

Knowledge Recap

- 1) What was the name of the American plan that gave millions of gold marks to Germany as a loan to help repair its economy?
- 2) What was the name of the area of land that France and Belgium invaded?
- 3) Why did they invade?
- 4) What was the name of the world-famous German actress who shot to fame because of the growing importance of German cinema?
- 5) What system of voting was introduced for Reichstag elections?
- 6) In what year was the Munich Putsch?



Knowledge Recap Answers

- 1) What was the name of the American plan that gave millions of gold marks to Germany as a loan to help repair its economy? Dawes Plan
- 2) What was the name of the area of land that France and Belgium invaded? Ruhr
- 3) Why did they invade? Germany did not pay its reparation debts.
- 4) What was the name of the world-famous German actress who shot to fame because of the growing importance of German cinema? Marlene Dietrich.
- 5) What system of voting was introduced for Reichstag elections? Proportional Representation (PR).
- 6) In what year was the Munich Putsch? 1923.



Tuesday, 15 December 2020



Rastrick
High School

How did Hitler rise to power?

Learning Outcomes

You will:

- **Understand** the reasons why people voted for Hitler.
- **Examine** how Hitler was able to consolidate this power for himself.
- **Analyse** interpretations from the time.



Year 9 History

Task: List 2 key reasons why people voted for Hitler based on the information below.

In the late 1920s things seemed to be going well for Germany. Their reputation abroad had started to improve, their economy was thriving, their culture was booming and spreading around the world.

But it was all heavily reliant on the loans that America was giving to them through the Dawes & Young Plans.

Then in 1929, disaster strikes. The Wall Street Crash plunges the World economy into chaos with millions wiped off Americas economy in just one day. This led to them recalling all of their loans and demanding those countries that borrowed from them start repayments.



- In 1923 Hitler was arrested for his failed Munich Putsch and sentenced to five years in prison.
- 9 months later he was freed.
- In 1928, Hitler and the Nazi Party stood in the Reichstag elections winning a measly 12 seats.
- Four years later, in 1932, the Nazis were the single largest party in the Reichstag with 196 seats.
- Two years after that, in 1934, he became supreme leader of Germany and the self-titled Fuhrer.



Task: Based on the information above. Create a timeline of how Hitler tried to take power by force.



Understand the reasons why people voted for Hitler.

After his failure to take power by force Hitler realised that he needed to be legitimately gain power first by participating in elections.

There is no singular reason why Hitler and the Nazi Party's popularity grew during the 1920s and 30s but rather a combination of different factors.

TASK:

1) Research a definition for Legitimate.

Legally – In line with the rules via voting.

2) Summarise information on the 4 key areas why support for Hitler grew and people voted for the Nazis. The information is on the next 4 slides.

Challenge: Which factor do you think was the most important in making Hitler popular?



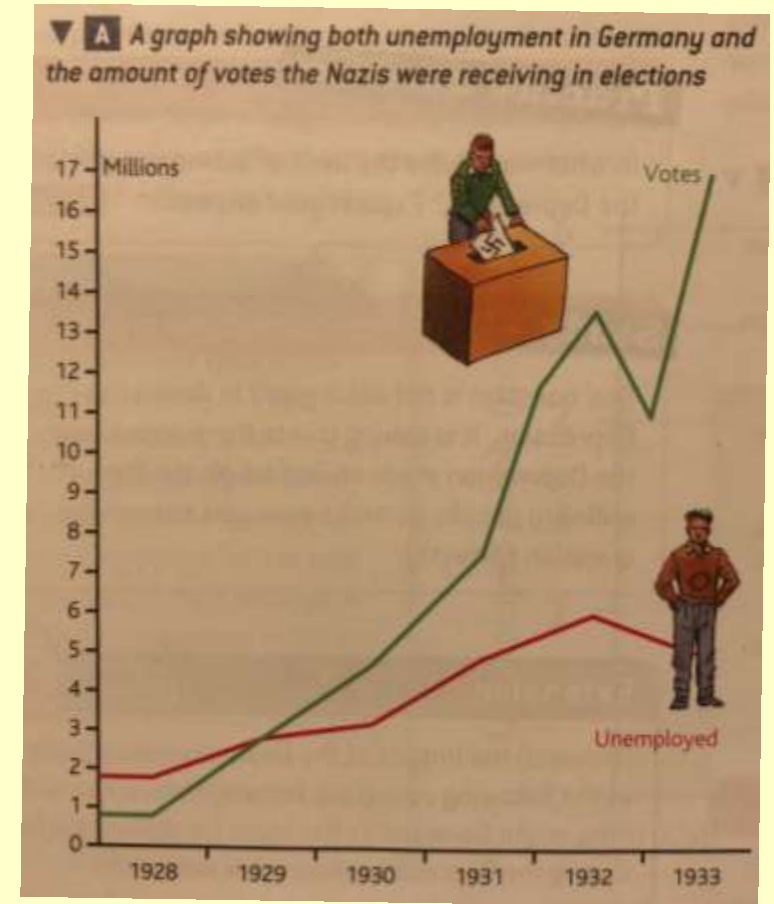
Factor One: The Depression

The Depression hit Germany particularly hard. Businesses collapsed, unemployment soared, and banks closed, but all of this helped Hitler.

