



A-level HISTORY

Component 1L The quest for political stability: Germany, 1871–1991

Friday 23 May 2025 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/1L.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

Extract A not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

The extract is adapted from pages 131 – 133 of A History of Germany 1815–1985 by William Carr, printed by Edward Arnold in 1987, ISBN 0713164956.

Adapted from W Carr, A History of Germany 1815–1985, 1987

Extract B

Extract B not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

The extract is adapted from pages 50, 53, 56 and 57 of Bismarck and Germany 1862–1890 by DG Williamson, printed by Longman in 1986, ISBN 0582354137.

Adapted from DG Williamson, Bismarck and Germany 1862–1890, 1986

Extract C

It is necessary to ask why the parties of the Reichstag did not realise that Bismarck was dependent upon them, and why they did not use the tactic of stubborn resistance to increase their influence in the state. The Reichstag's rights to debate laws and to vote on them were important powers. Furthermore, under the constitution, the Reichstag could not be closed indefinitely and new elections had to follow promptly upon its dissolution. However, there was limited use by the parties of the Reichstag's constitutional powers to obstruct legislation, and they were ineffective when they tried. This is to be explained in large part by the nature of the parties' membership and their attitude towards the role of parliament in the state. Parties within the Reichstag never acquired the self-confidence to challenge the government in matters of political importance. Even though there was an increasing number of professional politicians, the parties only tended to serve particular economic and sectional interests.

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Adapted from GA Craig, *Germany 1866–1945*, 1981

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to German political parties in the years 1871 to 1890.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

How important was violence in the Nazis' rise to, and maintenance of, power in the years 1923 to 1945?

[25 marks]

0 3

'The growth of the economy, in the years 1945 to 1965, was mainly due to the policies of the West German government from 1949.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4

'In the years 1966 to 1989, extra-parliamentary opposition was a more significant challenge to West German governments than opposition from within parliament.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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