

# Paper 1

## GCSE History Revision Booklet



### Part A: USA 1920-73 &

### Part B: Conflict & Tension 1918-39



## Question Types on Paper 1

### USA 1920-73

1. How do these interpretations differ? (4)
2. Why do these interpretations differ? (4)
3. Which interpretation do you find more convincing? (8)
4. Describe... (4)
5. In what ways... (8)
6. Which of the following were more important [2 bullet points] (12)

### Conflict & Tension

#### 1918-39

11. Source A supports. How do you know? (4)
12. How useful are these sources? (12)
13. Write an account of... (8)
14. 'Statement'. How far do you agree? (16)

# USA 1920-1973

## Section A – AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE BOOM

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KQ 1.1: Who were the Americans?  
KQ 1.2: Why was there an economic boom in the 1920s?  
KQ 1.3: Why was Henry Ford so important?  
KQ 1.4: Why didn't everyone benefit from the Boom?  
KQ 1.5: What was the stock market?

### Key Topic 2: Social & Cultural Developments

KQ 2.1: What were the 'Roaring Twenties'?  
KQ 2.2: How did life change for women in the 1920s?

### Key Topic 3: The Divided Society

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KQ 3.2: Who was Al Capone?  
KQ 3.3: Was the USA a 'land of opportunity'?  
KQ 3.4: What was life like for African Americans in the 1920s?  
KQ 3.5: What was the Ku Klux Klan?  
KQ 3.6: Why was there a Red Scare in the USA in the 1920s?  
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### Key Topic 4: American Society in the Depression

KQ 4.1: What was the Wall Street Crash?  
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KQ 5.1: What was 'the New Deal'?  
KQ 5.2: What opposition was there to the New Deal?  
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KQ 5.4: How did popular culture develop in the 1930s?

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KQ 6.1: How did the USA change from isolationism to war?  
KQ 6.2: What was the impact of WW2 on Americans?

## Section C – POST-WAR AMERICA

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KQ 7.1: How rich were American people in the 1950s?  
KQ 7.2: What was the rock and roll generation?  
KQ 7.3: What was McCarthyism?

### Key Topic 8: Racial Tension in the 1950s and 1960s

KQ 8.1: What was the Civil Rights Movement?  
KQ 8.2: What was the role of Martin Luther King and the peaceful protests?  
KQ 8.3: What was the Black Power Movement?

### Key Topic 9: America and the 'Great Society'

KQ 9.1: What was Kennedy's 'New Frontier'?  
KQ 9.2: What was Johnson's 'Great Society'?  
KQ 9.3: What was the feminist movement?

## Key Topic 1: The Boom

### Key Question 1.1: Who were the Americans?

- British people first settled in America in 1600s.
- 4<sup>th</sup> July 1776: Independent USA created (13 states, with George Washington as President).
- 1800s: White westward expansion. Eventually USA was 50 states.
- Federal government = Central government, run by President, in Washington DC.
- State government = Each of the 50 states has its own state government.
- Bill of Rights = A set of freedoms such as freedom of speech, freedom of belief, etc. – supposed to apply to all American citizens.
- 1865 = Slaves set free after the Civil War.
- Melting Pot = The idea that millions of people came to the USA from all around the world and would come together to become 'Americans'.

### Key Question 1.2: Why was there an economic boom in the 1920s?

**Reason 1 – First World War:** When war broke out in 1914, the USA was isolationist. It became rich by providing loans and supplies for Britain and its allies. Eventually the USA joined the war in 1917.

**Reason 2 – The Aftermath of War:** All other major countries were badly damaged by WW1, but USA was not. After the war, the USA was the only country which could produce a lot of stuff. This could then be sold to European countries.

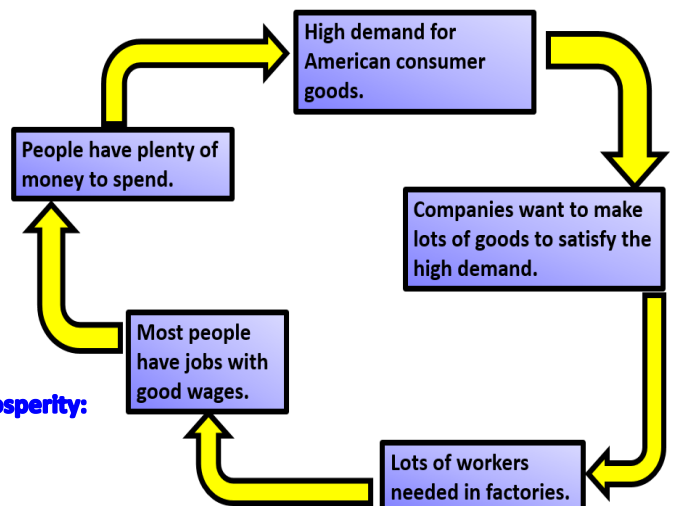
**Reason 3 – The Consumer Society:** In the 1920s, new consumer goods were invented such as vacuum cleaners, radios, fridges, ovens, etc. Millions bought them and this high demand created millions of jobs, leading to greater wealth.

**Reason 4 – Government Policies:** The Republican government of the 1920s helped the Boom by having a laissez-faire approach (leaving people to get on with their own lives) and cut taxes, allowing people to spend their money on consumer goods. They also put high tariffs on importing foreign goods, which encouraged people to buy American goods instead.

**Reason 5 – Mass Production:** New industries such as the car industry used mass production and assembly lines which meant far more goods could be created in a short space of time. This made them cheaper and more affordable to ordinary people.

**Reason 6 – New Ways to Buy & Sell:** Advertising on billboards and in magazines and catalogues now encouraged people to buy more and more consumer goods, which created more jobs. Also, people could buy things even if they didn't have enough money. They could 'buy now, pay later' – this was known as 'hire purchase'.

### Reason 7 – The Cycle of Prosperity:



## Key Topic 1: The Boom (continued)

### Key Question 1.3: Why was Henry Ford so important?

- Manufacturer of cars – first to use assembly lines, creating cheap cars which ordinary people could buy.
- First to market cars to females.
- Led to massive increase in car ownership, creating millions of jobs in motor industry and in industries which supplied the motor industry (e.g. glass-makers, tyre-companies) and jobs building roads.
- Car ownership gave people new freedom to travel wherever and whenever they wanted.
- Also led to new problems such as road accidents, traffic jams and pollution.

### Key Question 1.4: Why didn't everyone benefit from the Boom?

**Group 1 – Farmers and Farm Workers:** There was now less demand for American farm produce than during WW1, and farmers had produced too much. This meant the prices got lower and farmers went out of business. Also, new technology such as combine-harvesters took the place of farm-workers who lost their jobs. 600,000 farmers lost their farms in 1924 alone.

**Group 2 – African-American Workers:** Many African-Americans worked on farms in the south. They were known as sharecroppers. When the farms struggled, African-Americans suffered the most. If they moved to cities, they faced more discrimination as many companies had 'whites-only' policies.

**Group 3 – Workers in Traditional Industries:** Old industries such as cotton and wool suffered because of the popularity of new man-made fibres, so workers in those industries lost their jobs.

**Group 4 – Native Americans:** Much Native American land was taken by mining companies. Native Americans' traditional way of life disappeared when they had to move onto reservations which were always on bad land. Native Americans had the lowest rates of literacy and lowest life expectancy of any group in the USA in the 1920s.

**Group 5 – The Big Rich/Poor Gap:** Many people got very rich in the 1920s 'Boom', but in fact 42 per cent of the population lived in what we would think of as poverty.

### Key Question 1.5: What was the stock-market?

- 'Playing the stock-market' became a national craze in the USA in the 1920s. In 1920, 4 million Americans had shares. By 1929, 20 million had shares.
- Company-owners would sell part (shares) of their company. Members of the public would buy these.
- If the company did well, the buyer got a share of the profits.
- When companies were mostly doing very well, this was a good way of making easy money.
- Many people bought shares they couldn't afford by getting a loan from the bank, hoping to pay it back when their shares were worth lots of money. This was called 'buying on the margin'.

## Key Topic 1 REVISION-CHECK

Can you give at least five reasons why there was a boom in the 1920s?

Can you explain the cycle of prosperity?

Can you explain what mass-production was?

Can you explain the consequences of Ford's assembly lines?

Can you explain how at least three groups who benefited from the Boom?

Can you explain what the stock-market was?



## Key Topic 2: Social & Cultural Developments

### Key Question 2.1: What were the 'Roaring Twenties'?

- For many Americans, the 1920s were a decade of success and fun. People had more money and more leisure time than ever before, and were determined to make the most of it.
- **Example 1 - Crazes:** People became obsessed with short-term crazes such as dance marathons and pole-sitting.
- **Example 2 - Sport:** Sports such as baseball, American football and boxing became very popular because of radio commentary and because supporters could travel to matches in their cars. Sports stars such as Babe Ruth (baseball) became national heroes.
- **Example 3 - Music:** Jazz music became extremely popular in the 1920s. It spread from the southern states as African-Americans moved north. The radio and the creation of 'jazz clubs' helped it to spread. Jazz musicians such as Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington became known across the country.
- **Example 4 - Dance:** As well as dance marathons, new dances such as the Charleston and the Tango became popular in the 1920s.
- **Example 5 - Cinema:** The movie industry was the biggest success of the 1920s. Movie companies such as MGM, Warner Bros and Paramount set up in Hollywood. Silent movie stars such as Charlie Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy became stars. In 1927, the first 'talkie' was created (a movie with speech). It was called 'The Jazz Singer' starring Al Jolson. By 1929, Hollywood was making over 500 films a year. Some people didn't approve of these films, thinking they had too much sexual contact. Some states banned certain films, and the Hays Code was introduced which brought in rules such as no nudity and no on-screen kissing longer than 3 seconds.

### Key Question 2.2: How did life change for American women in the 1920s?

- **Before the War:** Most women before 1914 led restricted lives. They were expected to wear long dresses, not take part in sport, and only to go out if they were with a male chaperone. It was also unacceptable for women to be seen smoking or to be seen dancing with a man without wearing gloves. They also had far fewer opportunities in work and education than men.
- **The Impact of WW1 (1917-1918):** When the USA joined the war in 1917, men went off to fight. As a result, women began to take over their jobs. They gained independence and showed they could be trusted with responsibility. After the war, women were given the right to vote in 1920. Women still did not have equality of men, but the war was important in starting the process.
- **Flappers:** A group of women in the 1920s, who became known as 'flappers', began to ride motorbikes, go to nightclubs, drink, smoke and wear revealing clothing. Many people disapproved of the 'unladylike' behaviour, but many women had a taste of independence and now wanted more.
- **Still not equal:** Flappers were mainly middle and upper-class women from the north. For the majority of women, there was no real change or improvement. They were busy working or raising families, and had no time for a life of their own. Women still earned less than men and worked in the least skilled jobs.

