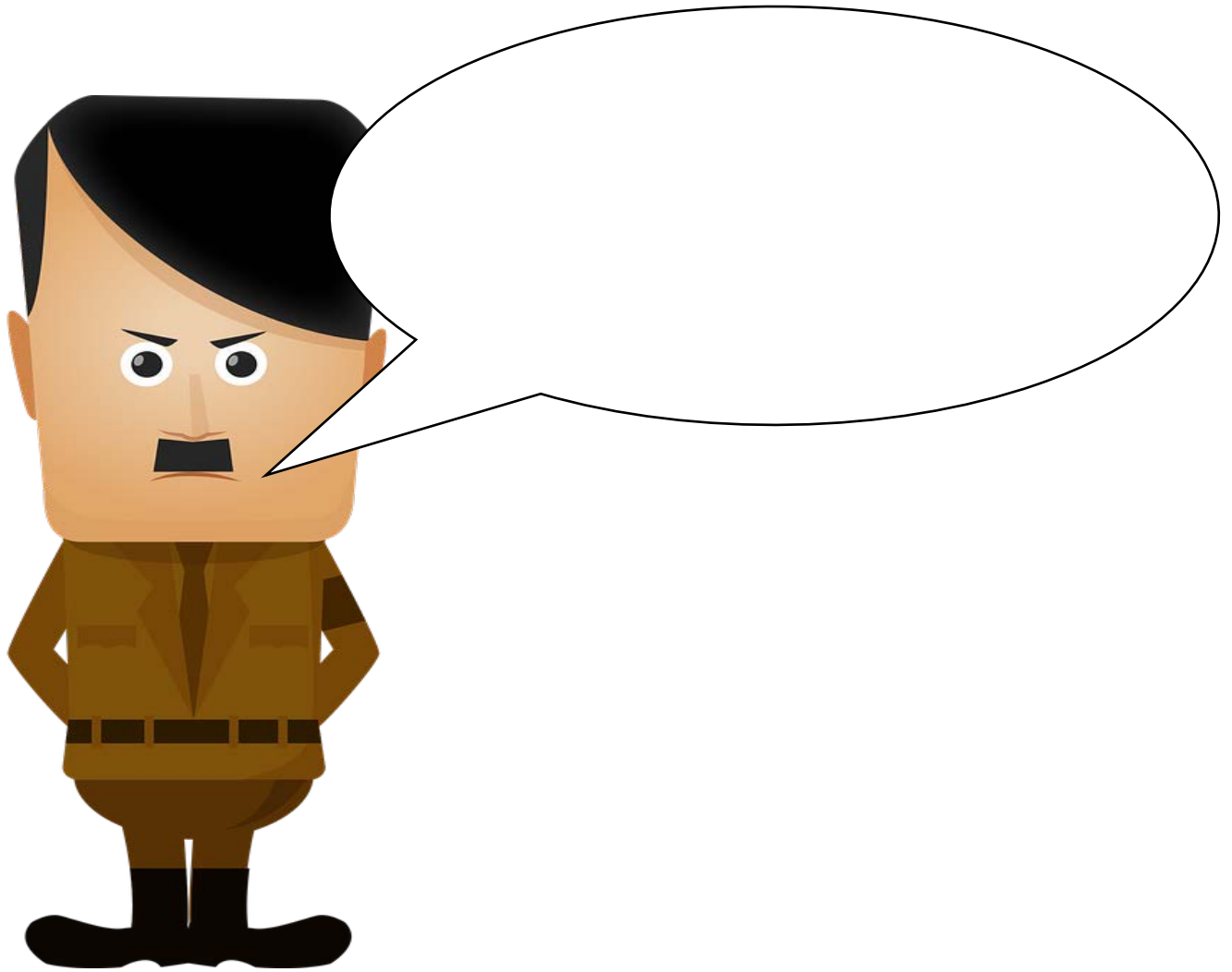





Germany 1890-1945 Democracy and Dictatorship



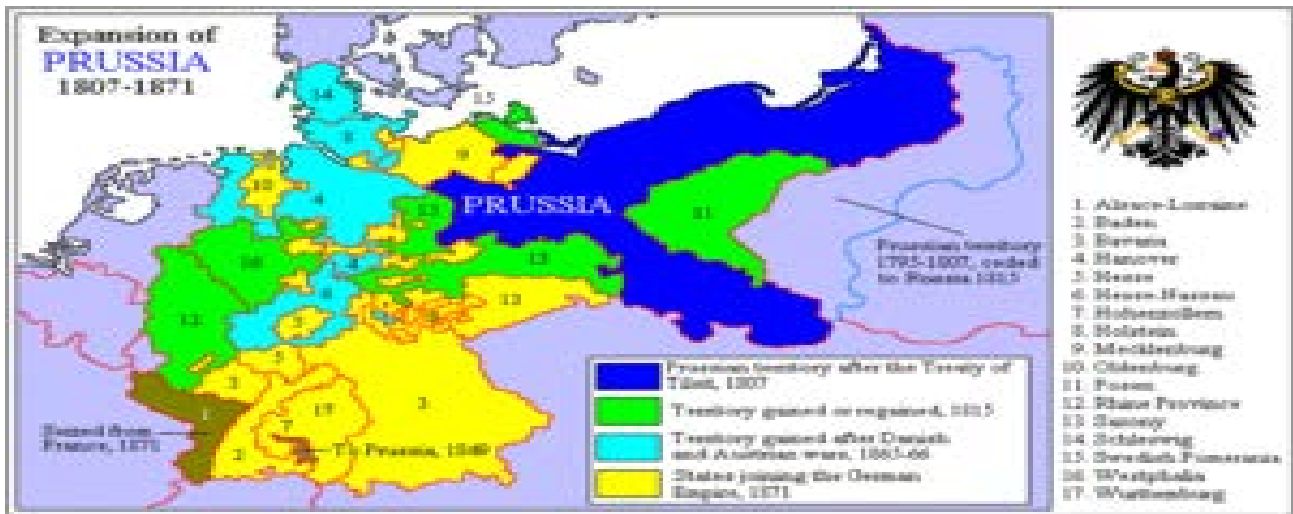
Revision Guide

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Germany Democracy and Dictatorship</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>1890-1945</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Red</u></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Amber</u></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Green</u></p> 
Kaiser Wilhelm and the difficulties in Germany			
<p>Impact of the First World War</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Defeat and the end of the monarchy ○ Weimar Germany and the main political parties ○ The reaction to the Treaty of Versailles ○ Economic problems 			
<p>Weimar Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Political change and unrest ○ The Stresemann Era 			
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Timeline 1890-1945