Those voters who had ignored him throughout the latter half 1920s because life was good, were now listening.

The Nazis continued repeating their core beliefs: blaming the Treaty of Versailles, blaming the Jews for the economic problems and promising Germany would be reborn as a powerful country.

The same message as before but now the German people were desperate for someone to save them and change things.



Factor Two: The Failure of Weimar Democracy

Given the way that Weimar democracy was set up the Reichstag had many different parties all wanting to change things to their own beliefs. With so many different opinions, the members of the Reichstag argued a lot and achieved very little. This meant the Weimar republic was unable to solve the country's economic problems leaving the people of Germany in worsening conditions. To make matters worse the Chancellors at the time struggled to accomplish anything and had to rely on the use of 'emergency powers' to run the country. Chancellor Brüning attempted to gain more power by holding more elections but they failed to produce a large enough victory for any one party and the elections gave Hitler the opportunity to exploit the fears of German people to gain more and more votes.

For many ordinary Germans this complicated, argumentative and slow-acting form of government was just not working and they disliked it. Many yearned for the more simplistic times of one leader making

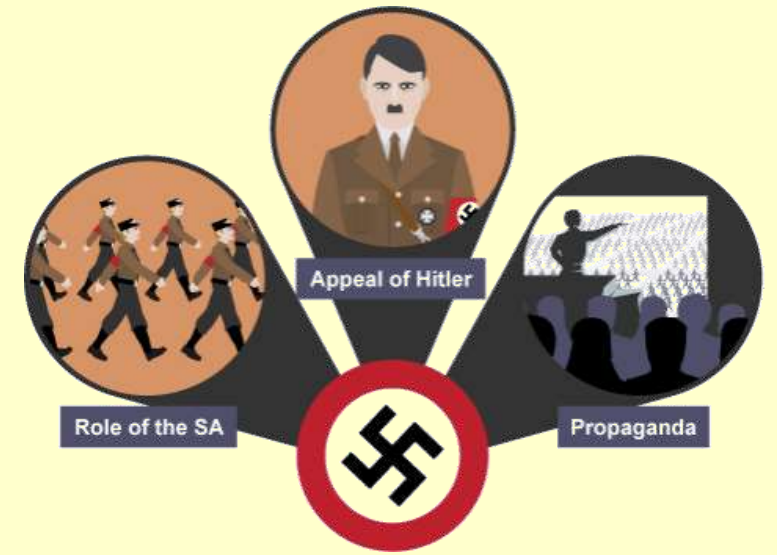
all the decisions and others decided to vote for more extreme parties.



Factor Three: Hitler's Appeal

Hitler himself was also a key part in increasing the Nazi Party's popularity. He was very charismatic and could make people believe that he could be trusted to make Germany a great nation again.

His speeches were always powerful and inspiring to ordinary Germans which meant his appearances were often filled with thousands of eager listeners who were filled with hope; something they had been missing since the Wall Street Crash and Depression. His use of modern technology of planes and radio also showed him as a man in touch with modern Germany and reflected the German people's desire to be



Factor Four: Fear!



1917 saw a Communist revolution in Russia and the Communist Party took control of all businesses and farms. This inspired other communist parties across Europe with the Communist Party becoming more popular in Germany too.

This scared many people in Germany. Middle and upper-class Germans, particularly businessmen and landowners feared that a Communist government in Germany would do the same as their Russian counterparts. Communists didn't believe in religious institutions neither, so this worried many religious people too.

From the beginning, Hitler had promised that if elected he would fight communism and remove it from Germany. He sent out his own private army (The Stormtroopers, SA) to fight communist gangs. The SA, numbering 400,000 by 1932, were also used by Hitler to intimidate other parties and voters into supporting him, while also defending Nazi Party rallies and meetings.

This all created an atmosphere of fear and worry among German people who were searching for someone to restore order to Germany. Something Hitler vowed he would do.



To **understand** the reasons why people voted for Hitler.

Another way Hitler gained support was using **Propaganda**.

Under the supervision of the Minister of Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, the Nazis used radio broadcasts and cinema news reports to spread the Nazi message. They also bought newspapers, printed millions of leaflets and posters in an effort to persuade and influence the German people.

Here is an example of people reading one of the posters used by the Nazis to gain support for Hitler.

Task: Answer in full sentences.

Research a definition for the key word: Propaganda.

What do you notice about who is reading it?

What can this tell us about who might support the Nazis?

Propaganda – Attempts to persuade people to have the same views/beliefs as you.



Who voted for Hitler?