## Key Topic 2 REVISION-CHECK

Can you give five examples of life in the 'roaring twenties'?

Can you name which sports became popular in the 1920s and why?

Can you explain why jazz music grew in popularity in the 1920s?

Can you name dances and crazes of the 1920s?

Can you name some movie stars of the 1920s?

Can you explain the impact of WW1 on women?

Can you explain what a 'flapper' was?

Can you explain how much progress women made during the 1920s?

## Key Topic 3: The Divided Society

### Key Question 3.1: What was prohibition and why did it fail?

- Alcohol ('the demon drink') was banned in the USA in 1919 under the Volstead Act. It was banned for several reasons.
- **Damage to family values:** Many believed that men were not giving their family enough attention because of alcohol. It was also leading to an increase in domestic violence.
- **Poverty:** Many families were very poor because dad was spending too much money on alcohol. It was also believed that if they stopped spending on alcohol, they would spend money on other things, and that would create jobs.
- **Church:** It was believed that men were no longer going to church because of alcohol. Churches also said that consumption of alcohol was against God's will.
- **War:** Many believed it was morally wrong to enjoy alcohol so soon after so many people had suffered in the war.
- **Absenteeism:** Men were often missing from work because of the effects of alcohol.
- President Roosevelt ended prohibition in 1933 and made alcohol legal again. Prohibition had failed because:
- **Agents:** There were not enough prohibition agents to enforce the law. Many people just carried on drinking alcohol.
- **Corruption:** Many prohibition agents were corrupt and took bribes to 'turn a blind eye'.
- **Speakeasies:** These illegal bars carried on serving alcohol throughout prohibition. There were 30,000 in New York and 200,000 in USA overall. This showed that people were carrying on drinking alcohol.
- **Moonshine:** Now alcohol was illegal to buy, many people made their own alcohol at home (called 'moonshine'). They didn't know how to make it properly and often put too much alcohol in and died from drinking it.
- **Bootleggers:** It was impossible to stop alcohol being smuggled into the USA from Mexico and Canada (where it was legal).
- **Organised Crime:** 'Protection rackets' and gangsters such as Al Capone (see Key Q 3.2) became powerful. They charged speakeasies and smugglers money for 'protection'. If they did not pay up, they would be attacked by the gangsters. No one could report this to the police as they would have to admit to breaking the law by selling alcohol.

### Key Question 3.2: Who was Al Capone?

- **Background:** Born in Brooklyn, New York. Son of Italian immigrants and from a family of criminals.
- **Move to Chicago:** Moved to Chicago in 1919 and became leader of various criminal gangs along with Johnny Torrio. Used bribes to judges, police and the mayor to ensure he didn't end up in prison.
- **Wealth:** Capone and Torrio made a fortune from bootlegging alcohol and from 'protection rackets'. His criminal activities were well known, but he became extremely wealthy and was able to bribe his way out of trouble.
- **Killing his rivals:** When Torrio retired in 1925, Al Capone became the top gangster. He employed 700 men, and 'rubbed out' his rivals, killing 227 rival gangsters in four years.
- **Valentine's Day Massacre:** Al Capone's biggest rival was Bugs Moran, leader of the North Side Gang. Two of Capone's hitmen disguised themselves as policemen and shot dead seven members of the gang. Bugs Moran survived but retired straight after the massacre.
- **Jail:** FBI agents finally managed to get Capone into prison in 1931, though his eleven year sentence was for not paying tax rather than murder. He was released in 1939, suffering from brain disease. He never returned to his gangster lifestyle and died in 1947.

## Key Topic 3: The Divided Society (continued)

### Key Question 3.3: Was the USA a 'land of opportunity'?

- Millions of people moved from Europe to the USA for the following reasons:
- **Land:** European cities were overcrowded and cramped, but in the USA there was lots of cheap, fertile, empty land in the USA, and that land is rich in natural resources (coal, oil, etc).
- **Opportunities:** There was a lot of unemployment in Europe, and it was hard for ordinary people to get rich, but in the USA there were jobs for nearly everyone as the USA became the leading industrial country in the world.
- **Pay & Conditions:** Workers in the USA earned twice as much as workers in Europe, and ordinary working people in the USA had a far higher standard of living than people in Europe.
- **Freedom & The American Dream:** In Europe, various groups were being persecuted for religious or racial reasons. The USA, however, prided itself on being a country where everyone was equal and anyone could get rich. That was 'the American Dream' (though in reality it wasn't available for certain groups such as blacks or Native Americans).
- 40 million people came from Europe to the USA between 1870 and 1914, but then the situation began to change:
- **'New Immigrants':** At first, most immigrants came from Britain, Ireland and Germany. In the early 1900s, they began to come to the USA from other countries such as Italy, Austria, Greece and Russia. They developed large communities in American cities (such as 'Little Italy' in New York) and they were viewed with suspicion.
- **The Immigrant experience:** USA was supposed to be a land of opportunity, but for many new immigrants it was not. Working and living conditions were very poor and they suffered much discrimination and prejudice.
- **Reducing Immigration:** In the early 1920s, the government started introducing laws to cut the number of immigrants
  - 1917: No immigrants allowed into USA who were over 16 and couldn't read an English sentence of 40 words. This stopped many immigrants from non-English-speaking countries.
  - 1921: Immigration Quota Law: Allowed only 350,000 immigrants into the USA each year.
  - 1924: National Origins Act: Cut the number of immigrants allowed each year to 150,000.

### Key Question 3.4: What was life like for African-Americans?

- **Lynchings:** Lynchings were very common in southern states, where most African-Americans lived. The police did nothing to stop it happening, and the victims were always nearly innocent. Lynching was done to show African-American people that the whites were in charge.
- **Free but not equal:** Even though slavery had been ended in 1865, black people still suffered segregation. The Jim Crow Laws kept black people separate to white people in southern states (in restaurants, hotels, schools, etc). They were prevented from voting by the 'literacy test' – many black people could not read and write because of poor education, so they were not able to vote either. They also received no justice in court when crimes were committed against them. African-Americans were treated terribly, particularly in the southern states.
- **Migrating North:** Of the 12 million African-Americans, 2 million left the Southern states and headed north to start a new life. There were more jobs in the north, but they were not welcomed. There was still racist violence, and sometimes there were race riots in cities such as Chicago.
- **The black 'Renaissance':** Despite the racism and discrimination, talented black poets, writers, musicians and artists became well known in Harlem, New York. This included jazz music, and was enjoyed by white people as well.
- **The NAACP:** WEB Du Bois, great grandson of a slave, set up the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) in 1910 to campaign for black people's rights.

### Key Question 3.5: What was the Ku Klux Klan?

- **Where it came from:** The KKK was set up in the 1860s to terrorise African-Americans after the abolition of slavery. It faded away but came back in the 1920s and had 5 million members by 1925.
- **Why it was popular:** Most members were poor white people from the south who were unhappy at their own poverty. They wanted someone to blame for this, and the now-free black people were their main target (though they also targeted Catholics, Jews and other immigrants).
- **Its methods:** The KKK dressed in white sheets and hoods and carried American flags. They used violence and intimidation such as whipping, kidnapping, castration and lynching. It was a secretive group, but it caused terror among African-Americans in the southern states.
- **Its decline:** A KKK leader called David Stephenson was convicted of kidnap, rape and murder of a young woman. At his trial, he admitted many of the terrible things the KKK had done. Its membership fell from 5 million to 300,000.

## Key Topic 3: The Divided Society (continued)

### Key Question 3.6: Why was there a 'Red Scare' in the USA in the 1920s?

- **Immigration:** New immigrants from Eastern Europe, Japan and Asia came to the USA in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, bringing with them different cultures and traditions.
- **Fear:** Many Americans thought these new immigrants were unAmerican. They also feared that they could be Communists. Communism took over in Russia in 1917 and many Americans feared the same happening in the USA. If people did anything to help workers' rights (e.g. going on strike), many Americans saw this as a sign that the Communists ('the Reds') were trying to take over the USA.
- **The Palmer Raids:** Mitchell Palmer was in charge of the USA's law and police. He was the target of a terrorist attack when a suicide bomber blew up his house. Palmer survived, but the suicide bomber was believed to be a Communist (though no one ever actually identified who it was). Palmer said he would get rid of America's 'Reds', and around 6,000 suspected Communists were imprisoned with very little evidence against them. This became known as 'the Red Scare' as millions across the USA feared that undercover Communists were trying to bring down the American way of life
- **Anarchists:** Another group besides Communists who were feared in the USA were anarchists. They believed that the USA should not have a government at all. In 1901, an anarchist killed President William McKinley, and so they were feared throughout the USA.

### Key Question 3.7: Why were Sacco & Vanzetti executed?

- **The Crime:** In April 1920, robbers stole \$15,000 from a shoe factory in Massachusetts and shot two of the staff dead. Sacco and Vanzetti, two Italian immigrants, both anarchists, were arrested.
- **The Trial:** During the trial, both Sacco and Vanzetti said they were innocent. The judge, however, found them guilty and sentenced them to the electric chair. He said that Sacco and Vanzetti 'may not actually have committed the crime but they are morally to blame because they are our enemies'. He described them using racist words like 'dagos' and 'wops'.
- **Evidence that Sacco and Vanzetti were guilty:** 61 eye-witnesses said they were the killers; both men were carrying loaded guns when arrested; both men 'acted guilty' when arrested; both men told some lies to the police; Vanzetti had a previous conviction for armed robbery in 1919.
- **Evidence that Sacco and Vanzetti were innocent:** 107 people said Sacco and Vanzetti were elsewhere on the night of the murders; witnesses who claimed they saw them do the murder disagreed on important details; several other men confessed to the murder; millions of people in the USA have guns, so it was not strange for Sacco and Vanzetti to have them.
- **The Aftermath:** The trial was big news all over the world and led to demonstrations and protests. The US Embassy in Paris was bombed in retaliation and miners in Colorado went on strike in support of Sacco and Vanzetti. In 1977, Sacco and Vanzetti were given a formal pardon and it was accepted that they had been executed just because they were Italian immigrants.

## Key Topic 3 REVISION-CHECK

Do you know what prohibition was?

Can you explain FIVE reasons why prohibition was introduced in the USA?

Can you explain FIVE reasons why prohibition failed?

Can you make FIVE specific points about the life-story of Al Capone?

Can you explain how prohibition helped gangsters like Al Capone?

Can you explain FIVE reasons why people moved to the USA from Europe?