<u>1888</u>	Kaiser Wilhelm II becomes Emperor of Germany
<u>1898</u>	Germany begins to expand its navy to compete with the British navy
<u>1914</u>	First World War begins
<u>1918</u>	November – Kaiser Wilhelm abdicates, the First World War ends
<u>1919</u>	January – Spartacus League revolt June – Treaty of Versailles is signed August – Weimar Constitution is established
<u>1920</u>	January – American jazz music comes to Germany February – founding of the Nazi Party March – Kapp Putsch
<u>1922</u>	March – Foundation of the Hitler Youth
<u>1923</u>	January – French and Belgian troops invade German industrial area of the Ruhr. Hyperinflation makes money worthless November – Munich Putsch
<u>1924</u>	August – Dawes Plan – US loans money to Germany
<u>1925</u>	February – Hindenburg becomes president
<u>1926</u>	Germany joins the League of Nations
<u>1929</u>	February – Young Plan is proposed October – Wall Street Crash, leading to the Great Depression
<u>1930</u>	The Depression takes hold in Germany
<u>1933</u>	Hitler is named Chancellor after Hindenburg's death in 1934, Hitler becomes Germany's dictator
<u>1934</u>	June – Night of the Long Knives, Rohm is arrested and later shot
<u>1936</u>	August – summer Olympics held in Berlin Membership of the League of German Girls becomes compulsory
<u>1937</u>	Volkswagen car company is formed
<u>1938</u>	Kristallnacht: Jewish homes, business and synagogues attacked
<u>1939</u>	Germany invades Poland: the Second World War begins
<u>1942</u>	January – Wannsee Conference: plan created for the extermination of Europe's Jews. Death camps are set up in German occupied zones
<u>1945</u>	April – Hitler commits suicide May – Surrender of Germany to the Allies in the Second World War.

What was Germany like before the First World War?



Prior to the unification of Germany in 1871, **Prussia** was the most powerful German state. **Militarism** was important to them, so it had a mighty army equipped with the most advanced weaponry. When Germany was unified Prussian generals, army officers and tactics formed the basis of the new united German army and the German **Kaiser** was its supreme commander.

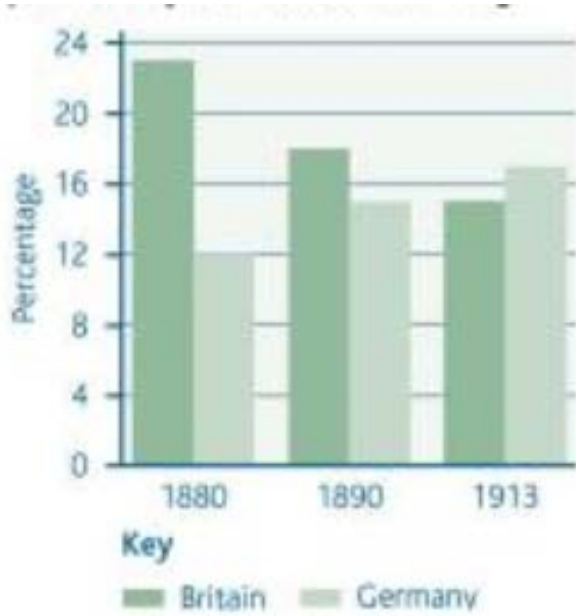
The Kaiser ruled over all of the Germany. Each state sent representatives (known collectively as the **Bundesrat**) to consult the Kaiser over new laws. The Kaiser was supported by advisors, or minister, and the chief minister was called the Chancellor. Also there was a parliament (Reichstag), which elected by all men over the age of 25. The Reichstag discussed and voted on the laws that the Kaiser and his ministers drew up. The Bundesrat discussed these laws to. However one of the problems faced by the Kaiser's government was that he could choose to ignore their advice and make all the decisions he wanted to.

Kaiser Wilhelm

In 1888 the grandson of Queen Victoria, Wilhelm, became Kaiser. Wilhelm dreamed of making Germany as great as Britain, who at the time had a large empire, he began building up Germany's industry. This process was known as industrialisation. Supported by rich powerful German businessmen, Wilhelm's desires came true and, by 1913, Germany was producing more iron and steel and as much as coal as Britain. In industries such as electrical goods and chemicals, German companies dominated Europe.



Parliamentary government and the growth of socialism



The success of German industry had made many some groups very rich. However, many workers in the new factories, mines and workshops were unhappy because their wages were low, working conditions were poor and food was expensive. More and more working class people joined **trade unions** and organised strikes in the hope that this might force the Kaiser, politicians in the Reichstag to try to improve their conditions.

Many ordinary workers voted for a new party called the **Social Democratic Party (SD)**. They believed in **socialism** – the idea that power and wealth should be shared equally amongst the people. The Social Democrats hoped that the Kaiser might share some of his power, and allow the Reichstag to make more social reforms or laws to improve worker's rights and conditions. Around **one in three Germans voted for this political party at this time.**

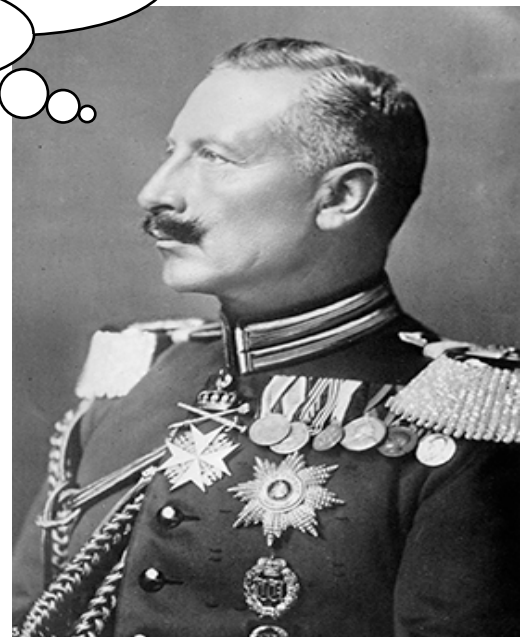
'We demand our place in the sun'

Weltpolitik

The Kaiser decided that Germany should have an empire abroad. He wanted to transform Germany into a global power with control over countries in different parts of the world. This idea was known as Weltpolitik, meaning 'world policy'. In the late 1800s, Germany began to do what other European countries were doing – they took over other nations, most notably Africa.

Protecting the new empire

The Kaiser wanted a large navy of powerful battleships for several reasons. He thought it would help Germany take over more countries already in the German empire. He was a very materialistic man who wanted the German navy to rival Britain's vast navy. A series of naval laws were introduced between 1898 and 1912, saw the German navy rapidly increase in size through **navy laws**, and huge sums of money were spent to achieve this. The Kaiser expanded the size of the German army too. Taxes were raised and money was borrowed to pay for this – and Germany would remain in debt for a very long time.



