



A-level HISTORY

Component 20 Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

Friday 6 June 2025 Afternoon 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 7042/20.
- 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.

Source A

From the 'Law on the Hitler Youth', written by von Schirach, the Reich Leader of German Youth, 1 December 1936. It was signed into law by Hitler.

The future of the German Nation depends upon its youth, and German youth shall have to be prepared for its future duties. Therefore, the Government of the Reich has prepared the following law:

1. All of the German youth in the Reich shall be organised within the Hitler Youth.
2. The German youth, besides being reared within the family and school, shall be educated physically, intellectually, and morally in the spirit of National Socialism to serve the people and community, through the Hitler Youth. 5
3. The task of educating the German youth through the Hitler Youth has been given to the Reich Leader of German Youth in the NSDAP. The position of his office is that of a higher governmental agency with its seat in Berlin, directly responsible to the Führer and the Chancellor of the Reich. 10
4. All regulations necessary for the execution and completion of this law will be issued by the Führer.

Source B

From the memoir, 'The Men with the Pink Triangle', by Heinz Heger, published 1972. Heger was imprisoned in Sachsenhausen concentration camp in 1939 because he was homosexual.

Source B cannot be reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions

Source B lists the victims of Nazi racial ideology and describes the nature of persecution as leading to extermination, by brutal treatment.

Source C

From a church sermon by Bishop von Galen, August 1941. Galen was the Bishop of Münster and later became a Cardinal in the Catholic Church.

Source C cannot be reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions

Source C refers to the Aktion T-4 programme of euthanasia that began in 1939 and Galen appeals for this programme to be stopped on the basis that it breaches the law.

0	1
---	---

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the radicalisation of the German state in the years 1936 to 1941.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

In the years 1919 to 1923, to what extent was the instability of the Weimar Republic caused by international, rather than domestic, factors?

[25 marks]

0 3

'Schleicher was the individual most responsible for Hitler's rise to the Chancellorship in January 1933.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4

'The Nazis successfully managed the demands of the wartime economy in the years 1939 to 1945.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.aqa.org.uk

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2025 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.



2 5 6 A 7 0 4 2 / 2 0