Can you say which groups were treated worst in the USA?

Can you name three laws which attempted to reduce the number of immigrants to the USA?

Can you explain THREE ways in which African-Americans suffered during the 1920s?

Can you give TWO ways in which African-Americans made progress during the 1920s?

Can you make FIVE separate points about the KKK?

Can you explain what the Red Scare was and why it happened?

Can you explain what happened to Sacco and Vanzetti and why?

## Key Topic 4: American Society in the Depression

### Key Question 4.1: Why did the Wall Street Crash happen?

- In October 1929, the Wall Street Crash happened. This was the collapse of share-prices and the collapse of the American economy, leading to years of Depression. It happened for the following reasons:
- **Overproduction:** Mass production and mechanisation led to too many consumer goods being created. There was no one left who could afford to buy the consumer goods but didn't have them already. This meant that prices dropped and consumer goods remained unsold. This meant that companies went bust and people lost jobs.
- **Poverty:** Even though many people had enjoyed great wealth in the 1920s, 50 per cent of American families were living below the poverty line. Racial minorities in particular were struggling and lived in terrible poverty, whether that was in the rural Deep South or in the big northern cities such as Chicago and New York.
- **Trade:** The USA had always put big tariffs on imports to encourage people to buy American goods rather than foreign goods. In a way, this helped American businesses, but now foreign countries began to put tariffs on American goods going into their countries, so it became very difficult for American companies to sell their goods abroad. This led to many companies going bust.
- **The Stock Market:** In the 1920s, millions of people wanted to invest on the stock market, which pushed share-prices higher and higher. When the economy slowed down because of the three reasons above, people panicked and desperately tried to sell their shares. This led to the value of shares falling, which led to companies going bust.

### Key Question 4.2: How did the Depression affect people's lives?

- After the Wall Street Crash, the whole world went through an economic depression. This was felt badly in America:
- **Unemployment:** Millions who had done well in the boom now lost their jobs and could not find new ones – 14 million were unemployed by 1933.
- **Wages:** Because of unemployment, the average hourly wage for Americans fell from 59c to 44c
- **Homelessness:** Millions sold their homes because they could no longer afford to pay the mortgage. They then slept rough.
- **Hoovervilles:** These were shanty-towns built by the homeless. There were hundreds of these Hoovervilles outside every American city. They were named after the American President Herbert Hoover who most people blamed for the Depression.
- **Desperation:** Children were sent out by their families to steal food. There were huge queues for soup-kitchens. People would eat rotten food. There was also an increase in begging, violence and crime, and illegal mining of coal.
- **Shareholders:** People who owned shares lost a fortune and those who had bought 'on the margin' now had no way of paying their loans back to banks so had to sell their possessions.
- **Bank managers:** Bankers had loaned out huge amounts of money in the 1920s and now people could not pay those debts back, so banks went bust.
- **The very rich:** Very rich Americans survived the Depression as they had wealth to fall back on.
- **Farmers:** Farmers had even suffered during the 1920s 'Boom'. During the Depression food prices dropped even further and more farm-workers lost their jobs. Many farmers had to slaughter animals as they could not be sold.
- **The Dust Bowl:** Overfarming of American land during WW1 had made the land less fertile, and then from 1930 to 1936 the South and Midwest of the USA suffered a terrible drought which turned the soil to dust. Thousands of farms were destroyed.

### Key Question 4.3: Why did Roosevelt win the 1932 election?

- Roosevelt won the election partly because of President Hoover's failures:
- **Blame:** Fairly or unfairly, people blamed Hoover for the Depression.
- **Laissez-Faire:** Hoover was reluctant to intervene because he believed in laissez-faire, but people wanted him to do something.
- **Hoovervilles:** He was associated with homelessness in American cities.
- **Quietness:** Hoover was rarely seen or heard in public.
- **Scandal:** Hoover ordered the tear-gassing of war veterans who marched to the White House demanding their money. This made him very unpopular.
- Roosevelt also won because of his own plus points:
- **Contrast:** Roosevelt's main advantage was simply that he wasn't Hoover.
- **Lively:** Roosevelt was full of enthusiasm and charisma.
- **Reputation:** Roosevelt had previously been Governor of New York and built up a good reputation for solving problems.
- **Public appearances:** Roosevelt toured the whole of the USA and met with business leaders showing he was considering how to solve the problems.
- **Assassination attempt:** Roosevelt survived an assassination attempt before the election, which always makes people more popular.
- **Fireside chats:** Roosevelt used the media well, going on the radio to talk directly to the American public. These were known as his 'fireside chats'.

## Key Topic 4 REVISION-CHECK

Do you know what the Wall Street Crash was?

Can you explain FOUR reasons why the Wall Street Crash happened?

Can you explain how the Depression affected people in the cities?

Can you explain how the Depression affected people in the countryside?

Can you give FIVE reasons why Hoover was unpopular in the build-up to the 1932 election?

Can you give FIVE reasons why Roosevelt was popular in the build up to the 1932 election?



## Key Topic 5: The New Deal

### Key Question 5.1: What was the 'New Deal'?

- Roosevelt promised 'action and action now' to solve the Depression. In the first 100 days he took the following action, which became known as the New Deal:
- **Banks:** The government lent money to banks to help them. 5,000 banks had closed down since the Wall Street Crash, and Roosevelt only allowed well-run banks to reopen.
- **Jobs:** The Economy Act cut the pay of everyone working for the government, saving \$1 billion which could be used to create new jobs.
- **Alcohol:** Roosevelt ended prohibition and made alcohol legal. This made him more popular and created jobs, as well as taking power away from crime-gangs and gangsters.
- **The Alphabet Agencies:** Roosevelt created a load of new organisations, known as the Alphabet Agencies. They were:
  - **The FCA (Farm Credit Administration):** To lend money to farmers to get their farms going again after Depression.
  - **The AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Agency):** To give money to farmers in return for farmers producing less. This would deal with the problem of overproduction, but also meant farmers had to destroy food.
  - **The NRA (National Recovery Administration):** To set up a code of fair conditions and wages for workers. 2.5 million firms agreed to this, but they didn't always follow its rules.
  - **The HOLC (Home Owners Loan Corporation):** To give loans to people who were struggling to pay their mortgages.
  - **The TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority):** To provide jobs for ordinary Americans by building dams and electric power stations along the Tennessee River, one of the poorest areas in the USA.
  - **The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps):** To provide jobs for 18-25 year-olds in the countryside planting trees, digging canals and clearing footpaths. It created jobs for 2.5 million men.
  - **The CWA (Civil Works Administration):** To provide work for 4 million men building schools, airports and roads.
  - **The FERA (Federal Emergency Relief Agency):** To provide \$500 million to states to help homeless and starving people, which could be spent on soup kitchens, blankets, clothes and nurseries.
- All of this was done with the intention of getting people back to work, so they could earn more money, which would mean they could spend more money, which in turn would create more jobs.

### Key Question 5.2: What opposition was there to the New Deal?

- Some people believed that the New Deal had gone TOO FAR:
- **Republican Politicians:** Believed that Roosevelt had no right to spend public money and believed he was breaking the American tradition of laissez-faire.
- **Wealthy Businessmen:** Were unhappy at paying more tax to help poorer, unemployed people. Roosevelt came from a wealthy background so they viewed him as a 'class traitor'.
- **Supreme Court Judges:** Believed that what Roosevelt was doing was against the American constitution.
- Others believed that the New Deal had NOT GONE FAR ENOUGH:
- **Huey Long:** The famous governor of Louisiana, Huey Long, started the 'Share our Wealth' campaign, demanding that more money be taken from rich Americans to give to the poor.
- **Father Charles Coughlin:** Famous Catholic priest who said Roosevelt was 'anti-God' and should do more for poor people.
- **Trade Unions:** Frustrated by how little the New Deal did, and campaigned against Roosevelt in the next election.

### Key Question 5.3: How effective was the New Deal?

- In some ways the New Deal was a success:
- **Help & Relief:** Millions of Americans received help with their mortgage, jobs, etc.
- **Rights:** Parts of the New Deal increased the rights of ordinary people and saved democracy in the USA at a time where other countries were turning against democracy (e.g. Nazi Germany).
- **Roosevelt the hero:** Roosevelt became incredibly popular with the American people. He was elected three more times and is the longest-serving American president of all time. He never lost an election.
- **Rebuilding the USA:** The New Deal provided important new infrastructure such as roads, airports and schools.
- **Copied by others:** Other countries copied many of the New Deal's ideas.
- **Brave:** Roosevelt was very brave to go against the laissez-faire tradition.
- However, in some ways it was not such a success:
- **Criticised:** The New Deal was heavily criticised by people who thought it went too far, and by people who thought it didn't go far enough.
- **Unamerican:** It went against the American tradition of laissez-faire government.
- **Minorities:** The New Deal did nothing for black Americans or immigrants. In fact, many lost their jobs to white workers.
- **Poverty:** Many people remained poor and unemployed despite the New Deal. It was only World War Two which brought this to an end.

## Key Topic 5 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain what FIVE of the alphabet agencies were?

Can you explain FIVE reasons why people opposed the New Deal?

Can you explain THREE ways in which the New Deal was a success?

Can you explain THREE ways in which the New Deal was not a success?

## Key Topic 6: The Impact of WW2 on the USA

### Key Question 6.1: How did the USA change from isolationism to war?

- **Isolationism:** Since World War One ended in 1918, the USA had stayed out of the affairs of other countries. This was 'isolationism'.
- **Exporting to Europe:** When WW2 broke out, USA declared support for Britain. He sold US weapons, warships and planes to Britain and France, known as the 'Cash and Carry Plan'.
- **Lend Lease:** Roosevelt agreed to lend Britain up to \$7 billion worth of weapons. Really the USA never intended to get this back, so in reality they were just GIVING these weapons to Britain.
- **American Attitudes:** Some people in the USA protested against USA helping Britain in the war, because they feared the USA getting dragged into the war. Others supported Roosevelt's policy of supporting Britain and opposing Germany.
- **Pearl Harbor:** USA and Japan had become rivals because USA did not like how powerful Japan was becoming. In 1941, Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in the USA, killing over 2,000 men. After this, the USA declared war on Japan. They were also now at war with Germany, Japan's allies.