What was the impact of the First World War?

The First World War began in August 1914, Germany and Austria went to war against France, Britain, Russia, Belgium and Serbia. More countries joined over the next four years.

Timeline: Germany's reactions during the war

In 1914

- The war was popular and patriotic Germans thought it would end quickly
- Soon the British navy stopped ships getting food into Germany, leading to food and other shortages.

In 1915-16

- In Germany protestors demanded an end to the war. Demonstrations increased from 500 to 10,000 people. War weariness increased.
- On the front line, soldiers were worn down by bombs, gas and machine gun fire

Politically unstable:

- Germany was close to defeat. A flu epidemic killed many already weak from a poor diet.
- In October, Army General Ludendorff stated Germany could not win the war. He advised the Kaiser to make the country more democratic so the winning Allies would treat Germany more fairly.
- The Kaiser allowed the main political parties to form a new government, and transferred some power to the Reichstag. But the German people were not satisfied and demonstrations followed.



Defeat and the end of the monarchy

28 October 1918: The German Navy in Kiel mutinied. The mutiny spread. Soldiers sent to deal with the protests also joined the sailors and workers. In just six days workers' and soldiers' councils were governing towns and cities all over Germany. The Kaiser realised he had lost control. His army generals refused to support him.

9 November 1918: The Kaiser abdicated and secretly left Germany, never to return. **Friedrich Ebert**, the leader of Germany's largest political (the SPD), took over Germany temporarily. He promised to hold elections and ended the war.

11 November 1918: Germany surrendered.

Impact of the war on Germany

Virtually bankrupt

- Owed vast sums of money that it had borrowed to pay for the war
- Lent some of its own money to its allies
- Factories were exhausted
- War pensions would cost the government a fortune

Society divided further

- Some factory owners had made a fortune during the war, while workers had restrictions placed on their wages.
- Women worked in the factories during the war. Some people thought this damaged traditional family values.

Politically unstable

- There was mutiny and revolution all over Germany
- Many ex-soldiers and civilians felt that politicians had betrayed Germany by ending the war.

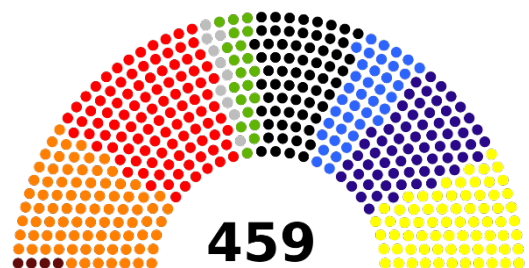
The Weimar Republic

Temporary leader Ebert declared that Germany would be a **democratic republic** and arranged for elections. A group of communists in Germany, known as **Spartacists wanted Germany to be run by small councils of soldiers and workers**. On 6 January 1919, the Spartacists **seized power** in Berlin. Ebert sent in a group of 2000 tough ex-soldiers, known as the Free Corps, to attack the Spartacists. After three days of fighting, the Free Corps recaptured buildings and arrested (and later killed) the Spartacist leaders.

Ebert then held the elections and his own party, the SPD, won the most votes and Ebert became the new German President. By now the politicians were meeting away from the violence in Berlin in another German town called Weimar. They created the **Weimar Constitution**, which was a formal set of rules for how Germany would be governed.

What were the weaknesses of the Weimar Constitution?

1. Proportional Representation: meant that lots of different political parties were able to win some seats in the Reichstag, but it was difficult for one party to get a majority. The leading party had to do deals with smaller groups in order to get anything done. This made law making a very slow process.
2. Many groups didn't like this new democratic system of governing at all. Some older army generals, judges, upper class families, rich factory owners and university professors longed for the 'good old days' when the kaiser ruled Germany
3. The new system of government and the politicians who created it were linked to Germany's defeat at the end of the First World War. Some Germans used the term 'November Criminals' to describe these politicians.
4. The constitution also contained Article 48, which meant that laws could be passed without the Reichstag by order of the president.



The main political parties in early Weimar Germany

Political Party	Communist Party (KPD)	Social Democratic Party (SPD)	German democratic Party (DDP)	Centre Party (Zentrum)	Peoples Party (DVP)	National People's Party (DNVP)	National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP or Nazis)
Supporters	Vast majority were working class	Mostly working class	Middle class for example lawyers and writers	Catholics from all classes	Middle class mainly businessmen	Middle and upper classes, some ex-soldiers	Unemployed, many ex-soldiers, some support from the middle and upper classes who feared communists

The Treaty of Versailles 1919

The Treaty of Versailles was a list of punishments, instructions and orders that Germany had to follow because it lost the war. The Treaty stated:

The war was Germany's fault, so Germany must pay for the cost of the war (£6.6 billion)

Germany should only have a small army, navy and no submarine, tanks or air force

Germany must hand over its colonies abroad to the allies



No German soldiers should enter the Rhineland, an area of Germany next to France

Germany must never unite with Austria again

Large areas of German land were to be used to create new countries for people who had previously been ruled by others (such as Poland and Czechoslovakia)

How did the Germans react to the Treaty of Versailles?

Reparations - In 1921 the figure was set at 132 billion gold marks. Later that year, the German government scraped together their first instalment of two billion gold marks and handed over to France and Belgium.


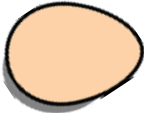


Occupation of the Ruhr, 1922 - In January 1923, 60,000 French and Belgian soldiers marched into the Ruhr, a rich industrial area of Germany. They took control of every factory, mine and railway in the region. They also took food and goods from shops and arrested German's who stood up to them.



Hyperinflation, 1923 - The German government ordered its workers in the Ruhr to go on strike and not help the French and Belgian soldiers remove goods from the country. This was known as passive resistance. The German government printed large amounts of money to pay striking workers and to pay the money they owed. This caused prices to increase. The German government printed even more money to help workers buy products so the prices were raised again. Soon prices were rising so fast it known as hyperinflation.

What was the impact of Hyperinflation?

<u>Year</u>	<u>Price of a loaf of bread</u> 	<u>Price of one egg</u> 
1914		0.9 marks
1918	0.6 marks	
1923: September	1.5 million marks	4 million marks
1923: November	201 billion marks	320 billion marks

In 1923, German money was worthless. Not surprisingly, many Germans blamed their government because it was their decision to call a strike in the Ruhr and then to print so much money. For most German's, 1923 was the worst year since the end of the First World War. Hyperinflation affected different people in different ways – but there was far more losers than winners.



