

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1G: Germany and West Germany, 1918–89

Wednesday 17 May 2017 – Afternoon

Extracts Booklet

Paper Reference

8HI0/1G

Do not return this Extracts Booklet with the question paper.

P49973RA

©2017 Pearson Education Ltd.

1/1/1/1



Turn over ►



Pearson

Extracts for use with Section C.

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.

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.

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.

* *Lebensraum* = living space

Every effort has been made to contact copyright holders to obtain their permission for the use of copyright material. Pearson Education Ltd. will, if notified, be happy to rectify any errors or omissions and include any such rectifications in future editions.