### Key Question 6.2: What was the impact of World War Two on American people?

- **Jobs:** The War Production Board (WPB) was created to make war supplies. This provided jobs for 4 million people who had been unemployed at the start of the war. With many men going off to fight in the war as well, it became much easier for people to get jobs in the USA.
- **Women:** WW2 provided more varied work opportunities for women, filling jobs that men used to do in factories, railways and shipyards. The number of women in work increased from 12 million to 19 million....
- **African-Americans:** Roosevelt set up the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) to address the problem of discrimination. One million black Americans fought in the war, but there was segregation in the US Army. African-Americans nurses were not allowed to treat white soldiers, and black people could not train as pilots. There was some improvement in this situation towards the end of the war.
- **Legacy of the War:** Before WW2, the USA spent only 1 per cent of its wealth on the military. Since World War Two, they have spent between 8 and 20 per cent on military. There was also a new belief that it was the US government's job to deal with problems in other nations. There was no longer a belief in 'isolationism'

## Key Topic 6 REVISION- CHECK

Do you know what isolationism was?

Can you explain how the USA helped Britain in the early years of WW2?

Can you explain why the USA joined the war?

Can you explain THREE different effects of World War Two on American people?

## Key Topic 7: Post-War American Society

### Key Question 7.1: How rich were American people in the 1950s?

- **Consumerism:** Consumer goods such as televisions and luxury fridges became available at prices millions could afford. 'Buy now pay later' schemes, huge new shopping centres (malls) and a huge advertising industry encouraged people to spend.
- **War Veterans:** Hospitals, cheap home loans and grants were made available for ex-soldiers to go to college. Veterans received \$4 billion from the government in the 5 years after the war.
- **Truman's 'Fair Deal':** Truman promised to tackle poverty and the discrimination against African-Americans. He raised the minimum wage from 40 cents to 75 cents, and cleared slum areas to make way for cheap houses.
- **New President Eisenhower:** Popular war hero Dwight Eisenhower became President of the USA in 1953, and living standards of Americans continued to improve.
- **The American Dream:** The phrase 'American Dream' was the idea that all Americans can succeed and achieve wealth through hard work. However, there was still terrible poverty for many Americans. 22 per cent of the country still lived in poverty in the 1950s. There was still very little help for poor people compared to other developed countries.
- **Women:** After WW2, many women went back to being housewives or working in traditional 'female' jobs. However, many women had enjoyed the independence of their wartime experience and now became increasingly frustrated with their limited lives.

### Key Question 7.2: What was the rock and roll generation?

- **Changing Expectations in the 1950s:** Part of the American Dream was that young people could be more successful than the older generation. Greater wealth now meant that young people could go to university and not have to get a job straight from school. There was now greater freedom and more opportunities for young people.
- **The Teenager:** Teenagers now had more leisure time and spending power. Advertising started being aimed at teenagers. Unlike the older generation, they spent their money on music, cars, fashion, alcohol and thrill-seeking. Teenagers developed a reputation for being rebellious, independent and secretive. James Dean and Marlon Brando became emblems of teenage rebellion, and it became expected that a teenager would try to be rebellious and original rather than serious and obedient.
- **Rock and Roll:** This was a new style of music in the USA in the 1950s. It was very different to previous music and often contained sexual references. It was aimed at young people and was unpopular with the older generation. The most famous example was Elvis Presley.

### Key Question 7.3: What was McCarthyism?

- **The Second Red Scare:** After WW2, Communist Russia became USA's main rival. Many people feared that Russia would try to spread Communism around the world, and many Americans believed there were lots of Communist spies in the USA. When China was taken over by Communism and the Russians developed an atomic bomb, the fear in the USA got out of control.
- **Spying Cases:** Alger Hiss, a US government worker, was accused of spying for the Russians and sent to prison for ten years despite a lack of evidence. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were accused of spying and executed in June 1953.
- **Un-American Activities:** The government set up the HUAC (House Unamerican Activities Committee) to search for communists working for the government. Their most famous case was the Hollywood Ten – ten famous film directors and producers in Hollywood who refused to answer HUAC's questions and were sent to jail.
- **McCarthyism:** Joseph McCarthy was a powerful American politician who accused hundreds of people of being Communist spies. He said there were hundreds of Communist spies working for the US government. Despite the fact that he kept changing the details of his claims, and despite the lack of evidence, millions of Americans believed him. This gave him the power to accuse anyone and ruin their career and life. He was able to put people on a 'blacklist' so they could not get a job and their children could not go to university. This meant that everyone was terrified of being accused by McCarthy.
- **The Fall of McCarthy:** McCarthy's power fell away after he accused 45 army officers of being Communist spies. The army was popular in the USA and this turned people against McCarthy. However, he left a legacy of distrust and a climate of fear in the USA.

## Key Topic 7 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain THREE ways in which life improved for Americans because of WW2?

Can you describe the development of 'the teenager' in 1950s USA?

What was rock and roll music?

Can you explain why there was a Red Scare in the 1940s and 50s?

Can you name three people convicted of spying in the USA?

How did McCarthy have so much power in the USA?

Why did McCarthyism come to an end?

## Key Topic 8: Racial Tension in the 1950s and 60s

### Key Question 8.1: What was the Civil Rights Movement?

- The Civil Rights Movement was the organisations (NAACP, CORE, SNCC and SCLC) set up to campaign and protest for equal rights for blacks.
- **Segregation:** In the southern USA, many states had Jim Crow Laws. These were laws which forced African-Americans to use different facilities to white people.
- **Education:** The first area in which African-Americans made significant progress was in education, with two key cases:
  - **1954: Brown v Topeka Board of Education:** Linda Brown was an 8 year old black girl in Topeka, Kansas who had to walk several miles to her nearest black school, even though she lived next door to a 'white' school. Her parents took the town (Topeka) Board of Education to court, and Judge Earl Warren ruled that she should be allowed to go to her local 'white' school. He ruled that segregation was illegal and unconstitutional. This was a massive breakthrough as it meant all black children across the USA had the right to go to their local school.
  - **1957: Little Rock High School:** Following the Brown ruling (above), nine black students were due to start their studies at Little Rock High School in Arkansas in September 1957. Governor of Arkansas Orval Faubus did not want school integration, so he sent state guardsmen to prevent the students from entering the school and the students could not get in. President Eisenhower sent US troops down to Arkansas to ensure the students got into the school, but when they went in they suffered horrific racial and physical abuse from students and teachers. Orval Faubus even closed the school completely for a year to try to stop integration. In the end, the students settled at the school but Orval Faubus, the racist governor who tried to keep segregation, was voted one of the most popular men in the USA, showing that many ordinary Americans were still in favour of segregation. This event was important because it showed that black people would not give in to racist intimidation.

### Key Question 8.2: What was the role of Martin Luther King and peaceful protest?

- Martin Luther-King was involved in several high-profile protests between 1955 and his assassination in 1968:
- **1955: Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott:**
  - **Cause:** Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus for a white person and was arrested and imprisoned.
  - **Boycott:** The NAACP and Martin Luther King set up a boycott of the bus company and also set up the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) to campaign for integration.
  - **Impact of the Boycott:** 70% of bus users were black, so the boycott hit the bus company hard. However, the boycott was not easy as people could no longer get to work or to school. The NAACP paid for taxis to take thousands of people to work/school to keep the boycott going. Also, boycott leaders were arrested and their homes attacked. Eventually, after much publicity, the Supreme Court said segregation on buses was illegal.
  - **Significance:** The boycott showed what non-violent direct action could achieve. It showed what people could achieve by working together. Martin Luther King became well-known. White racist groups such as the KKK stepped up violent attacks and lynchings on black people.
- **Sit-Ins:** These were protests where black people and white people who supported them would 'sit in' segregated, white-only areas in restaurants, diners or libraries, for example. This would attract publicity and would also lead to violent attacks on them by white racists. This showed the protestors in a good light, but it was essential that they themselves remained non-violent.
- **Freedom Rides:** These were civil rights campaigners who rode, black and white mixed together, on buses into the deep south. When they got there, they were often attacked and fire-bombed by the KKK and other racist groups. This again attracted national attention and showed that the civil rights campaigners were innocent and the white racists were the 'bad guys'.
- **Birmingham, Alabama 1963:** MLK organised a march in the racist, segregated town of Birmingham in Alabama, aiming to bring national attention to the racist segregation there. The town's racist police chief, Bull Connor, turned dogs and fire-hoses on the peaceful protestors and over 1,000 protestors were arrested (including King). The police's behaviour had the effect that MLK had intended – massive increase in support for civil rights campaigners across the country, which in turn put pressure on the president to help black people. The police looked brutal and violent, and the protestors looked like innocent, peaceful people who had been attacked.
- **The March on Washington 1963:** MLK organised a march of 200,000 blacks and 50,000 whites to the White House in Washington to put pressure on President Kennedy to introduce a Civil Rights Bill (new laws to help black people). The event snowballed and became famous across the world, and MLK gave his famous 'I have a dream speech'. This was the pinnacle of the civil rights movement.
- **The Civil Rights Act 1964:** Put forward by JFK and signed by Johnson in 1964. Made it illegal for states to discriminate in housing and employment. Banned segregation and ended bans on inter-racial marriages.

## Key Topic 8: Racial Tension in 50s and 60s (cont)

### Key Question 8.3: What was the Black Power Movement?

- **Progress too slow:** By 1965, many African-Americans felt that the peaceful protest would not achieve any more. Black people were still suffering from discrimination and police violence, and now many wanted a more extreme form of protest. This became known as the Black Power Movement.
- **The Nation of Islam:** This group, led by Elijah Muhammad, campaigned for separatism (keeping the races apart). It said that white society was evil and urged blacks to stay separate. They were also Muslims rather than Christians like MLK.
- **The Black Panthers:** The Black Panthers were a uniformed and armed group with 2,000 members. They were set up by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale in response to racist attacks on black people. They often clashed violently with police. Nine police officers were killed between 1967 and 1969. The Black Panthers were the most extreme aspect of Black Power, and some believed that the USA was on the brink of civil war at this point. They were prepared to work with white racist groups if this would help to prevent integration and bring down the American system. The Black Panthers wanted an end to capitalism and to create a Socialist society. They carried weapons and wore uniforms. In 1969, 27 Panthers were killed. They were harassed by the police. The group stopped having so much influence in the 1970s.
- **Malcolm X:** Believed that black people should TAKE their rights rather than BEG for them. Malcolm X accused MLK of behaving like a white man and encouraging white men to continue discriminating. MX wanted black people to TAKE their rights 'by any means necessary'. He referred to white people as 'the devil'. Ultimate aim was a return of all black people to Africa. MX believed in segregation whereas MLK believed in integration. MX believed MLK's progress was too slow and would never achieve equality. MX encouraged violence in self-defence, believing that whites would never listen to reason.
- **Race Riots (1967-69):** Despite the progress made, many black Americans were unhappy with high rates of unemployment, poverty, discrimination and police violence. In August 1965, this frustration exploded onto the streets with a major riot in the Watts District of LA, leaving 34 dead and 10,000 injured. 4,000 people were arrested and \$40 million of damage caused. Race riots continued across America, peaking in 1967 when there were riots in 125 US cities. The two largest were in Newark (26 killed, 1,000 injured) and Detroit (40 killed, 1,000 injured, 7,000 arrested). The riots in total cost the USA \$700 million.