Losers

- People with bank savings were the biggest losers. Some people had saved all their lives to get 1000 marks in the bank.
- Elderly people on fixed pensions found their income would no longer buy them what they needed.
- Many small businesses collapsed



Winners

- People who had borrowed money found it very easy to pay off their debts. They were the real winners. If a person had borrowed 10,000 marks in 1920, they could now pay off their debt in one banknote.

What happened as a result of Weimar democracy?

Political change and unrest, 1919-23

There were many murders, rebellions and uprisings against the Weimar government in the years immediately after the First World War.

The Kapp Putsch

Who? - In March 1920, right-wing politician and journalist Wolfgang Kapp gathered 5000 men (Free Corps), mainly police and ex-soldiers, and took over the capital, Berlin.

Why? - He wanted to take over the whole of the country and recover the land lost in the Treaty of Versailles.

What happened? - President Ebert and the government fled Berlin. However, Kapp didn't have the workers support and they went on strike, resulting in no gas, water, electricity or trains.

Result - After only 100 hours as Germany's leader, Kapp fled abroad. Ebert and his government returned to Berlin.

Red Rising in the Ruhr

When? - In March 1920, after the Kapp Putsch, left wing workers in the industrial Ruhr stayed on strike.

What happened? - They took over several towns in what is known as the Red Rising.

Result - The government sent soldiers and some Free Corps units to deal with the rebellion. Over 1000 workers were killed.

Assassinations

When? - Between 1919 and 1923 there were over 350 political murders in Germany, mostly carried out by right-wing extremists

Why? - They wanted to eliminate those who were responsible for the Treaty of Versailles.

What happened? - In August 1921 Matthias Erzberger, the man who signed the armistice in 1918, was shot dead by a right-wing group. They also killed Foreign Minister Walter Rathenau, and threw acid on Philipp Scheidemann, an important Weimar politician.

The Munich Putsch

When? - In November 1923, Hitler and the Nazis tried to seize control of the Bavarian government.

Why? - Hitler promised to overturn the Treaty of Versailles, destroy communism and restore Germany's national glory

How? - He planned to capture Munich and march on Berlin. Key Bavarian politicians at a Munich beer hall refused to support his plan.

What happened? - As Hitler and about 2000 supporters marched through Munich, they were met by armed police. Three policemen and 16 Nazis died in a short gun battle.

Result - Hitler and Ludendorff (a former WW1 general) were arrested.

The Stresemann era (1924-29)

Between 1924 and 1929 Germany began to recover from some of its problems, this was due to Gustav Stresemann. Stresemann is best known as Germany's Foreign Minister from 1924 until his death in 1929. These are the main problems he faced and how he dealt with this:

1. **Hyperinflation**: he stopped the printing of bank notes and created a new currency; by 1924 this was replaced by the Reichsmark. Hyperinflation ended, however people who lost their savings never got their money back.
2. **French and Belgian troops in the Ruhr**: He arranged for the USA to lend Germany the money (800 million gold marks). Germany then restarted its reparation payments. This deal was known as the 'Dawes plan'. The French and Belgian troops left the Ruhr. In 1929 Stresemann negotiated the Young Plan which reduced the total payment.
3. **Economic recovery** – As well as using some borrowed American money to pay reparations Stresemann also used it to build new factories, houses, schools and roads. This meant more jobs. Slowly Germany became more prosperous, however some believed that Germany was too reliant on the American loans.
4. **Foreign policy** – he worked hard to improve Germany's relations with other nations:
 - In 1925, Germany signed the Locarno Pact with Britain, France, Belgium and Italy. They promised never to invade each other
 - In 1926, Germany joined the League of Nations, an international peacekeeping organisation that Germany had been banned from when it was set up in 1919.
 - In 1928, Germany signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact. The participating countries agreed never to go to war, unless in defence.
 - Germany regained its international status and became an important part of the League of Nations. However some Germans criticised Stresemann for not demanding back some of the land taken by the Treaty of Versailles.

Ongoing Problems

Stresemann died in 1929. Germany had begun a new era of peace and prosperity under his leadership. However there were still problems:

- There were many political parties. They disagreed and couldn't join together to form a government
- Extreme political parties e.g. Nazis and communists, didn't support the Weimar system.
- Large groups of German's were poor because of hyperinflation
- German prosperity was built on American loans – what if they wanted their money back?

Weimar culture in the 1920s

The 1920s have been called a 'golden age' for German artists, writer, poets and performers who became known for their creativity and innovations. Previous controls on entertainment were removed in Weimar Germany.

- Cinema became popular and Germany became the centre for new plays, operas and shows.
- People had 120 newspapers and magazines to choose from
- Avant-garde artists such as Otto Dix believed art should show everyday life. Bauhaus emerged.

What was the impact of the depression?

What was the depression?

From 1924 onwards, foreign banks, especially American ones, lent huge amounts of money to Germany to build factories, and businesses. This created more jobs, money and a better standard of living.

In October 1929, a financial crisis, known as the Wall Street Crash, hit the USA. American companies and banks went out of business and millions lost their jobs. This soon became known as the depression.

What was the impact of the depression?

Economic

- German factories shut because the US weren't buying goods.
- US demanded back the money they lent Germany. German banks tried to reclaim this from German businesses. They could not pay and went bankrupt.

Political

- People listened to extremist that promised radical solutions to Germany's problems.
- In the 1930s election, the communists increased their number of seats in the Reichstag to 77 (from 54) and the Nazis from 12 to 107

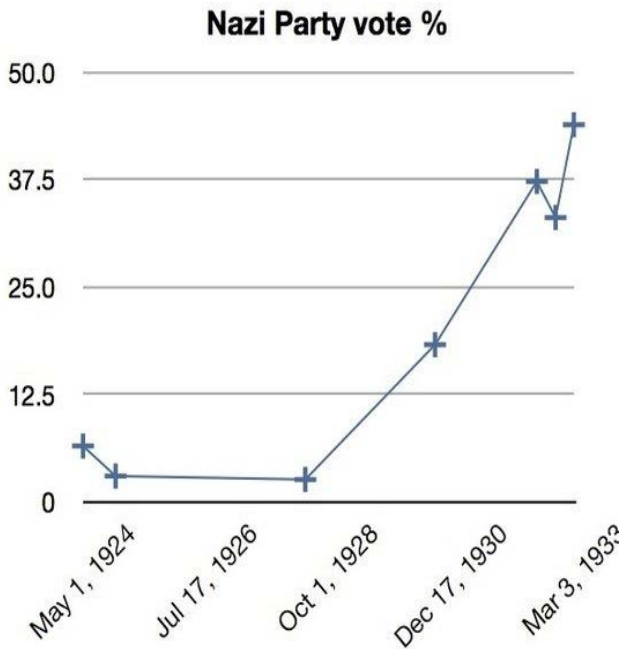
Social

- Many were soon living on the streets – jobless, hungry and angry at their political leaders who they blamed for their problems.



