

Name: _____

1G Germany 1918-89

Date:

Edexcel AS Level History

Question Paper

Time:

Total marks available: 800

Total marks achieved: _____



EXAM PAPERS PRACTICE

Questions

Q1.

Was political stability the most important consequence of Konrad Adenauer's Chancellorship in the years 1949-63?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q2.

Was the growth of political extremism in Germany in the years 1919-1933 the main consequence of the Treaty of Versailles?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q3.

Was increased freedom for women the main consequence of the Weimar Constitution in the years 1919-33?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q4.

How far do you agree that the 'economic miracle' (1955-66) was the most significant feature of the economy in the years 1945-89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q5.

To what extent was education in the Weimar Republic similar to education in the FRG?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q6.

How far do you agree that German living standards changed little in the years 1918-45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q7.

To what extent were the economic challenges faced by the Weimar Republic different from those faced by the FRG?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q8.

How far do you agree that the economy was the most important factor influencing the changing role and status of women in the years 1918-89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q9.

To what extent were the Weimar and FRG systems of government different?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q10.

Were improved living standards the main consequence of German economic policies in the years 1933–45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q11.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Extract 1: From Michael Burleigh, *The Third Reich: A New History*, published 2000.

Hitler had used bullying tactics against Austria and Czechoslovakia but after September 1939 he resorted to massive military force against Poland. The Molotov-Ribbentrop Non-Aggression Pact gave Hitler massive confidence. He thought of Britain and France as hesitant and weak. He did not believe they could fight a general war to save Poland, and this suggested that he could risk invading Poland and keep the war as a local conflict. 5

Hitler had a low opinion of British and French politicians. He was convinced that he was dealing with, in his words, 'little worms'. Hitler failed to understand that Poland was not the main issue. The British and French had drawn a line in the sand with their guarantees to Poland in the spring, signalling that they would not tolerate further German expansion. Hitler decided to cross that line, believing that war with Poland would be local. It apparently came as a shock to Hitler when Britain and France declared war. 10

Extract 2: From Richard J Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, published 2006.

In September 1939 Hitler was prepared for a general war against Britain and France. From Hitler's point of view, Chamberlain's guarantee to Poland lacked credibility on a number of grounds. For example, how was Britain actually going to come to the aid of Poland if war really did break out? The Polish guarantee made the invasion of Poland more urgent. Hitler rejected the Non-Aggression Pact signed with Poland in 1934 as well as the Naval Agreement with Britain signed in 1935. 15

It was necessary to attack Poland at the first opportunity. Hitler told his military leaders that further foreign policy successes could not be won 'without bloodshed'. Hitler told them that the coming war was not about Danzig*, but to secure living space in the East and secure food supplies. Although Hitler wanted to be able to deal with Poland without British interference if possible, in his heart of hearts he knew that war with Britain and France was inevitable. 20

*Danzig was a city taken from Germany by the Treaty of Versailles in 1920.

Acknowledgements:

Extract 1 from: The Third Reich: A New History, Michael Burleigh, MacMillan 2000

Extract 2 from: The Third Reich In Power Richard J Evans, Penguin Books 2006

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that Hitler invaded Poland because he thought the coming war would be a 'local conflict' [Extract 1, line 6]?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q12.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question .

How far do you agree with the view that Hitler had a masterplan for his foreign policy which led to the outbreak of war in 1939?

Extract 1: From Gordon A Craig, *Germany 1866–1945*, published 1992.

The basic principles of foreign policy were formulated in *Mein Kampf** – a dynamic policy was the only possible one for a country in Germany's position. The acquisition of new living space in Eastern Europe was essential to the future of the German race and must motivate German policy. Such a course involved a high risk of war, particularly with France, and must be accepted and prepared for. These were things that Hitler took very seriously indeed. That they were not merely a jumble of idle thoughts was shown by the fact that in 1928 Hitler wrote another book, which was never released to the public and was not discovered until after the Second World War, in which he repeated them, somewhat more concisely and categorically.

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**Mein Kampf* – published 1925–26

Extract 2: From Donald Cameron Watt, *How War Came*, published 2001.