## Key Topic 8 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain how African-Americans were treated in the USA?

Can you tell the story of the Brown v Topeka case and why it was significant?

Can you tell the story of Little Rock High School and why it was significant?

Can you tell the story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and why it was significant?

What were freedom rides and sit-ins?

What happened at Birmingham Alabama in 1963?

Why was the March on Washington significant?

Can you name THREE things banned by the Civil Rights Act in 1964?

Can you explain why the Black Power Movement became popular?

Can you give THREE specific details about the Black Panthers and the Nation of Islam?

What were the views of Malcolm X (try to give three specific examples)?

What happened in the race riots?



## Key Topic 9: America and the 'Great Society'

### Key Question 9.1: What was Kennedy's 'New Frontier'?

- **The New Frontier:** When he became President in 1961, Kennedy said that the USA was on the edge of a 'New Frontier' with new opportunities and threats. He said this would be a time of greater fairness and equality to make the USA a better place.
- **Kennedy's Impact:**

	Successes	Failures
<b>Civil Rights</b>	Helped African-Americans more than previous presidents and stood up to southern racist politicians. Sent soldiers in to help James Meredith get into Mississippi University, the first black student there.	Some people felt he could have done more to help black people at a time where the civil rights movement was making international news.
<b>Economy</b>	He cut taxes to give people more spending money and gave grants to companies to buy new technology.	The new technology lead to people losing their jobs. Unemployment increased during JFK's time.
<b>Poverty</b>	JFK increased the hourly minimum wage from \$1 to \$1.25 and made \$4.9 billion available for loans to improve housing and building roads.	The minimum wage was no use to people with no jobs and many people got into further debt because of the housing loans.
<b>Education</b>	Set up the Peace Corps to send volunteers abroad to help people in poor countries and tried to give more money to schools.	In the end, he failed to get more money for schools as too many politicians refused to support his plans.

### Key Question 9.2: What was Johnson's 'Great Society'?

- **The Great Society:** Kennedy was assassinated in 1963 and Lyndon B Johnson took over. He won the 1964 election easily, partly because of public sympathy over Kennedy's assassination. Johnson (known as LBJ) called for 'an end to poverty and racial injustice' and promised to make the USA 'a great society'.
- **A different approach:** Unlike the smooth, sophisticated Kennedy, Johnson was an intimidating, tough-talking former soldier with a good understanding of the south.
- **Civil Rights:** The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was put forward by Kennedy but passed during Johnson's time as president. He also managed to pass the Voting Rights Act which helped black people to vote by banning literacy tests.
- **Other Aspects of the 'Great Society':**
  - **Operation Headstart:** Money to schools in big cities to help education for the poor.
  - **Minimum Wage:** Increased from \$1.25 to \$1.40
  - **The Housing Act:** To build cheap houses and help poor people to buy them.
  - **The Model Cities Act:** To clear slum areas in American cities.
  - **The Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA):** To set up a domestic version of Kennedy's Peace Corps.
  - **The Elementary and Secondary Education Act:** To provide money to schools.
  - **The Job Corps:** To help young people to get jobs when they left school.
  - **Medicare:** To help fund healthcare for the poor and the elderly.
  - **The Immigration Act:** To end limits on the number of people of different races that could enter the USA.
- **Overall Views on Johnson:**
  - **Positive:** Did more than other presidents to make the USA a fairer and better place.
  - **Negative:** He led the USA into the Vietnam War which was a costly disaster for the country.

## Key Topic 9: The 'Great Society' (continued)

### Key Question 9.3: What was the feminist movement?

- **Impact of WW2 on Women:** Many women had enjoyed the independence they experienced during WW2, and more and more wanted to work. By 1960, about half the people working in the USA were women.
- **Inequality:** In 1960, President Kennedy's Commission on women in the workplace found that:
  - Women were earning 60 per cent less than men in the same job.
  - 95 per cent of managers were men.
  - Only 4 per cent of lawyers and 7 per cent of doctors were women.
  - Women were being sacked if they got married.
- **The Feminine Mystique:** This was a book written by Betty Friedan in 1963 which explained that women should have equal rights with men and said women wanted more than to only be mothers and wives. It became the best-selling book in the USA.
- **The Feminist Movement:** Inspired by the black civil rights movement many women began to protest against sexism and discrimination against women.
- **National Organisation for Women (NOW):** This organisation was set up by Betty Friedan and others to campaign for women's rights in a peaceful and non-violent way. They soon had 40,000 members.
- **Women's Liberation Movement (Women's Lib):** This was a group of women who thought NOW were too moderate and slow. These women used extreme protests such as burning their bras or vandalising and attacking Miss World competitions as they believed they were symbolic of men's dominance over women.
- **1972: Equal Rights Amendment:** A change to the American constitution was proposed in 1972 called the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). It was to ban all discrimination against women. However, it was opposed by the Stop ERA campaign (led by a woman, Phyllis Schlafly) who said that it would lead to women forgetting their true role. In the end, ERA did not become part of the American constitution and women's rights were held back.
- **Abortion and the Roe v Wade Case:** A woman's right to abortion was one of the key fights of the feminist movement. They believed a woman should be free to choose, whereas many Americans believed abortion was completely wrong. A 21 year-old called Jane Roe went to court for her right to an abortion and won, meaning that all women now had a right to safe and legal abortion. This was a massive victory for the feminist movement in the USA.

## Key Topic 9 REVISION-CHECK

What did Kennedy mean by his 'new frontier'?

Can you explain THREE ways in which Kennedy was a successful president?

Can you explain THREE ways in which Kennedy was an unsuccessful president?

What did Johnson mean by his 'Great Society'?

Can you describe FIVE new laws brought in by Johnson as part of his 'Great Society'?

Can you give ONE reason why some people think Johnson was a good president?

Can you give ONE reason why some people think Johnson was a bad president?

How did World War Two change the outlook of American women?

Can you name THREE things President Kennedy's Commission on Women found out in 1960?

What was the role of Betty Friedan?

Who were the Women's Libbers?

What was the Equal Rights Amendment of 1972 and why did it fail?

What happened in the Roe v Wade case of 1972?

# Conflict and Tension 1918-1939

## Section A - PEACEMAKING

### Key Topic 1: The Armistice and the aims of the peacemakers

KQ 1.1: What were the aims of Clemenceau, Wilson and Lloyd-George?  
KQ 1.2: Why was it hard for the Big Three to reach an agreement?

### Key Topic 2: The Versailles Settlement

KQ 2.1: What were the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?  
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### Key Topic 3: The Impact of the Treaty of Versailles

KQ 3.1: How satisfied were the allies with the Treaty of Versailles?  
KQ 3.2: What was the German reaction to the treaty?  
KQ 3.3: How fair was the Treaty of Versailles?  
KQ 3.4: How were Germany's allies treated at the end of WW1?  
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## Section B – THE YEARS OF PEACE

### Key Topic 4: The League of Nations

KQ 4.1: Why was the League of Nations created?  
KQ 4.2: What was the structure of the League?  
KQ 4.3: Did the League of Nations help people?  
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KQ 5.1: How did international agreements help the League of Nations?

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KQ 6.2: What happened in the Manchurian Crisis?  
KQ 6.3: How did the League react to the Manchurian Crisis?  
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KQ 7.1: What did Hitler want?  
KQ 7.2: How did other countries react to Hitler's foreign policy?  
KQ 7.3: Why was Germany able to rearm?

### Key Topic 8: The Escalation of Tension

KQ 8.1: How did Germany reoccupy the Rhineland?  
KQ 8.2: Which countries supported Hitler?  
KQ 8.3: What was the Anschluss?  
KQ 8.4: How did people react to the Anschluss?  
KQ 8.5: What was the Sudeten Crisis?  
KQ 8.6: Why was Chamberlain so hopeful of 'peace in our time'?  
KQ 8.7: How did Britain and France react to Hitler's actions?  
KQ 8.8: Was appeasement a good policy?

### Key Topic 9: The Outbreak of War

KQ 9.1: What was the Nazi-Soviet Pact?  
KQ 9.2: What was the impact of the invasion of Poland?  
KQ 9.3: Why did the Second World War break out?

# Conflict & Tension 1918-39

## Paper One (Part B)

### Key Topic 1: The Armistice & The Aims of the Peacemakers

#### Key Question 1.1: What were the aims of Clemenceau, Wilson and Lloyd-George

	Experiences in WW1	Aims after WW1
<b>Clemenceau (France)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Much land destroyed by fighting.</li><li>• Huge numbers of casualties.</li><li>• French people wanted revenge.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wanted to cripple Germany.</li><li>• Wanted to destroy Germany's armed forces.</li><li>• Wanted to take some of Germany's land.</li><li>• Wanted huge reparations.</li></ul>
<b>Wilson (USA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Huge numbers of casualties.</li><li>• British people wanted revenge.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wanted to reduce Germany's armed forces to a low level.</li><li>• Wanted to take control of Germany's empire.</li><li>• Wanted to still be able to trade with Germany.</li></ul>
<b>Lloyd-George (Britain)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No fighting in USA at all.</li><li>• Not as many casualties.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Didn't want to be too harsh on Germany.</li><li>• Wanted free trade.</li><li>• Wanted League of Nations to be set up to solve disputes.</li><li>• Wanted all countries to reduce armed forces.</li></ul>

#### Key Question 1.2: Why was it hard for the Big Three to reach an agreement?

- **Punished Enough Already?:** Germany signed the armistice in November 1918 and agreed to give the land of Alsace-Lorraine to France. This made some people think that was plenty of punishment for Germany.
- **Wartime Promises:** The Allies (Britain, France and the USA) had all made lots of promises to other countries during the war in return for their support. Now they disagreed over which promises they should keep and which they should break.
- **Disagreements on Germany:** The Big Three all had different views on what should be done to Germany. Wilson wanted to be lenient, Clemenceau wanted to be extremely harsh, Lloyd-George wanted to be harsh but still allow Germany to trade.
- **Time Constraints:** The Paris Peace Conference began in January 1919 and ended in June 1919. There were leaders from more than 30 countries there. It was very hard to make quick decisions.
- **The Changing Map of Europe:** Before WW1, Europe had been made up of big powerful empires. After WW1, some of those empires had been destroyed and now there were lots of new independent countries arguing over where borders should be. This made Europe a very insecure place.

### Key Topic 1 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain how France wanted to deal with Germany after WW1?