Why did the Nazi Party grow?

In four years, the Nazi Party went from being the eighth most popular party in Germany to the most popular. In 1928 they won only 800,000 votes. In 1932, they won 14 million votes. Reasons for their popularity include:



1. The Depression: By 1932, unemployment stood at six million. The Nazis promised to make jobs.
2. Appeal of Hitler: With his charisma, he convinced people that he could make Germany a great nation.
3. Discontent with the Weimar Republic: Weimar politicians couldn't agree on how to help the unemployed
4. Fear of communism: communists like Spartacists had tried to take over Germany this alarmed many and Hitler said he would fight communism.
5. Nazi Party structure, method and tactics: After the Munich putsch Hitler changed tactics to win legally. Nazi party officers were set up all over the city to recruit more followers. The SA protected Hitler's meetings and tried to influence voters at elections.
6. Use of new media: Nazis used radio and cinema news reports. Goebbels was put in charge of propaganda.

Who voted for the Nazis?

Farmers	Women	Middle Class	Wealthy Classes	Youth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The depression hit farmers hard and Weimar offered little help. • The Nazis promised them higher prices for crops and a better quality of life. • Nazi opposition to the communists appealed to the farmers, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nazis targeted women voters by saying that family life, good morals and self-discipline were important. • Some women agreed with Hitler's view that Weimar culture had been a bad influence on the young. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The middle class – people such as business owners, doctors, bank workers and managers – feared that law and order might break down during depression. • They worried that a communist takeover could destroy their way of life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nazis promised strong leadership to make Germany powerful again • Hitler promised to let owners run factories how they wanted, and his plans to build more weapons would be good for manufacturing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitler's promise to tear up the Treaty of Versailles and make the country strong again appealed to the youth. • They wanted to be a part of Germany's bright future and get jobs in the armed forces or building new homes, motorways and hospitals.

How was Hitler able to become Chancellor?

Political instability grew as the Depression worsened. As parties rarely won a majority in Weimar Germany, they usually got together to form a coalition from which a chancellor was chosen. Such coalitions were ineffective and the president could use Article 48 of the constitution to appoint a new chancellor in emergencies.

September 1930 Reichstag election

- No Nazi won a majority so a coalition was formed
- Nazis gained 107 seats to be the second largest party
- Heinrich Brüning of the Centre Party became Chancellor. He was unpopular for cutting unemployment pay and rising taxes.

The September 1930 Reichstag election results	
Party	Seats
Social Democratic Party (SPD)	143
Nazi Party	107
Communist Party (KPD)	77
Centre Party	68

Hitler builds on success

- Nazis put up millions of posters and flags, and Hitler gave speeches at mass rallies across Germany
- Hitler's private army, the SA, beat up communists and disrupted their meetings making it hard for them to campaign.
- In March 1932 Hitler challenged Hindenburg for the presidency. He won an impressive 13.4 million votes against Hindenburg's 19.3 million.

Hitler builds on success

- Brüning resigned in July 1932 and Hindenburg appointed another Centre Party politician, Franz von Papen.
- Von Papen lacked support, so he called an election
- The Nazis were now the largest party.

Another new Chancellor

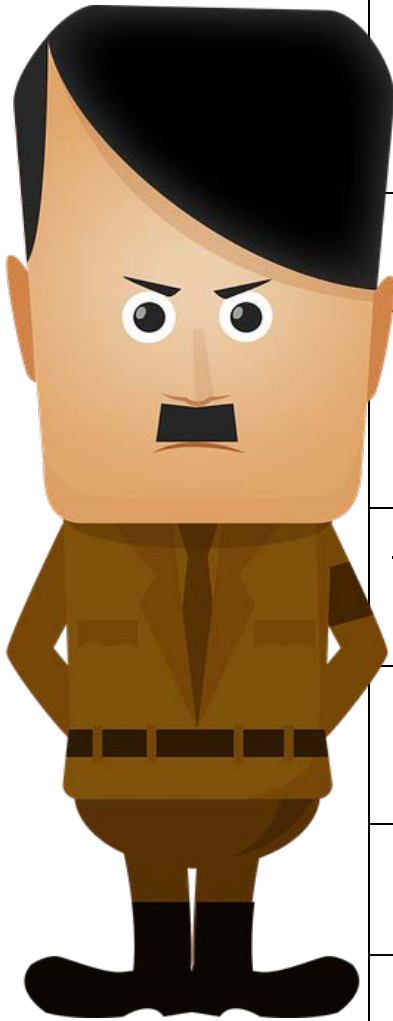
- As a result of his success, Hitler demanded the Chancellor's job
- Hindenburg refused because he thought the Nazis were a disruptive party and used his emergency powers to give the power to Von Papen again
- Von Papen called another election in November 1932. The Nazis remained the largest party.

Hitler becomes Chancellor

- Hindenburg appointed von Schleicher as Chancellor but he resigned due to lack of support
- On 30 January 1933 Hindenburg had no choice but to appoint Hitler

How did Hitler eliminate political opposition?

As Chancellor, Hitler was not in control. Hindenburg could easily replace him. Also, Germany was a democracy, so Hitler could make laws with the Reichstag's approval – and over half of the Reichstag politicians didn't belong to the Nazi Party. However, Hitler quickly moved to increase his power and establish complete control over Germany.



<u>February 1933</u>	Hitler called a new election for March 1933, hoping to get a majority. He now had greater influence over many newspapers and radio stations. He used the police to intimidate the voters.
<u>27 February 1933</u>	A week before voting, the Reichstag burned down , Hitler blamed it on the communists.
<u>28 February 1933</u>	Hitler asked Hindenburg to pass an emergency ' Protection Law ', giving Hitler the power to deal with Germany's problems. Hindenburg agreed
<u>March 1933</u>	The new law, the Decree for the Protection of the People and the State , banned leading communists from taking part in the election campaign. 4000 communists were jailed. In the election, the Nazis got more votes than ever, but not the majority.
<u>23 March 1933</u>	Centre Party politicians joined the Nazis. Hitler now had his majority. Many Centre Party politicians were bullied into passing an Enabling Act – he could make laws without the approval of the Reichstag.
<u>7 April 1933</u>	Nazis were put in charge of all local government, councils and the police. The Gestapo was formed. The first concentration camp for political prisoners were opened in Dachau. Hitler also banned all trade unions.
<u>14 July 1933</u>	Hitler banned all political parties except the Nazis. The Law Against the Formation of New Parties was established. Germany was now a one party state.
<u>2 August 1934</u>	Hitler murdered his opponents in the SA in the Night of the Long Knives in June 1934. When Hindenburg died, Hitler took over as President while remaining Chancellor. He made the army swear an oath of loyalty to him and not the country. Hitler decided to be called Da Fuhrer – the leader.

