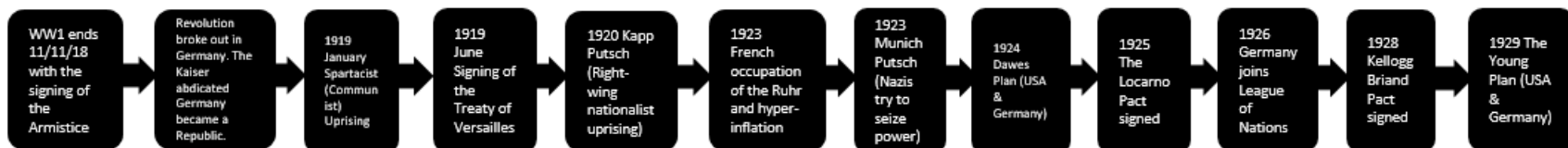


The Weimar Republic, 1918-29.



What do I need to know? Origins of the Weimar Republic

	The Kaiser abdicates in October 1918 & WW1 ends on 11th November 1918 when the Armistice is signed. 2 million German troops died, Government debt increased from 50 billion marks to 150 billion marks. Revolts were breaking out on the streets. Soldiers and workers councils were set up in local areas to undermine the Kaiser. Germany was on the verge of a revolution.
	Oct 1918, Friedrich Ebert became the first president and declared Germany a republic. A Council of people's Representatives was formed as a temporary measure whilst a new democratic constitution is drawn up. Germany a democracy for the first time, however despite this there are significant weaknesses with the new constitution!
	January 1919 election - no party had a direct majority. A coalition was formed with the Social Democratic Party SPD, the Catholic Centre Party (ZP) and the German Democratic Party (DDP) with Ebert as President. A coalition meant that there were some weaknesses to the government.

What do I need to know? – Problems facing the new democratic government

	The Treaty of Versailles was harsh on Germany and forced them to sign the War Guilt Clause, lost 13% of its land (10% of its population) and all of its colonies, army limited to 100,000 men, had to pay back £6.6 billion in reparations, and was forbidden to unite with Austria
	German reaction to the treaty: Anger & Humiliation. The German people felt the new government had stabbed them in the back (Dolchstoß) because they signed the ToV. They called the government the November Criminals.
	Political opposition to the Weimar Government 1. The Spartacists, in January 1919, inspired by the left-wing Bolshevik revolution in Russia, set up the Communist Party and tried to overthrow the government. This was put down by the Reichswehr (Army) & the Berlin Freikorps (Armed right-wing militia) 2. The Kapp Putsch (right-wing) was attempted in March 1920. Ebert wanted to disband the Freikorps so they joined with the Reichswehr in Berlin. Led by Wolfgang Kapp they seized Berlin. Ebert asked Trade Unionists & Civil Servants not to support it, and the Putsch collapsed.
	Problems of 1923 When Germany couldn't pay their reparations, the French invaded the Ruhr to take goods for themselves. The Germans went on strike & sabotaged their work, setting factories alight and breaking pumps. This meant that production from the Rhineland was very slow, making Germany poorer. The government printed more money to pay the strikers and their reparations which, coupled with the slow production in the Ruhr, led to hyperinflation where the currency became virtually worthless.

What I need to know? – The “Golden Age” Weimar Germany

	In 1923 Gustav Stresemann was briefly Chancellor, then Foreign Minister, and is largely credited with the economic recovery of Germany. The Dawes Plan changed the reparations schedule to something which was more manageable. It also meant that French troops would leave the Ruhr. The Rentenmark was the new currency, issued in limited amounts to stabilise the economy. Once it worked for a year, it was converted to the Reichsmark, based on gold reserves. The Young Plan was developed by US banker, Young. He reduced the reparations figure and extended the time the Germans had to pay it.
	Foreign Recovery: The Locarno Pact, 1925 helped German relations with France, Britain, Belgium & Italy by agreeing borders. As a result The League of Nations agreed to admit Germany in 1926. The Kellogg-Briand Pact was signed in 1928, along with 64 other countries. It said they could have armies for self-defence and would resolve disagreements peacefully.
	Changes in Society: Wages had increased by over 10% by 1928. Although this helped the working class, the middle classes had been bankrupted by hyperinflation. Unemployment amongst the middle class increased. More houses were being built: 2million + between 1924-1931, which reduced homelessness. Women were given the vote and could work in a variety of areas: teaching, civil service etc. Art, architecture, literature and theatre began to change and become more rich & diverse.

How did the Weimar Republic work?



If you want to find out more check out the following links or scan the QR codes on your phone or tablet.