Can you explain how Britain wanted to deal with Germany after WW1?

Can you explain how the USA wanted to deal with Germany after WW1?

Can you explain THREE reasons why it was difficult for the Big Three to reach an agreement at the Paris Conference of 1919?

## Key Topic 2: The Versailles Settlement

### Key Question 2.1: What were the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

- **Military Terms:**
  - No tanks, submarines or airforce.
  - Only 100,000 men allowed in the army.
  - Only 6 battleships, 15,000 men and 1,500 officers allowed in navy.
  - Conscription banned
  - German army not allowed in the Rhineland (not allowed within 15 miles of French border)
- **Financial Terms:**
  - Article 232 said Germany had to pay £6.6 billion in reparations to the allies, which would be paid off in instalments until 1988.
- **Territorial Terms:**
  - Anschluss (union with Austria) banned.
  - Coal-rich Saar Land taken off Germany and given to the League of Nations to control.
  - City of Danzig taken from Germany.
  - Germany to lose colonies in Africa.
  - Alsace & Lorraine to be given to France.
  - 10 per cent of German land lost.
- **Pride Terms:**
  - Germany not allowed to join League of Nations.
  - Germany had to accept 'war guilt' – accept the blame for all of World War One.

### Key Question 2.2: What was the reaction to the Treaty of Versailles?

- **Some people thought it was a GOOD idea to be harsh on Germany:**
  - They believed Germany had started the war and deserved to be punished.
  - The people of France and Britain believed Germany deserved to be punished.
  - Some believed harsh punishment of Germany was the best way to honour the memory of those who died fighting against the Germans.
  - Some people thought making Germany weak was the best way to avoid a future war.
- **However, some people thought it was a BAD idea to be harsh on Germany:**
  - They thought it was 'victor's justice' – all countries were guilty of fighting the war, so why should Germany be the ones to suffer afterwards?
  - Some believed it would lead to a retaliation by Germany at some point in the future (which did happen when Hitler came to power), and would lead to another war.
  - Many people thought it would be better to leave Germany in a strong enough position to trade with other countries.
  - The German people were infuriated by the injustice of the Treaty of Versailles.

## Key Topic 2 REVISION- CHECK

Can you remember TEN different terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Can you explain why some people thought the treaty was fair?

Can you explain why some people thought the treaty was too harsh?



## Key Topic 3: The Impact of the Treaty of Versailles

### Key Question 3.1: How satisfied were the allies with the Treaty of Versailles?

	The Leader's Opinion	The General Public's Opinion
France	Georges Clemenceau was angry that Germany was allowed an army, and disappointed that the Rhineland remained part of Germany. He also thought reparations were too small.	The French people were pleased about the demilitarisation of the Rhineland, but overall disappointed. They voted Clemenceau out, blaming him for the treaty not being harsh enough.
Britain	David Lloyd-George was pleased that the British Empire was increased and the German navy reduced. However, he was concerned that putting German-speaking people outside Germany would lead to a backlash, and that harsh reparations would stop Germany from trading.	Most British people had lost relatives or friends in the war and hated Germany. Most people believed the Treaty of Versailles was fair enough.
USA	Woodrow Wilson was disappointed and voted against the Treaty. USA then did not join the League of Nations, which also disappointed Wilson.	American people believed the treaty was too harsh. They also now believed in 'isolationism' – that the USA should not get involved in other countries.

### Key Question 3.2: What was the German reaction to the Treaty of Versailles?

- **At the end of the war, the German people had hoped for a fair and lenient settlement because:**
  - They thought the 'Big Three' would want to guarantee peace, not just punish Germany.
  - They hoped for sympathy, because German people were starving to death.
  - The German leader – the Kaiser – had fled to Holland and given up his throne already.
  - They believed that they were no more to blame for the war than Britain or France.
- **When the Treaty of Versailles was announced, German people were angry because:**
  - They were angry that Germany had not had a say in it, and called it a 'Diktat' ('forced treaty').
  - They hated Article 231, which said Germany was to blame and had to pay reparations.
  - They were angry with the new government of Germany (Weimar Government) for agreeing to it and they became known as the 'November Criminals' who had 'stabbed Germany in the back'.
- **The Treaty of Versailles damaged the German people because:**
  - 763,000 civilians had already died of starvation and the Treaty made it worse.
  - Germany lost 16% of its coal and 48% of its steel.
  - Germany lost 13% of its land, meaning 6 million German-speakers no longer lived in Germany.
  - They felt humiliated and vulnerable.
- **The Treaty of Versailles damaged the new German government (the Weimar Government) because:**
  - It led to several attempts to overthrow the Weimar government in Germany.
  - It made extreme parties (including the Nazi Party) popular with German people.
  - It led to punishments for Germany when the government could not afford the reparations.
  - It made the Weimar government extremely unpopular with German people.

### Key Question 3.3: How far was the Treaty of Versailles?

- **Some people believed the Treaty of Versailles was COMPLETELY FAIR because:**
  - It was signed at the end of the most devastating war the world had ever seen (at that point) so it was right that the losing country should pay the costs.
  - It was normal for the losers to have to pay the costs at the end of a war. For example, when Russia withdrew from WW1 in 1917, Germany had given Russia a very harsh treaty.
  - The Big Three had to agree something quickly as Europe was crumbling at the end of WW1. This was the fairest deal they could come up with quickly.
  - Ordinary people in France and Britain were desperate for Germany to be harshly punished so the leaders had to punish Germany or risk being voted out at home.
- **Some people believed the Treaty of Versailles was NOT FAIR because:**
  - Six million Germans found themselves living outside Germany because of border changes.
  - Germans were left feeling vulnerable because everyone else had big armies and theirs was tiny.
  - Germany was no more to blame than several other countries for causing the war.
  - The Treaty was a 'Diktat' – Germany had not been allowed a say.
  - The reparations seemed like they would make Germany very poor for nearly a century.
  - Many people thought it would lead to another war.

# Conflict & Tension 1918-39

# Paper One (Part B)

## Key Topic 3: The Impact of the Treaty of Versailles (continued)

### Key Question 3.4: How were Germany's allies treated after World War One?

	Treaty	Land Terms	Money Terms	Military Terms	Impact
<b>Austria</b>	The Treaty of St Germain	Lost land to Italy and Romania. Banned from uniting with Germany.	Had to pay reparations but amount not agreed.	Army reduced to 30,000. Conscription banned. No navy.	Austria-Hungary empire broken up into small nations. Austrian economy collapsed.
<b>Bulgaria</b>	The Treaty of Neuilly	Lost land to Greece, Yugoslavia and Romania.	Had to pay £100 million in reparations.	Army reduced to 20,000. Conscription banned.	Poverty and economic collapse.
<b>Hungary</b>	The Treaty of Trianon	Lost land to Romania, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.	Had to pay reparations but amount not agreed.	Army reduced to 30,000. Conscription banned.	Complete economic collapse of Hungary and break-up of Austria-Hungarian empire.
<b>Turkey</b>	The Treaty of Sevres	Lost all its European land and lost land to Greece. Ottoman Empire broken up.	Not agreed.	Army reduced to 50,000 men and navy restricted.	Turkish people were furious and rose up against government, leading to Treaty of Lausanne (see below).

- **The Treaty of Lausanne:** Gave back the land Turkey had lost and gave them the right to decide how big their army was. Also cancelled Turkish reparations.

### Key Question 3.5: How far did the Big Three achieve their aims after World War One?

	Aim	Achieved?	Not Achieved?
<b>Clemenceau (France)</b>	1.Revenge on Germany 2.Protection 3.Financial recovery	1.Demilitarisation of Rhineland 2.German navy and army reduced. 3.Huge reparations	1.France only given Saar Land for 15 years. 2.Germany still had army and navy. 3.French people thought reparations not enough.
<b>Lloyd-George (Britain)</b>	1.Revenge on Germany 2.Increased empire 3.Trading with Germany 4.Reduce risk of war	1.Germany accepted 'war guilt'. 2.Britain took Germany's colonies.	3.German economy too damaged to trade. 4.Lloyd-George feared the harshness of treaty would lead to war.
<b>Wilson (USA)</b>	1.Give all countries independence and self-determination 2.Set up the League of Nations to solve conflicts 3.Ensure that there is free trade and no more war.	1.Many small nations in the old Austrian empire now had independence. 2.League of Nations was created. 42 countries joined in the first year.	1.Britain and France took over German empire, so still no self-determination. 2.Americans wanted 'isolation', so never joined Wilson's League of Nations. 3.Wilson thought the treaty was too harsh and would lead to war.

## Key Topic 3 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain the impact of the Treaty of Versailles on the German people and its government?

Why did some people think the Treaty of Versailles was fair?

Why did some people think it was unfair?

Can you explain in detail what happened to Germany's allies after World War One?

Can you explain how far each of the 'Big Three' achieved their aims after World War One?

## Key Topic 4: The League of Nations

### Key Question 4.1: Why was the League of Nations created?

- **What was it?:** An organisation of many different countries aimed at getting all countries to work together and avoid conflict.
- **Who joined it?:** A lot of major countries joined, but USA did not join because the American people believed in 'isolationism'. Russia was not allowed to join because it was Communist, and Germany was not allowed to join (and neither were its allies from WW1).
- **Where was it based?:** It was based in Geneva in Switzerland because Switzerland was seen as a peaceful, neutral country.
- **How many countries?:** At first, there were 42 members. By 1934, there were 58 members.
- **Why was it formed?:** To encourage trade, to improve working conditions for ordinary people, to tackle deadly diseases, to encourage disarmament, and to stop war from breaking out again.
- **What did Britain think of it?:** David Lloyd-George criticised it at first, but then signed the Fontainebleau Memorandum in which he gave it his full support. He saw it as an opportunity to extend Britain's power.
- **How did it plan to keep the peace?:** It would use 'collective security' by making it in every country's interests to avoid war. They set up the Permanent Court of International Justice to make international laws. If disputes couldn't be solved, they would use mitigation (talking through problems), moral condemnation (criticising the aggressive country) or sanctions (stopping trading with the aggressive country).

### Key Question 4.2: What was the structure of the League of Nations?

- **The Assembly:** Every country could send representatives to the Assembly. The assembly voted on which countries could join the League of Nations and chose the judges for the Court of International Justice. Every country had an equal vote.
- **The Council:** The more powerful countries in the League of Nations were permanent members of the Council. The Council could overrule any decision the Assembly made.
- **The Permanent Court of International Justice:** This was a court of law that would settle international arguments. It would make decisions on disputes. However, it had no legal power so it could only recommend decisions – countries didn't have to obey them.
- **The Secretariat:** This did jobs to do with organisation. For example, if the Council made a decision, the secretariat was in charge of making sure that decision was obeyed by all members.
- **Special Commissions:** These were special groups to tackle particular problems, such as the Commission for Refugees (to help refugees) or the Slavery Commission (to make sure that slavery was not happening).
- **Strengths of the original League of Nations:** It had lots of members and all nations involved had signed an agreement on it.
- **Weaknesses of the original League of Nations:** Many important countries could not or would not join. The League had no army to enforce its decisions. Its structure was confusing and made decisions very slow.