Many historians believe that Hitler, filled with a vision of German dominance of the world, took successive steps which unfolded in a long-developed programme, which he set in action once he had achieved power. However, there is nothing in Hitler's previous record to show that he was capable of so long and sustained an effort of foresight and planning. Nor, despite the popularly-held beliefs to the contrary, is there anything in his one published work, *Mein Kampf*, which can be identified as a programme to which his later actions were to conform. *Mein Kampf* is an explanation of Hitler's political ideas and methodologies, not a programme in any meaningful sense of the word, and still less a 'blueprint' for aggression. Such programmatic elements as can be found in Hitler's foreign policy after 1933 were imposed upon him by external factors, not his own internal vision.

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(Total for question = 20 marks)

EXAM PAPERS PRACTICE

Q13.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Extract 1: From Stephen J. Lee, *Hitler and Nazi Germany*, published 1998.

Hitler was above all an opportunist. The sequence of events which led to war played into Hitler's hands. Hitler was given his opportunity to remilitarise the Rhineland by the diversion of Britain and France against Italian aggression in Abyssinia the year before. He was able to take Austria with so little effort because Mussolini, who had originally opposed German schemes there, was now concentrating on an expanded overseas empire. The Sudetenland went Hitler's way because of Chamberlain's strong determination to avoid a European conflict which the lessons of the Spanish Civil War seemed to suggest might happen all too easily. The outbreak of war in 1939 was not the deliberate escalation of policy but rather Hitler's misreading of the Anglo-French guarantee made to Poland in March. Therefore war broke out because of the miscalculations of others, rather than it being the plan of a determined and evil genius.

Extract 2: From Ian Kershaw, *Hitler: Nemesis 1936–1945*, published 2001.

By 1939 Hitler constantly felt under pressure to act so that the military advantage would not swing to Britain. This strong driving force in Hitler's mentality was compounded by other strands of his extraordinary psychological make-up. Hitler thought of himself as a military genius, who having secured Austria and Czechoslovakia, would be able to take the next step in bringing about German greatness. This led him to a disastrous over-estimation of his own abilities. This was made worse by his extreme contempt for others – particularly in the military – who argued more rationally for greater caution. In the Polish crisis of August 1939, not just external circumstances, but also his personal psyche pushed him forwards, and made him risk everything. Hitler's dismay on 3 September at hearing of the British ultimatum [to declare war if Hitler refused to retreat from Poland] quickly gave way to optimism. There was no going back.

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your own knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that war broke out in 1939 because of the miscalculations of other European statesmen?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q14.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that Germany invaded Poland only because Hitler saw it as an opportunity for an easy victory?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q15.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Extract 1: From William Carr, *A History of Germany 1815–1990*, published 1996.

Was Nazi foreign policy a continuation of policy under previous governments? In *Mein Kampf* Hitler made it perfectly plain that the restoration of the 1914 frontiers of Germany was not enough. Reunion with 'German Austria' – a step towards the greater Germany dreamt of since 1848 – was Hitler's declared ambition on the first page of the book. Germany's task was to gather together all German-speaking people in one great Reich, wherever they lived in Europe. Memories of the huge territories the Germans held in Russia at the end of World War 1 convinced Hitler that the true destiny of Germany lay in the east where they could find living space at the expense of 'Jewish-Bolshevik Russia'. A new and mighty Reich would arise dominating Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals, and the Slav peoples would be expelled to make room for German settlers.

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Extract 2: From A.J.P. Taylor, *The Origins of the Second World War*, published 1961.

Was *Lebensraum** Hitler's sole idea or indeed the one that dominated his mind? To judge from *Mein Kampf*, he was obsessed by anti-Semitism, which occupies most of the book. *Lebensraum* gets only seven of the seven hundred pages. It was largely thrown in as a final reason for war with Russia, a sort of fantasy, to justify what he was up to. I do not believe Hitler had a constant plan for *Lebensraum*. By 'plan' I understand something which is worked out in detail. In this sense Hitler never had a plan for *Lebensraum*. There was no study of the resources in the territories that were to be conquered. There was no recruitment of staff to carry out these 'plans', no survey of Germans who could be moved, let alone any enrolment of settlers. In any case, Hitler was actually being relatively moderate when he sought only land in the east. This was less than Germany had wanted in World War 1.

