

A-level HISTORY

Component 20 Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

Wednesday 13 June 2018 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:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a speech by Robert Ley, leader of the German Labour Front, to the annual meeting of the 'Strength Through Joy' organisation, on the anniversary of its establishment, November 1934.

It was the Führer who, as usual, set the tone. He said, "I want every worker to be guaranteed sufficient vacation time and I want all his free time to be genuinely relaxing". This will of the Führer was like a sacred command. This is why we have undertaken a systematic organisation of workers into the Labour Front. The essence of life cannot be reduced to a simple matter of bread and butter or to one of wage issues. We have learned, rather, that life is a sum of many things – participation in culture, taking in the sights of splendour that our Fatherland has to offer, the design of the workplace, keeping the body physically fit, awakening folkloric customs, traditions, and sensibilities. Never before in history has an upheaval of this overwhelming magnitude been achieved and yet this is the miracle of what we have done. And so it is, that after not even two years in existence, Strength Through Joy is a resounding success.

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Source B

From a report by Sopade (Social Democratic Party of Germany in Exile) to its exiled Party leadership, entitled 'On Recruiting Workers Through Compulsory Membership and Social Bribery', November 1935.

All Nazi mass organisations have the same mission, whether it is the Labour Front, Strength Through Joy or the Hitler Youth; that is, to 'care for' national comrades, not to let them fend for themselves and certainly not to give them any time to think. Robert Ley recently admitted as much publicly: "The 'national comrade' shall have no private life." This is designed to keep your average man on the street completely lacking in independence, to extinguish in him any form of initiative toward building even the most primitive alliances, to isolate him and make him dependent on State organisations. Now and then, one of the workers in the Strength Through Joy programme expresses a word of praise by saying something like, "No one has bothered to worry about us before". In the past, workers took pride in being able to arrange these connections on their own. Compulsory membership in organisations on the one hand and the isolation of individuals on the other, are the essence of fascism.

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Source C

From a speech by Deputy Führer, Rudolf Hess, to the Reich Chamber of Labour in 1938.

Some workers still hold against us that, whereas we are always talking about the increase in production, wages have not correspondingly increased so that, in reality, the employees are not sharing the fruits of this success. I can only reply to them that swimming pools, canteens, improvements in working conditions, all the advances in the social field; all these things are the result of the increase in production, from which the individual benefits as part of the community. It is, therefore, of great importance that one must assess the social position of the German worker, not on the basis of an increase in wages or no increase in wages, but from a consideration of what position the workers now hold within the national community. And in this case, one need only go through Germany with one's eyes open to discover that the ordinary citizen can do things which in other countries are open only to a privileged class, but never to the workers.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying Nazi policies towards the workers in the years 1933 to 1939.

[30 marks]**Turn over for Section B**

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

- 0 2** 'The impact of the Treaty of Versailles on the new Weimar Republic between 1919 and 1924 was more damaging economically than politically.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

- 0 3** To what extent was the Nazi consolidation of power in the years 1933 and 1934 achieved by legal means?

[25 marks]

- 0 4** 'The German economy was adapted successfully to meet the demands of war before 1945.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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