READ

<http://www.historyhome.co.uk/Europe/Weimar.htm>



WATCH

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTRRZKCAzs>

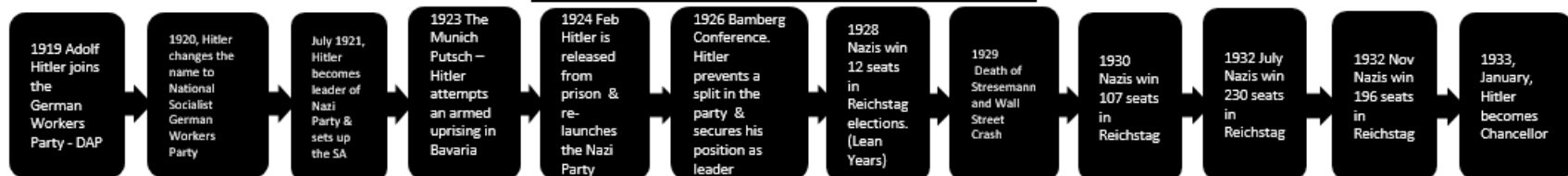


LISTEN


<http://www.mrallsophistory.com/revisions/Weimar-Germany-1919-1929.html>




Hitler's Rise to Power, 1919-33




What do I need to know? Hitler's early life


 Hitler b. 1889 in Austria. His father died in 1903, his mother in 1907. He failed to get into Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. He made a living by painting postcards whilst sleeping rough. Starts developing anti-Semitic views.

 He joined the German Army, winning the Iron Cross twice. By the end of WWI, he was temporarily blinded by a gas attack. After the war he acted as a political spy for the Army





What do I need to know? – The Growth of the NSDAP 1919- 1924

 Hitler joined the DAP, led by Anton Drexler. After 1920 'National Socialist' was added to the party's name & Hitler and Drexler wrote the Twenty-Five Point Plan, containing ideas about nationalism, pure German blood and anti-Semitism. Membership to the party continued to grow with Hitler as leader


 **The Munich Putsch:** 1923 he attempted to seize political power from the Bavarian government, (Kahr, Lossow & Seisser) before marching on Berlin and seizing power from the Weimar government. The Munich Putsch failed & Hitler ended up in Landsberg Prison in 1924 for 9 months. He used his trial to gain political celebrity and whilst in prison reached two turning points: 1) he needed to gain power legally and 2) he wrote Mein Kampf which went on to be the Nazi "Bible".


What I need to know? – The Lean Years 1924-28


 The government lifted its ban on the Nazi Party and Hitler reorganised the party into Gaue's run by a Gauleiter he trusted.


 At the Bamberg Conference in 1926, he convinced other potential leaders, Strasser & Goebbels, that he was the right man for the job. By 1928 the Nazi Party had over 100,000 members but only 12 seats in the Reichstag. It was progress...but not enough.

What I need to know? The Impact of the Wall Street Crash, 1929

 **Unemployment:** In 1929 the Wall Street Crash caused America to recall their loans from the Dawes Plan. The Great Depression caused massive unemployment in Germany.


 **Increased Taxes:** At the same time, Stresemann died & Germans lost hope. In 1930 the new Chancellor Brüning introduced a 2.5% wage cut & increased taxes to attempt to balance the books. He was nicknamed the 'Hunger Chancellor'. By 1932, unemployment exceeded 6 million.


 **Political Instability:** In order to get laws passed, Hindenburg used Article 48 and began to use the Reichstag less and less – undermining democracy


 **Political Violence:** This time period saw a rise in violence and the Nazi Party began making small political gains. At this time, the German Communist Party (KPD) was also growing in strength & aimed for political success, rather than revolution.


What do I need to know?

Growth in support for the Nazis – 1929-30


 Joseph Goebbels was instrumental in securing further success for the Nazis between 1929-1930 through posters, newspapers and the radio.


 Hitler took the opportunity to exploit the problems of the coalition government and presented German people with an alternative: a strong, united Nazi government.


 He began to use the Jews as scapegoats for the country's problems.

 1930 election was a breakthrough - the Nazis became the second largest party in the Reichstag. During the presidential election of 1932, Hitler continued to make gains. The Nazis were funded by industrialists, through their fears of Communism.

What do I need to know? How Hitler became Chancellor - The Backstairs Intrigue

 By 1932, Brüning had lost Hindenburg's support because he had failed to improve the German economy.

 1932 July election the Nazis won 230 seats (37.4%) were now the biggest party in the Reichstag. Hitler demanded the role of Chancellor but von Papen refused to relinquish it and dissolved the Reichstag. He called for new elections in November. This time, the Nazis only secured 196 seats (33.1%). Papen resigned and was replaced by Schleicher.

 Papen & Hitler began working together and convinced Hindenburg that having Hitler as Chancellor would bring stability to Germany. On 30th January 1933, Hitler was made Chancellor.

If you want to find out more check out the following links or scan the QR codes on your phone or tablet.