Why was the SA a threat?

Hitler felt he had rivals for power within the Nazi Party – and wanted to remove them. The most dangerous threat came from the SA. Hitler worried that Rohm was becoming too powerful, the SA had more members than the German army, and he wanted to control both the SA and the army.

Hitler organised a meeting with SA leaders on 30 June 1934, shortly before dawn he and an assassination squad from the SS stormed into the hotel and arrested Rohm and other SA leaders. They were later shot dead.

British cartoon by David Low, 1934

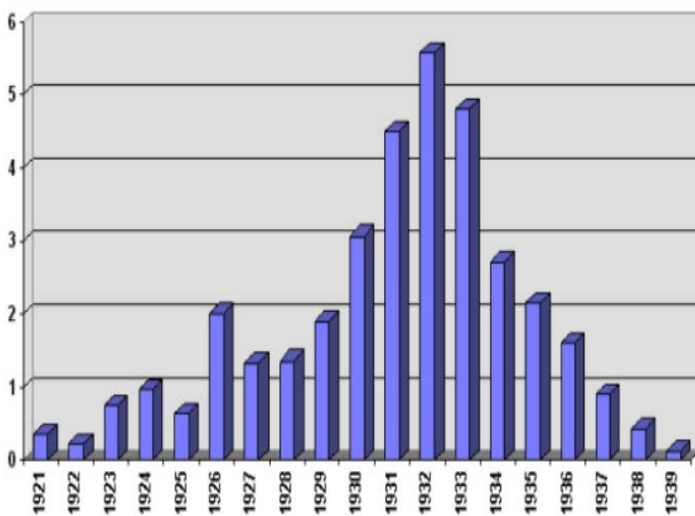


They salute with both hands, now!

What economic changes were implemented in Nazi Germany?

Over 6 million German's were out of work when Hitler came to power in 1933. The Nazis set up a number of schemes, programmes and organisations to get German's back to work.

Unemployment in Germany (1921-1939)



1. The National Labour Service (RAD) – all men between 18 and 25 had to spend 6 months in RAD. They planted forests, mended hedges and dug drainage ditches.
2. Rearmament – the Nazis ordered rearmament, this created thousands of jobs. Huge government arms contracts made factory owners rich. Conscription was introduced in 1935. All males between 18 and 25 had to join the armed forces or at least two years. Within five years the army grew from 100,000 to 1,400,000, creating more jobs.
3. Public Work Schemes – a new network of autobahns was built giving work to 100,000 people.
4. 'Invisible' unemployment – the Nazis used a variety of other methods to reduce unemployment methods:
 - Women who gave up work didn't count towards official figures
 - The Nazis created jobs by sacking Jews.

How did the Nazis control workers and reward high production?

DAF: German Labour Front

- Replaced trade unions
- Strikes now illegal, workers needed permission to leave jobs
- Promised to protect workers' rights and improve conditions
- Ran two schemes to improve German lives: SDA and KDF
- Had schemes to help workers save for a car – Hitler designed an affordable 'Peoples Car', a Volkswagen – however no ordinary German received a car.

SDA – Beauty of Labour

- Tried to improve the workplace by installing better lighting, safety equipment, new washrooms, low-cost canteens and sport facilities.

KDF – Strength Through Joy.

- Organised leisure activities to encourage hard work. Had a reward scheme with cheap holidays, theatre trips and football match tickets if workers met targets.

Better off or not? The Nazis provided work but workers lost their rights because trade unions were banned. People could be forced to work many hours and food cost more than it used to.

How did Hitler control the economy?

1. Hitler appointed Hjalmar Schacht as Minister of Economics. He signed deals with countries in South America and south-east Europe to supply raw materials in return for German goods. This was effective but Germany was still dependent on foreign raw materials and the changes were too slow for Hitler. Schacht was sacked and replaced by Herman Goering.
2. In 1936 Goering introduced a four year plan to increase military production. High targets were set in industries like steel and the production of explosives. However targets were not met in other key industries like oil production. Goering tried to make Germany self-sufficient e.g. making make up from flour and coffee from acorns.



What was the impact of the Second World War on the economy?

Hardship on the home front

Rationing

Supplies were needed for the soldiers, so there were severe food shortages

- By November 1939, food and clothing were rationed. People were limited to one egg per week.
- Goods like soap and toilet paper were in very short supply.
- Hot water was rationed to two days per week.

Total War

In 1942, Albert Speer was made Armaments Minister. He organised the country for total war: everything was focused on making weapons and growing food for soldiers. Anything that didn't contribute to the war as stopped:

- Beer halls, dance halls and sweet shops were closed.
- Letter boxes were boarded up
- Factories stayed

Labour Shortages

- Women were drafted in to work in factories as men were fighting the war.
- By 1944, around 7 million foreign workers had been brought in to work as slave labour in the factories. They came from the countries Germany had conquered.

Bombing and refugees

From 1942, Britain and America began bombing German cities. As a result:

- There was no electricity, water or transport in many German cities
- Thousands lost their homes
- Thousands more left their homes to find safety as refugees.

What were Nazi policies towards young people?

Education under the Nazis

Schools

- Teachers had to join the German Teachers League and teach what the Nazi's wanted or they would be sacked
- Every subject was used to put forward Nazi propaganda and beliefs
- Textbooks were rewritten to present Nazi belief as facts
- Race studies (Eugenics) was taught. Students were taught that the Aryan race was superior to other
- PE became important to prepare boys for the army. Girls studied domestic skills.



Universities

- Universities had to change their courses to reflect what the Nazis believed
- Many lecturers were sacked, either for racial or political reasons. By 1939, over 3000 had been dismissed.
- All students had to train as soldiers for a month each year.
- The Nazis did not consider university education as particularly important and fewer Germans attended university during the Nazi era.

Hitler Youth

As part of his campaign to indoctrinate the young with Nazi beliefs, Hitler set the Hitler Youth Organisation.

<u>1922</u>	Hitler youth organisation established
<u>1933</u>	All other youth groups banned. Of 7.5 million members, 2.3 million were aged 10-18
<u>1939</u>	Membership made compulsory, 8.8 million

Boys

- Boys went to Hitler Youth meetings several times a week.
- They learnt how to march, fight with knives, fire a gun and keep fit
- Activities were based on competition, struggle, heroism and leadership
- The Nazis wanted to prepare the boys for their future role as soldiers.