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A more persuasive motive for Hitler's focus on Russia is that an anti-Bolshevik crusade would win the hearts and minds of those in the west who thought him a champion of western civilisation.

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* *Lebensraum* = living space

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How convincing do you find the view that Hitler wanted the Second World War primarily to make

living space for Germans?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q16.

Were economic problems the main consequence of the Treaty of Versailles for Germany in the years 1919-33? Explain your answer.

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q17.

How accurate is it to say that improved living standards were the most significant outcome of economic activity in the years 1945-89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q18.

Were new employment opportunities the most important reason for improvements in the role and status of women in the years 1918-32?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q19.

Was censorship and propaganda the main reason for Nazi success in controlling the German people in the years 1933–45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q20.

Were economic challenges the main reason, in the years 1919–33, for the eventual collapse of the Weimar Republic?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q21.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Extract 1: From Gordon Craig, *Germany 1866–1945*, published 1978.

By the summer of 1939 no triumph seemed satisfactory to Hitler unless it involved devastating military force.

When news of the Nazi-Soviet Pact reached the Western governments it struck them with the force of a thunderbolt. Hitler's preparations for the next phase of his eastern plan were complete. Had Hitler wanted to achieve his objectives by negotiation he could have done so. The Poles were now ready to negotiate with Germany. But Hitler did not want another Munich. When Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, asked Ribbentrop, Hitler's Foreign Minister, what Germany wanted from Poland, he was informed: 'We want war'. 5

Hitler calculated that, if Western states intervened, it would give him the opportunity to destroy them and clear the way for the greater war against Russia that would fulfil Germany's destiny. Hitler was not surprised when the British and French governments responded to the invasion of Poland by declaring war on Germany. 10

Extract 2: From Karl Dietrich Bracher, *The German Dictatorship*, published 1971.

After the destruction of Czechoslovakia Hitler announced that the Danzig question had to be solved. He thought, and with good reason, that Britain and France still wanted appeasement. Hitler still thought this, even though the Western powers had begun to produce armaments on a greater scale. 15

Had the guarantee that Chamberlain gave to Poland in March 1939 changed the European situation? Hitler thought the guarantee to Poland was pure bluff. On April 28 he ended the German-Polish Non-Aggression Pact and the Anglo-German Naval Agreement. He now demanded a passageway through the Polish Corridor. Hitler's moves suggested he was following the same plan as he had with the Czechs in 1938. 20

Hitler had told his top military leaders in May that Danzig was only an excuse for further expansion. He claimed that *Lebensraum* and achieving a guaranteed food supply for Germany were his real motives. Hitler had good reason to be optimistic that he would get away with it. 25

Acknowledgements:

Extract 1 from: Germany 1866–1945, By Gordon A. Craig © Oxford University Press, September 1978

Extract 2 from: The German Dictatorship – The Origins, Structure, and Effects of National Socialism, By Karl Dietri Bracher © Praeger Publishers, January 1970

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that Hitler invaded Poland because he wanted to fight a general European war?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q22.

Was the weakness of government during the Weimar Republic the main reason for the growth in support for the Nazi Party in the years 1919-33?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q23.

Was popular support for Hitler the main reason for the lack of effective opposition to the Nazi regime in the years 1933-45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q24.

Were Nazi racial ideas the main reason for the nature of German social and economic policies in the years 1933-45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q25.

Was a lack of popular support the main reason for the problems faced by the Weimar Republic in the years 1919-32?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q26.

Was the punishment of opposition and dissent the main reason for the stability of the Nazi regime in the years 1933-45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q27.

Was the nature of the Weimar constitution the main reason for the weakness of the Weimar Republic in the years 1919–33?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q28.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Extract 1: From Ian Kershaw, *Hitler: Nemesis 1936–45*, published 2001.

The British government and their French allies had helped Hitler to gain a unique power-base. Now his actions could determine the fate of Europe.

Hitler's combination of bullying and blackmail could not have worked but for the weaknesses of the post-First World War settlement. The Treaty of Versailles gave Hitler the means to blackmail European statesmen. The western governments, although Britain more than France, did everything possible to avoid a new war. Their diplomats were no match for the techniques of lying and threatening used by Hitler. They went out of their way to appease him, but he simply increased his demands, as blackmailers do. By the time the western powers realised what they were up against, they were no longer in any position to bring the 'mad dog' to heel.