## Key Topic 4: The League of Nations (continued)

### Key Question 4.3: Did the League of Nations help people?

	Aims	Success	Failure
<b>International Labour Organisation (ILO)</b>	To improve working conditions.	Set up minimum wage in 77 countries and helped ban white lead in paint.	Failed to stop child labour and failed to shorten working day.
<b>The Commission for Refugees</b>	To support refugees and return prisoners of war.	Freed 427,000 prisoners of war and helped people in refugee camps.	Failed to help Jews fleeing from Germany in 1933.
<b>The Slavery Commission</b>	To ensure an end to slavery.	Raided camps of slave traders in Sierra Leone, freeing 200,000 people.	None
<b>The Economic and Financial Committee</b>	To help economies recover from war.	Sent financial experts to help countries in economic trouble.	Could do nothing to help when the Depression struck in 1929.
<b>The Organisation for Communication</b>	To regulate transport to keep people safe.	Introduced shipping lanes to avoid collisions. Created a highway code.	None
<b>The Health Committee</b>	To improve health of the world's people.	Campaigned to kill mosquitos. Eventually became today's WHO.	None
<b>The Permanent Central Opium Board</b>	To stop the growing of opium (addictive drug).	Blacklisted companies who were involved in trading illegal drugs.	Some members of the League made money from trading illegal drugs.

### Key Question 4.4: How successful was the League of Nations in the 1920s?

- **Failure 1: Vilna (1920):** Vilna was the capital of Lithuania, but most people living there wanted to be Polish. The Polish army took control of the city and Lithuania asked the League of Nations for help. But the League saw Poland as an ally and did nothing.
- **Success 1: Upper Silesia (1921-25):** Upper Silesia was on the border between Germany and Poland. A plebiscite was held to decide who would own it. Germany won 60 per cent of the vote, but Poland would not accept this. The League of Nations made compromise where Germany got the rural areas and Poland got the cities. It was accepted by both sides, though neither were fully satisfied.
- **Success 2: The Aland Islands (1921):** The Aland Islands lay between Sweden and Finland, and both claimed the islands. The League stepped in to avoid war, and awarded to islands to Finland, but said Finland could not put soldiers on the island. Both sides agreed to the compromise.
- **Failure 2: Corfu (1923):** A group of Italian politicians were murdered on the Greek island of Corfu. Italian leader Mussolini blamed the Greek government and demanded compensation. When they didn't get this, Mussolini invaded. The League of Nations criticised him but backed down because Mussolini was a powerful leader. Greece was forced to pay compensation.
- **Success 3: Bulgaria (1925):** Greece invaded Bulgaria when Greek soldiers were killed on the border. Greece demanded compensation but Bulgaria refused. But the League of Nations criticised Greece's aggression and told them they would not have compensation from Bulgaria. This showed the different treatment the League gave to powerful countries (Italy) and weaker countries (Greece).
- **Failure 3: The Wall Street Crash (1929):** The Wall Street Crash led to a depression worldwide. It led to terrible poverty and a rise in extremist parties such as the Nazis. The League was powerless to stop this.

## Key Topic 4 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain why the League of Nations was created?

What happened in Upper Silesia?

Can you remember the different parts of the League?

What happened in the Aland Islands in 1921?

Can you name the different commissions of the League?

What happened in Corfu in 1923?

Can you explain the work those commissions did?

What happened in Bulgaria in 1925?

What happened at Vilna in 1920?

What happened after the Wall Street Crash in 1929?

## Conflict & Tension 1918-39

## Paper One (Part B)

### Key Topic 5: Diplomacy outside the League of Nations

#### Key Question 5.1: How did international agreements help the League of Nations?

- **The following agreements happened OUTSIDE the League of Nations and had nothing to do with the League:**
  - **The Washington Arms Conference (1921-22):** A meeting organised by the USA in Washington. It was attended by most countries, who agreed to limit the size of their navies.
  - **The Rapallo Treaty (1922):** A meeting between Germany and Russia in Rapallo. Germany had forced Russia to sign the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in 1917, taking lots of money and land from Russia. The Rapallo Treaty reversed that and returned all that money and land to Russia. Both countries also agreed to co-operate and work together instead of going to war.
  - **The Locarno Treaty (1925-26):** A meeting in Locarno (Switzerland) between German foreign minister (Stresemann) and French foreign minister (Briand). Previously the biggest rivals, France and Germany made various agreements. Germany gave up their claim to Alsace-Lorraine and agreed not to be aggressive.
  - **The Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928):** 65 countries agreed they would never use war as a method to resolve arguments ever again.

#### Key Topic 5 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain what happened at the Washington Arms Conference?

Can you explain what happened at the Rapallo Treaty?

Can you explain what happened at the Locarno Treaty?

Can you explain what happened in the Kellogg-Briand Pact?

What is similar about all of these international agreements?

What does this tell us about the League of Nations?

### Key Topic 6: The Collapse of the League of Nations

#### Key Question 6.1: Why did international co-operation stop in the 1930s?

- **The Wall Street Crash:** American industries went bankrupt. This meant that European countries could no longer sell to the USA. This led to unemployment and terrible poverty around the world. The League of Nations was unable to do anything about this because each country was trying to look after itself. This made the League look weak.
- **The Rise of Hitler:** In Germany, Hitler came to power in 1933 promising simple solutions to Germany's problems. He promised to give German people jobs and make Germany great again by creating 'Lebensraum'. He was a dictator and did not believe in democracy. One of his first actions as leader was to withdraw Germany from the League of Nations, which weakened the League.

#### Key Question 6.2: What was the Manchurian Crisis?

- **Manchuria:** Manchuria was a part of China rich in natural resources. Japan had suffered in the Depression and wanted to take over Manchuria. China was weak and vulnerable.
- **The Mukden Incident:** In September 1931 there was an explosion on the South Manchurian railway. The Japanese claimed it was an attack by the Chinese on the Japanese army. The Chinese denied this, but the Japanese Kwantung Army used the explosion as an excuse to take over Manchuria. China could not stop them.



# Key Topic 6: Collapse of League of Nations (continued)

## Key Question 6.3: How did the League of Nations react to the Manchurian Crisis?

- **Reluctance:** The League of Nations did not want a war. Some members thought Japan was entitled to Manchuria anyway. Others did not want to upset Japan as it was a trading partner. Other countries in the League were too busy dealing with their own problems.
- **The Lytton Report:** In October 1932, the League sent Lord Lytton to Manchuria to investigate. He concluded that everything was Japan's fault. But Japan ignored the report and started to invade other parts of China. This showed that the League of Nations was weak and toothless.

## Key Question 6.4: What was the Abyssinian Crisis?

- **Reasons:** Mussolini, the leader of Italy, wanted to invade Abyssinia in Africa because:
  - He wanted a big empire like Britain.
  - Abyssinia was independent and vulnerable, so no one would stop him.
  - Italy already owned countries close to Abyssinia.
  - He wanted to make up for the humiliation of a failed invasion of Abyssinia in 1896.
  - After the Manchurian Crisis, he saw that the League was toothless and would not stand in his way.
- **Events:** Mussolini's takeover of Abyssinia was very simple:
  - Dec 1934: Italy attacked Abyssinia at a place called Wal Wal.
  - Jan 1935: French foreign minister promised Mussolini he would not stand in his way.
  - June 1935: Haile Selassie, emperor of Abyssinia, warned that allowing Mussolini to take Abyssinia would have disastrous consequences.
  - Oct 1935: Italians used chemical weapons to kill Abyssinians.
  - May 1936: Italian troops took the Abyssinian capital of Addis Adaba to complete the invasion.

## Key Question 6.5: How did the League of Nations respond to the Abyssinian Crisis?

- **Suez Canal:** The League COULD HAVE closed to Suez Canal to prevent Mussolini moving troops and supplies along it, but it did nothing.
- **Sanctions:** The League COULD have punished Italy by refusing to trade with Italy, but they only put very limited sanctions on Italy.
- **Hoare-Laval Pact:** The French foreign minister (Laval) and the British Foreign Minister (Hoare) made a secret offer to Mussolini to give him areas of Abyssinia. People found out about this sly secret deal, and both foreign ministers were forced to resign in disgrace.
- **Overall:** The Abyssinian Crisis was an embarrassment for the League of Nations, which again showed itself to be weak and toothless.

## Key Question 6.6: Why did the League of Nations fail?

- **Lack of Army:** The League of Nations had no army to reinforce its decisions and powerful countries didn't fear the League.
- **Missing Countries:** Many of the most powerful countries didn't join (USA), weren't allowed at first (Germany), joined late (Russia), or left (Japan, Italy, Germany).
- **Trade Sanctions:** The trade sanctions enforced by the League didn't work because the country that was being punished could still trade with countries outside the League of Nations such as the USA.
- **Selfishness:** Britain and France, the most powerful nations in the League, were selfish and did deals (for example with Mussolini).
- **Depression:** During the Depression, people in many countries turned to extreme, non-democratic leaders like Hitler and Mussolini who believed in the glory of war.
- **Complicated:** The League of Nations' structure was too complex, which made it difficult to make clear decisions.
- **Slowness:** The League only held one meeting per year, so it was slow to react to crises like Manchuria and Abyssinia.

## Key Topic 6 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain the two main reasons why international co-operation stopped in the 1930s?

Do you know the key features of the Manchurian Crisis?

Do you know the key features of the Abyssinian Crisis?

Can you explain why the League of Nations' reaction to both crises was inadequate?

Can you explain several reasons why the League of Nations was doomed to fail?

# Conflict & Tension 1918-39

# Paper One (Part B)

## Key Topic 7: The Development of Tension

### Key Question 7.1: What did Hitler want?

- **Hitler had several aims when he came to power in 1933:**
  - **The Treaty of Versailles:** Hitler hated the Treaty of Versailles which had destroyed Germany, and promised to overturn it.
  - **Rearm:** Hitler promised to make Germany's armed forces strong again.
  - **Lebensraum:** Hitler wanted to create 'living space' for German-speaking people in Europe.
  - **Anschluss:** Hitler wanted to unite Germany and Austria.
  - **Destroy Communism:** Hitler wanted to destroy Communism in Europe (Communism was in power in Russia).