Girls

- For girls the emphasis was on how to keep fit, cook good meals and care for babies, to prepare for motherhood
- They also went in tough marches and attended weekend camps

What were Nazi policies towards women?

Work

Many female doctors, teachers, lawyers and judges were sacked. Working was discouraged, as it might hinder producing children

Behaviour

In many cities, women were banned from smoking because it was 'unladylike'. Wearing trousers or high heels was also frowned upon. Slimming was also discouraged.

Family

Contraception and abortion were banned. Generous loans were given to newly married couples to encourage them to have children. The motherhood medal was awarded to women with the most children. Mothers who had eight children received the 'Gold Cross'.

Nazi policies towards women



Organisations

The German Women's league coordinated all women's groups, and representatives travelled around giving advice on cooking, childcare and diet.

Sterilisation

The Nazi's thought that some women were unfit to be mothers. The 'Law for the Prevention of Diseased Offspring' allowed for forcible sterilisation of women with a history of mental illness or hereditary disease.

Impact of the policies

- Thousands of women were prevented from following their chosen career paths
- The birth rate increased – around 970,000 babies were born in 1933, rising too 1,413,000 by 1929
- When the Second World War started in 1939, there was a labour shortage as men were joining the army. Thousands of women were needed to work in factories for the war effort.

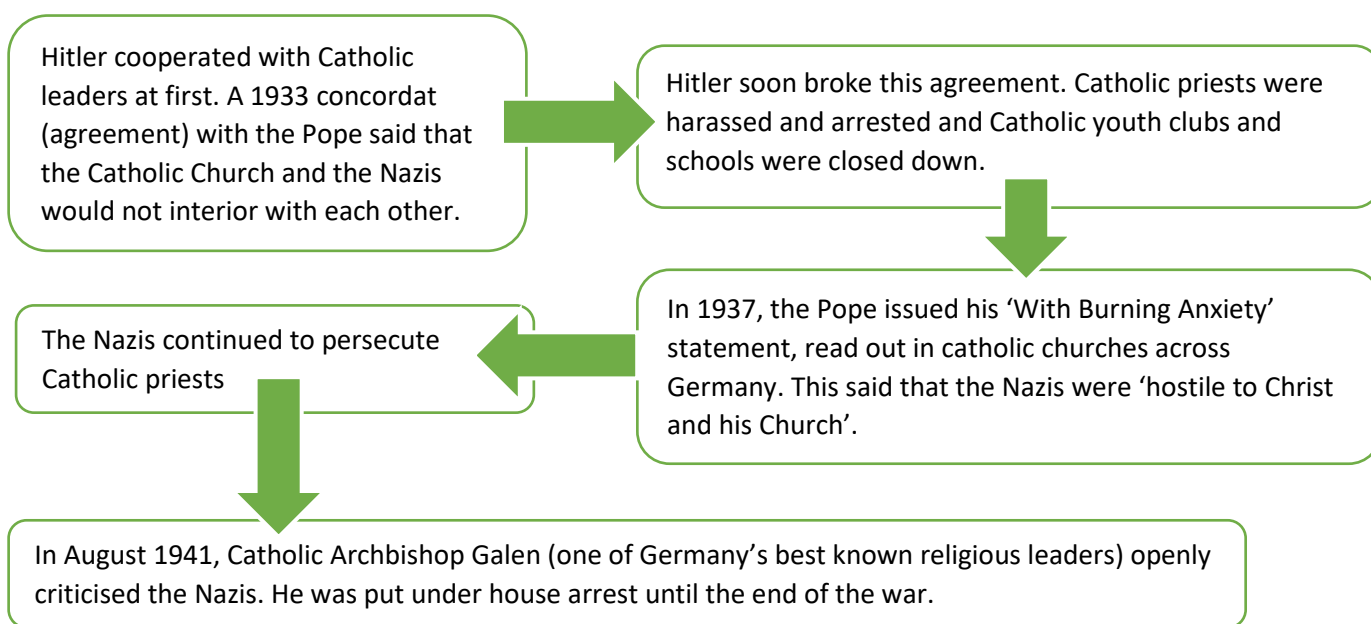


What were Nazi policies towards religion?

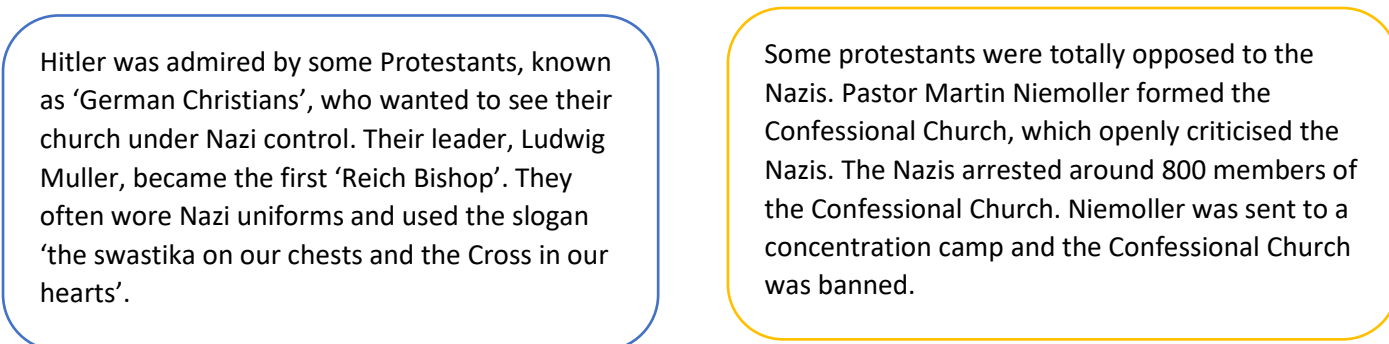


Most Germans were Christians. The Nazis and Christianity clashed because their beliefs and values were very different. The Nazis had to be careful with how they dealt with religion because it was an important feature of Germany society.

The Nazis and the Catholic Church



The Nazis and the German Protestants



Other religious groups

- Jehovah's Witnesses were pacifists who refused to serve in the army. One third of Germany's Jehovah's Witnesses were killed in concentration camps.
- Members of other groups – the Salvation Army, Christian Scientists and the Seventh Day Adventist Church – were also persecuted
- Jewish people suffered relentless persecution in Nazi Germany

What were Nazi policies towards Jews?