READ

<http://www.historyextra.com/period/second-world-war/how-hitler-gain-power-become-dictator-fuhrer-nazi-germany/>



WATCH

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VA7Ze1rqtOY>

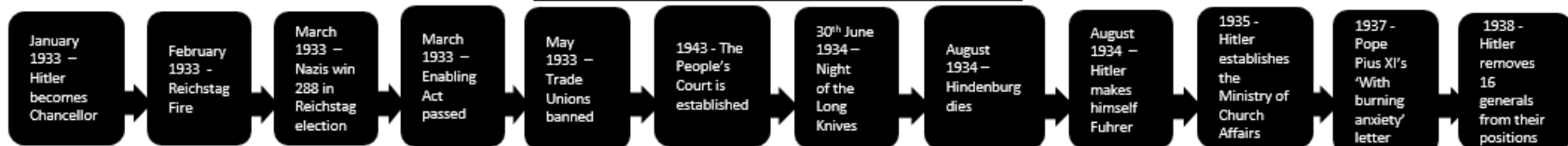


LISTEN

<http://play.acast.com/s/the-world-wars/theriseofadolfhitler>



Nazi Control and Dictatorship



What do I need to know? How did Hitler remove opposition and create a dictatorship?		What I need to know? –How did Hitler remove opposition within the Nazi Party?		What do I need to know? Creation of the Police State	
	To achieve an overall majority called an election for 5th March 1933.		Hitler was concerned that the SA was becoming unruly and would only answer to Rohm and not Hitler. The Army (Wehrmacht) wanted the SA to be abolished and the SS wanted to break away from its' reputation, too.		The Nazis quickly established control through a regime of fear. 'Some Germans Could Shout Loud'
	Reichstag Fire – 27th February 1933: Marinus van der Lubbe (Dutch Communist) was found at the scene and arrested. Hitler claims that there is a Communist takeover and uses the Reichstag Fire Decree to suspend civil rights. Over 4000 Communists were arrested. Communist & socialist newspapers were banned.		There was some suggestion that Rohm was planning a coup, to make Nazi politics more socialist and support the working class.		Gestapo: The Gestapo were the secret police and their role was to imprison opposition. By 1939 it was estimated that they had arrested over 160,000 people for 'political crimes'.
	The Enabling Act – 25th March: After the election, the Nazis won 288 seats but it wasn't a majority. He formed a coalition with the National Party and had 51.9%. Hitler then forced the Enabling Act through the Reichstag on 24th March. He banned Communists from attending and said that anyone who wasn't there would count as a vote in favour. He then renewed the Enabling Act in 1937 & 1941.		The Night of the Long Knives – 30th June 1934 Rohm and other SA leaders were shot by the SS. It is thought that around 400 people were murdered. The SA's control was reduced and Hitler secured the support of the Wehrmacht.		Concentration Camps: Initially a new prison for hard labour. It was designed to keep political opponents away from society. Mortality rates were high.
	Removal of Opposition: Hitler wanted to bring Germany into line with Nazi ideals – Gleichschaltung . On 2nd May 1933 he banned trade unions and replaced them with the German Labour Front (DAF) . Strikes were banned and anyone breaking this law was put in the first concentration camp: Dachau .		Hindenburg died in August 1934, the army swore personal allegiance to Hitler as Fuhrer of Germany .		SD: The role of the SD was to gather intelligence. It was run by Himmler. They were hunting out enemies of the state.
	On 14th July, Hitler banned all other political parties with the Law against the Formation of Parties . In the November 1933 election, the Nazis secured 39,638,000 votes	What I need to know? Nazi Policies towards the Church			Propaganda: The Reich Chamber of Culture manipulated all aspects of German lives. It closed down non-Nazi newspapers, organised an annual rally at Nuremberg. The People's Receiver (radio) was in over 70% of German homes, allowing the Nazi message to be spread.
	January 1934, Hitler stopped Germany being run by local governments by abolishing the Lander		Catholic Church – Showed allegiance to the Pope. Catholic school policies were not the same as Nazis. Hitler initially signed a concordat with Pope Pius XI and agreed to stay out of the church. Within a few months he had broken this agreement. The Pope issued a letter called 'With Burning Anxiety' to all Catholic churches in 1937 criticising the Nazi regime.		Propaganda: All films had to be censored and had a political message. Every film was accompanied by a 45 minute Nazi newsreel.
			Protestant church – Nazis set up the Reich's Church led by Ludwig Muller ; however many Protestants opposed the Nazis, led by Pastor Niemoller they set up the Confessional Church & the Pastor's Emergency League		Propaganda: Posters targeted the young and had simple messages about loyalty and Aryanism. Books, plays & poems were censored . Students in Berlin burned over 20,000 books in 1933 for containing 'anti-Nazi' messages.
				What do I need to know? Opposition to the Nazis	
					By 1939 over 1.3 million people had been sent to a concentration camp. In 1938, Hitler removed generals from the army who criticised him. During 1939 there were three assassination attempts on Hitler .
					Some of the youth opposed Nazi rule. Groups like the Edelweiss Pirates who listened to Swing music and wore American clothes. The Swing Youth were similar – girls often wore makeup and boys grew their hair long.

<p>If you want to find out more check out the following links or scan the QR codes on your phone or tablet.</p>		<p>READ</p> <p>http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zsvhk7h/revision/1</p>	<p>WATCH</p> <p>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ob6uKPIJdu8</p>	<p>LISTEN</p> <p>http://www.mrallsophistory.co.uk/revision/the-rise-of-hitler-1929-1934-podcast.html</p> <p>http://www.mrallsophistory.co.uk/revision/nazi-control-of-Germany.html</p>
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