### Key Question 7.2: How did other countries react to Hitler?

- **Britain (Chamberlain):** Worried, but the priority was to avoid war.
- **France (Deladier):** Worried, but unable to do anything because badly weakened by the Depression.
- **Russia (Stalin):** Very concerned, but also didn't trust Britain and France.
- **USA (Roosevelt):** Worried about Hitler, but not prepared to get involved in European problems. Had a policy of 'isolationism'.

### Key Question 7.3: What were the steps to German rearmament?

- **There were several steps on the road to German rearmament:**
  - **1933: Germany leaves League of Nations:** Hitler had no respect for the League and withdrew Germany straight away.
  - **1934: The Dollfuss Affair:** Hitler wanted to unite Germany and Austria. Dollfuss, the Austrian Chancellor, banned the Nazi Party in Austria. Hitler told Austrian Nazis to cause havoc in Austria – they murdered Dollfuss.
  - **Jan 1935: The Saar Plebiscite:** The Saar, a rich industrial area of Germany, had been given to the League of Nations after WW1. A plebiscite was held in 1935 and 90% of the Saar region voted to become part of Germany again. This showed Germany's growing strength.
  - **March 1935: Rearmament Rally:** Hitler showed off weapons and troops at a rally in Germany, clearly showing the world that he had broken the Treaty of Versailles and rebuilt the German army.
  - **April 1935: The Stresa Front:** This was an agreement between Britain, France and Italy to refuse to allow Germany and Austria to unite.
  - **June 1935: Anglo-German Naval Agreement:** Britain allowed Germany to break the terms of the Treaty of Versailles and have a navy, as long as it was only 35 per cent the size of the British Navy.

## Key Topic 7 REVISION-CHECK

Can you name Hitler's five aims when he came to power in Germany?

Can you say how each of the major countries reacted to Hitler?

Can you name three important points on the road to German rearmament?

## Key Topic 8: The Escalation of Tension

### Key Question 8.1: How did Germany reoccupy the Rhineland?

- **Reoccupation:** Hitler broke the Treaty of Versailles in March 1935 by sending German troops into the Rhineland on the German/French border.
- **France's reaction:** Did nothing as it would be an unpopular decision in France to take the country to war, and the French already had troops in other areas already.
- **Britain's reaction:** Did nothing as they believed it was fair enough for Hitler to reoccupy the Rhineland, and because Britain was suffering in the Depression and could not afford to get involved.
- **Significance:** This showed Hitler that Britain and France would do nothing to stop him, and made him believe he could rip up the Treaty of Versailles.

### Key Question 8.2: Which countries supported Hitler?

- **Britain:** Some wanted to co-operate with Hitler.
- **Italy:** Mussolini had much in common with Hitler and made the Rome-Berlin Axis in 1936 in which Germany and Italy said they would work together.
- **Spain:** Hitler supported General Franco in the Spanish Civil War and, when Franco won, he became an ally of Hitler.
- **Japan:** Japan hated the Russian Communists and signed a pact with Germany against Russia.

# Conflict & Tension 1918-39

# Paper One (Part B)

## Key Topic 8: The Escalation of Tension (continued)

### Key Question 8.3: What was the Anschluss?

- **Raid:** In January 1938, Austrian police raided the Austrian Nazi Party and found plans to overthrow Schuschnigg, the Austrian Chancellor.
- **Deal:** Schuschnigg panicked and met with Hitler. Hitler bullied Schuschnigg into agreeing to have Nazis in all the powerful positions in the Austrian government.
- **Plebiscite:** Schuschnigg arranged a plebiscite so the Austrian people could vote on Anschluss, but Hitler demanded that this plebiscite be cancelled.
- **Anschluss:** On March 12<sup>th</sup>, German Nazi troops invaded Austria. People cheered as they arrived. In April, Hitler held a plebiscite and, after being intimidated by Nazi soldiers, 99 per cent of Austrians voted for Anschluss.

### Key Question 8.4: How did people react to Anschluss?

- **Austrians:** Most people were glad to reunite with their increasingly powerful German neighbours.
- **Germans:** Were glad that their country was expanding and growing in strength.
- **British people:** Most people thought it was fair enough as both countries were German-speaking.
- **French people:** Were not too bothered because France had a lot of problems of its own.
- **Czech people:** Were terrified that Germany had taken over Austria and that Czechoslovakia would be next on Hitler's hitlist.

### Key Question 8.5: What was the Sudeten Crisis?

- **Hitler invaded the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia in March 1938 for a number of reasons:**
- **German-speaking:** A lot of German speakers lived in the Sudetenland
- **Treaty of Versailles:** Hitler saw this as the next step in overturning the Treaty of Versailles.
- **Further invasions:** Hitler thought the Sudetenland would be a good base from which to invade the rest of Czechoslovakia in the future.

### Key Question 8.6: Why was Chamberlain so hopeful of 'peace in our time'?

- **Appeasement:** Chamberlain's policy was to give Hitler what he demanded in order to avoid another war.
- **Munich Conference:** Hitler demanded that he should be given the Sudetenland. Chamberlain agreed because Hitler promised not to invade any more countries.
  - British people were glad because Chamberlain had avoided war.
  - Hitler felt confident because no one had stopped him.
  - Russia felt vulnerable because Germany was being allowed to grow stronger.
  - Czechoslovakia felt betrayed.

### Key Question 8.7: How did Britain and France react to Hitler's actions?

- **Britain:** Appeased Hitler to avoid war as the British people could not face another war so soon after the last one.
- **France:** Appeased Hitler because France feared this new, strong Germany and felt they had no choice but to give Hitler what he wanted.

### Key Question 8.8: Was appeasement a good idea?

- **Appeasement was the RIGHT thing to do because:**
  - Britain was not ready for war anyway.
  - The British people were desperate to avoid war and it was Chamberlain's job to do what the British people wanted.
  - Hitler was charming and persuasive and convinced everyone he was a man of peace.
  - Many people felt the Treaty of Versailles had been too harsh and it was fair enough to allow Hitler to claim some land back.
  - By letting Germany become stronger, Chamberlain was building a barrier to the spread of Communism – the biggest fear of all.
  - Britain could not rely on the support of the USA, who said it would remain neutral if a war started.
- **Appeasement was the WRONG thing to do because:**
  - Chamberlain was a fool to be tricked several times by Hitler.
  - Hitler had made no secret of the fact that he wanted to overturn the Treaty of Versailles.
  - Opportunities were made to stop Hitler when Germany was still relatively weak.
  - It was morally wrong to leave weaker countries such as Czechoslovakia and Austria to be occupied by the Germans without anyone to defend them.
  - Giving in to Hitler angered Stalin, the Russian Communist leader, and led him to form an alliance with Hitler (the Nazi-Soviet Pact)

## Key Topic 8 REVISION- CHECK

Can you explain the German reoccupation of the Rhineland?

Can you explain what the Anschluss was and how people reacted?

Can you explain the different stages of appeasement?

Can you give arguments for and against the policy of appeasement?

# Conflict & Tension 1918-39

# Paper One (Part B)

## Key Topic 9: The Outbreak of War

### Key Question 9.1: What was the Nazi-Soviet Pact?

- **Hitler made a pact with Russia because:**
  - He wanted to invade Poland and believed Britain and France would do nothing.
  - He feared, however, that Russia would try to stop Germany conquering Poland.
  - He wanted to invade France in the West, so wanted to avoid war with Russia in the east.
- **Stalin made a pact with Germany because:**
  - He believed France and Britain had shown themselves to be weak by appeasing Hitler.
  - He was angry that he had not been invited to the Munich Conference.
  - He expected Hitler to invade Russia eventually, but new this Pact would help to delay that.
- **The pact involved:**
  - Hitler and Stalin agreed to split Poland.
  - Half would go to Germany and half to Stalin.
  - Germany would carry out the invasion.
  - Russia and Germany would not attack each other.
- **The Pact was significant because:**
  - It made Hitler's invasion of France inevitable.
  - It showed that appeasement had failed to stop Hitler
  - It meant Britain and France would have to fight Germany alone, without Russia's help.
  - It made Britain promise to defend Poland.

### Key Question 9.2: What was the impact of the invasion of Poland?

- **The Invasion:**
  - On 1<sup>st</sup> September 1939, German battleship the Schleswig-Holstein attacked the Polish city of Danzig.
  - On the same day, 62 divisions of the German army and 1,300 Luftwaffe planes invaded Poland.
  - Hitler was convinced that Britain would do nothing again.
- **The Response:**
  - On 3<sup>rd</sup> September, Chamberlain sent an ultimatum to Germany to withdraw from Poland or be at war with Britain. He set a deadline of 11am.
  - The Germans failed to respond to this, and Chamberlain declared war on Germany.
  - France declared war on Germany on the same day.

### Key Question 9.3: Why did the Second World War break out?

- **Hitler's Aggression:** He openly said that he wanted to create Lebensraum and that the only way to do this was through war. He aimed to overturn the Treaty of Versailles and was aggressive to other countries.
- **The Failure of the League of Nations:** The League was set up to keep peace. In the 1920s it largely managed to do this, but in the 1930s it failed to stop powerful countries (Japan and Italy) during the Manchurian Crisis and the Abyssinian Crisis. It showed itself to be weak, and it made Hitler confident he could ignore the League.
- **Appeasement:** Chamberlain's policy allowed Hitler to build Germany's army up and expand Germany's territory. People were desperate to avoid a war but Hitler could have been stopped much earlier if it hadn't been for the policy of appeasement, which allowed him to get away with rearmament, occupation of the Rhineland, Anschluss and the invasion of the Sudetenland.
- **The Treaty of Versailles:** The Treaty was far too harsh on Germany and made a backlash inevitable. Many leaders then thought Hitler had every right to claim back land taken away from him in the Treaty.
- **The Depression:** This caused people in Germany to turn away from peaceful organisations like the League of Nations and turn to an extreme dictator – Adolf Hitler. This made war likelier.
- **The Nazi-Soviet Pact:** This deal between Hitler and Stalin made it inevitable that Hitler would invade France in the West. It also gave Hitler the confidence to invade Poland, which directly started World War Two.

## Key Topic 9 REVISION-CHECK

Can you explain why Hitler agreed to the Nazi-Soviet Pact?

Can you explain why Stalin agreed to the Nazi-Soviet Pact?

Can you list the terms of the Nazi-Soviet Pact?

Can you explain why the Nazi-Soviet Pact was important?

Do you know the events of September 1939 and the invasion of Poland?

Can you give six reasons why World War Two started?

Can you explain each one of those reasons?

Can you make a decision as to which of those reasons was most important?