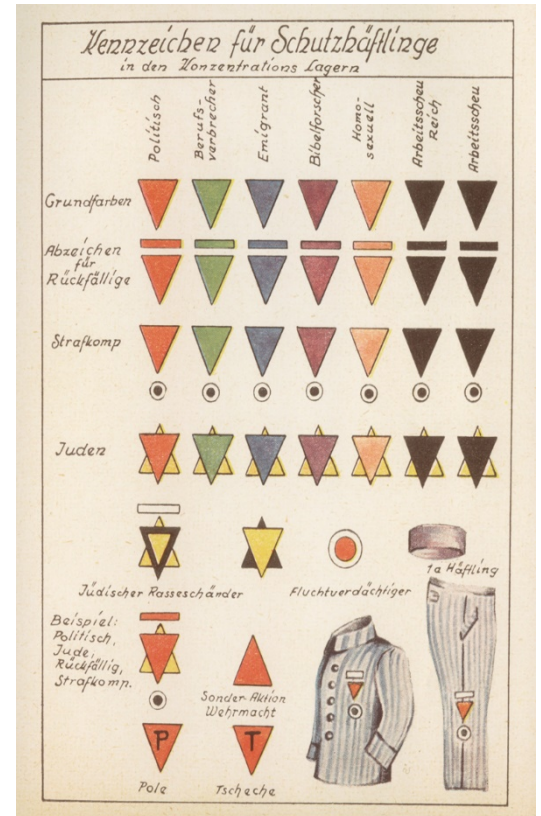
Hitler believed that Germans were the 'superior' master race – Aryans – with the right to dominate 'inferior' races and groups of people. He feared that such groups would mix with Aryans and wanted to rid Germany of them.

Persecution of racial groups

- The Nazis classed the Jews, Gypsies, Slavs (such as Russians), black and Indian people as 'inferior'
- Hitler wanted to cleanse Germany of these people
- The Nazis began to persecute and, later, murder members of these groups. Over half a million Gypsies and over six million Jews across Germany died in the years up to 1945.

Persecution of 'undesirables'

- 'Undesirables' was Hitler's term for people with mental and physical disabilities and those who did not, in his view, contribute to society. He believed that they weakened Germany and he wanted to get rid of them to create a stronger nation.
- About 350,000 physically and mentally disabled people were forcibly sterilised by the Nazis. From 1939, the Nazis began to kill them. About 200,000 people including 5000 children were murdered in specially built 'nursing homes'.
- Around half a million homeless people, beggars and alcoholics were sent to concentration camps by 1933. Many were worked to death. Thousands of prostitutes, homosexuals and 'problem' families were sent to camps too.



Shops

From January 1934, all Jewish shops were marked with a yellow Star of David or the word Juden.

Laws

The Nuremberg Laws of 1935 banned marriages between Jews and non-Jews. German citizenship was removed.

Work

From March 1933, all Jewish lawyers, judges, teachers and doctors were killed

Early policies towards Jews

School

Jewish children were forced out of German state schools and 'Eugenics' was introduced in schools.

Kristallnacht

In November 1936 Jewish homes, synagogues and businesses were attacked all over Germany and Austria. About 100 Jews were killed and 20,000 sent to concentration camps.

The journey to the Final Solution

When war broke out in 1939, persecution of the Jews intensified

- Jews were rounded up in some of the countries under Nazi occupation and forced to live in ghettos in major cities or sent to work in labour camps.
- Execution squads (Einsatzgruppen) went out into the countryside and shot or gassed Jews.

At the Wannsee Conference in 1942, Nazi leaders planned what they called 'a final solution to the Jewish question': the mass murder of every Jew in Nazi-controlled territory.

Henrich Himmler, Head of the SS, oversaw the Final Solution

Six death camps (extermination camps) were to be built. They contained gas chambers to carry out the murders, and large crematoriums to burn the bodies

Jews from all over German-occupied Europe were transported to these camps. In total around six million were killed.

Thousands of Gypsies, homosexuals, political opponents, the disabled and any other group whom the Nazi considered unfit to live were also killed in the camps.



Fighting back: Jewish resistance

- Some Jews fought back. They formed resistance groups, attacked German soldiers and blew up railway lines that the Germans were using.
- In some ghettos there was resistance – the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943 lasted 43 days
- There were occasional rebellions in death camps. In Treblinka camp in 1943, 15 guards were killed and 150 prisoners escaped.

How did Hitler keep control in Nazi Germany?

How did the Nazis create a police state?

After 1933, Germany became a police state – a country where the police and other organisations are very powerful and act on behalf of the government.

Himmler

- The Head of the SS
- A loyal Nazi who personally reported to Hitler, whom he had known since 1923.

Regular police and Courts

- Ordinary police continued their work but ignored crimes committed by the Nazis
- Top jobs in the ordinary police went to the Nazis
- Law courts and judges were under Nazi control. New laws meant that the death penalty could be given for telling anti-Hitler jokes, having sex with a Jew, listening to a foreign radio station.

The Gestapo (secret police)

- No uniform
- Spied on people that thought might be a threat. Tapped phone calls and opened mail.
- Had the power to arrest, imprison without trial and torture anyone
- Set up a network of informers who would report anyone who criticised the Nazis. Children were encouraged to report their parent and teachers.






The SS (Schutzstaffel)

- Set up in 1925, wore black uniforms
- Originally Hitler's bodyguard, but over time divided into three sections: The SD looked after security; the Waffen SS were an elite unit in the army; the Death's Head Units ran the concentration camps

Concentration Camps

- Set up as soon as Hitler took power
- Large prisoners where enemies of the states were sent
- Inmates were forced to work hard and some were even tortured or worked to death.

How did the Nazis use propaganda and censorship?

<u>Propaganda</u>	<u>Examples of propaganda in Nazi Germany</u>	
<p><u>What?</u></p> <p>The spreading of information and ideas in the hope that it influences how people think and behave. Key messages included blaming Jews for Germany's problems, criticising the Treaty of Versailles and making Germany great again.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only stories that showed Nazis doing good things were allowed - There were negative stories about Germany's 'enemies'
<p><u>Who?</u></p> <p>Leading Nazi Joseph Goebbels was put in charge of Nazi Propaganda.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All films had to show the Nazis in a good way, and their 'enemies' in a bad way. - Goebbels approved all.
<p><u>How?</u></p> <p>He understood that propaganda worked best if people were repeatedly given some basic ideas with short messages and powerful images. The messages continuously appeared all over Germany.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writers were forced to write books, plays and songs that praised Hitler and the Nazis.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All radios were under Nazi control to broadcast Nazi ideas - Cheap radios were produced that could only tune in to Nazi-controlled stations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impressive mass rallies were held to celebrate Hitler's greatness. Posters all showed this

Who opposed the Nazis and how effective was opposition?