Extract 2: From Klaus Fischer, *Nazi Germany*, published 1996.

Hitler's foreign policy was based on rigid racial and expansionist ideas. Hitler's preferred method was the use of ruthless terror on behalf of evil policies of race supremacy, the subjugation and domination of inferior 'breeds', and the conquest of 'living space'. He believed that the Aryan race had evolved to the top of the biological and cultural order, and was destined to conquer the world under German leadership. In Hitler's mind the concept of race was intimately linked to that of space. This required the availability of land. He warned that the German people were doomed to slavery if they limited themselves to the national borders of 1914. It is perfectly legitimate to speak of a basic continuity in German foreign policy between 1890 and 1933, but Hitler ended it.

For Hitler war was not a last resort of foreign policy; it was a preferred means of achieving Germany's ends. Reliance on war meant Hitler's opponents were expected to give in completely.

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that the Second World War broke out because European statesmen were too concerned with appeasing Hitler?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q29.

Was the Nazis' indoctrination of children the main reason they were able to control the German people in the years 1933-45?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q30.

How accurate is it to say that recovery from the Second World War was the most significant economic challenge for Germany in the years 1933-89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q31.

How significant was support from outside Germany in the economic development of the FRG in the years 1949-89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q32.

How significant was support for democracy in maintaining the political stability of the FRG in the years 1949–89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q33.

To what extent were education and culture in the Weimar Republic and the FRG the same?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q34.

How far do you agree that rising living standards were responsible for political stability in the Federal Republic in the years 1949–89?

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(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q35.

How far would you agree with the view that the stability of the Federal Republic of Germany was mainly achieved by avoiding the constitutional problems of the Weimar Republic?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q36.

How accurate is it to say that the role and status of women in the FRG was different from the role and status of women in the Weimar Republic?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q37.

To what extent did the role of women in society change during the years of the Weimar Republic and Nazi rule?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q38.

How accurate is it to say that the role of German women continued to be that of wife and mother in the years 1933-89?

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q39.

Was the use of terror the main reason for the survival of the Nazi regime in the years 1933-45? Explain your answer.

(Total for question = 20 marks)

Q40.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 before you answer this question.

Extract 1: From Tim Mason, *Nazism, Fascism and the Working Class*, published 1995.

Hitler's unique personality was the decisive factor in German foreign policy. The reason why Hitler took Germany into war in 1939, and why it then turned into a world war, was because Hitler never understood Britain and the British Empire. Hitler thought that the world could be divided between Britain as the sea-based power and Germany as the dominant power in Europe. 5

Hitler completely misunderstood British interests, and that the British government was bound to become involved in war with Nazi Germany as soon as Hitler's threats turned into wars of aggression. Hitler never understood that, above all, Britain desired some sort of balance of power in Europe. This is why Britain gave in, or at least declined to act forcefully, when Hitler took Austria and Czechoslovakia. However, Britain could never allow Germany to get away with expansion by waging wars of aggression. 10

Britain had no choice but to guarantee Poland's sovereignty, and this should have told Hitler that appeasement was finished. But Hitler did not understand this. 15

Extract 2: From Christian Leitz, *The Third Reich*, published 1999.

The charismatic personality of Adolf Hitler is not the reason Germany went to war in 1939. Since before the First World War the German elites had planned wars to increase Germany's economic strength.

Hitler understood Germany's historic economic needs, and set out to fulfil them. The economic motives for expansion increased after 1936 and explain the Nazi takeover of Austria and Czechoslovakia. Brown coal from the Sudetenland was used for synthetic fuel. Coal and machinery for industry was taken from Czechoslovakia. These were all integrated into the economic structure of the Four Year Plan. 20

These were not the acts of a mad and egotistical leader whose policies were out of control. They were a coordinated offensive into eastern and south eastern Europe for economic gains. This was driven by the German government as well as Hitler. Their motive was to strengthen Germany's war potential. Hitler's unique personality and leadership style has tended to disguise this reality. 25 30

Historians have different views about how far Hitler's foreign policy was responsible for the Second World War. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that Hitler took Germany to war because he misunderstood British foreign policy?

(Total for question = 20 marks)