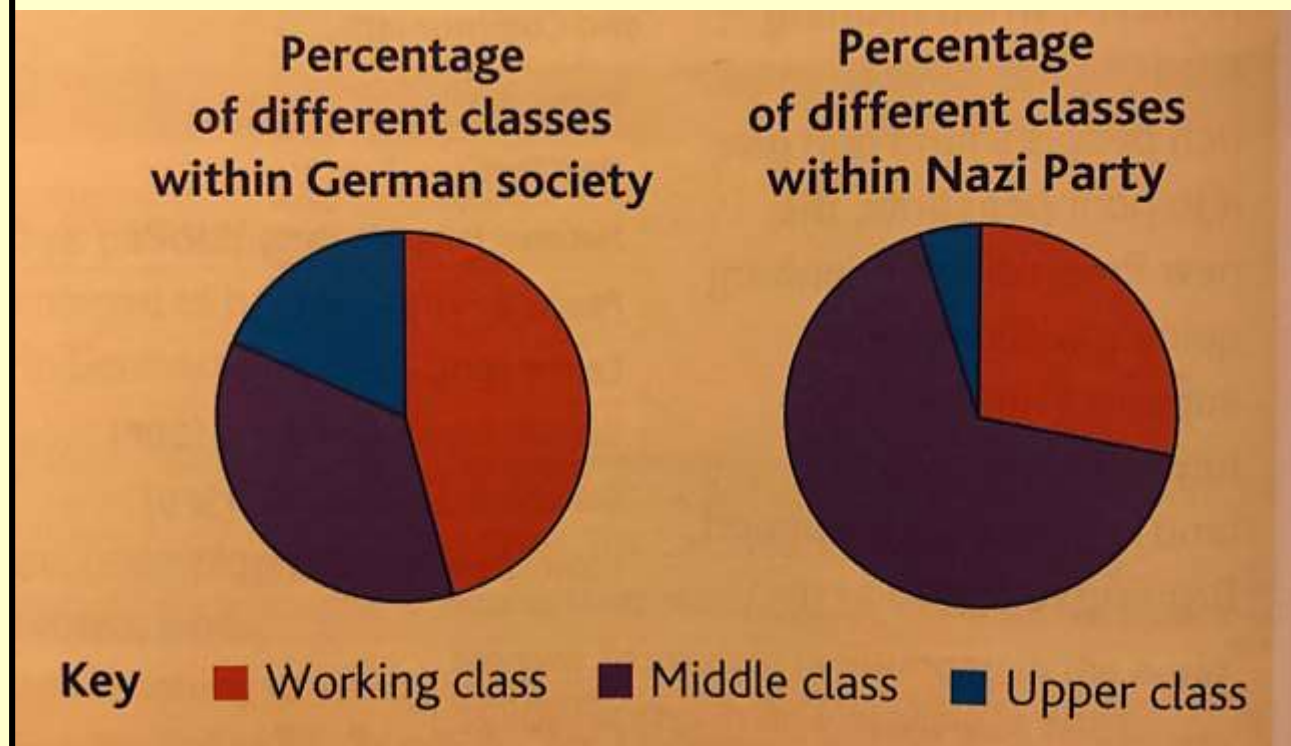
Now you've looked at why people voted for Hitler, it is important to also understand **who** voted for him too.

Source F shows two pie charts that reflect the class make up of German society and the Nazi Party.

TASK: In your books, answer the following questions in full sentences:

- 1) What does Source F show us about which groups in society supported the Nazis?
- 2) Who do you think Hitler should appeal to the most? Why?

Source F: A comparison between different classes among Germany society as a whole, and within the ranks of Nazi Party membership in 1930.

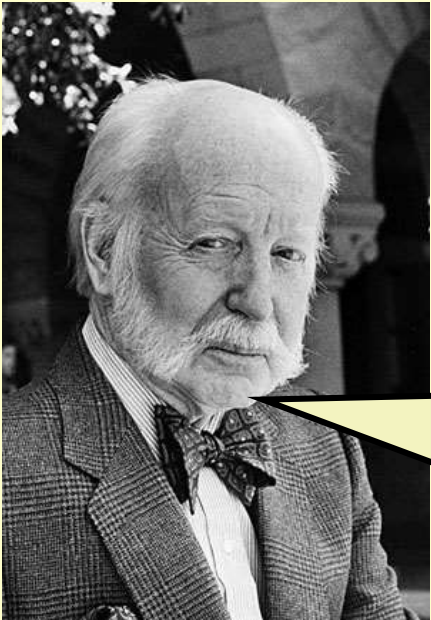


Why did people support the Nazis?

Below are two opposing arguments about why people supported the Nazis. One, on the left, by historian Craig Gordon and on the right by Nazi propagandist Joseph Goebbels.

TASK:

- 1) Summarise both viewpoints in your own words.
- 2) What evidence can you find that supports each viewpoint based on your summaries.
- 3) Write a short PEE paragraph explaining what YOU think and why.



Hitler got support because of 'negative cohesion'. People supported the Nazis, not because of shared ideals or views, but because they shared the Nazis fears.

We are supported because the German people admire our great leader, Hitler; because they share our ideals; because they want a strong government to get rid of the Treaty of Versailles and make Germany great again.



Plenary



Which of these do you think best explains the rise in popularity of the Nazi Party. *Support your answer with evidence.*

There is no right/wrong answer.

1. Very few people fully supported the Nazis.
2. The key factor in the Nazis growth was economic depression. Without it, the Nazis would have remained a minority fringe party.
3. The politicians of the Weimar Republic were mainly responsible for the rise of the Nazis.

