

**GCE A LEVEL**

1100U80-1



S24-1100U80-1

FRIDAY, 7 JUNE 2024 – AFTERNOON**HISTORY – A2 unit 4****DEPTH STUDY 8****Germany: Democracy and dictatorship c.1918–1945****Part 2: Nazi Germany c.1933–1945**

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **Question 1** and **either Question 2 or Question 3**.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

You are advised to spend 60 minutes on Question 1 and 45 minutes on either Question 2 or Question 3.

The sources used in this examination paper may have been amended, adapted or abridged from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

The sources may include words that are no longer in common use and are now regarded as derogatory terminology. Their inclusion reflects the time and place of the original version of these sources.

In your answers, you should use knowledge and understanding gained from your study of Unit 2 (AS) where appropriate.

Answer **Question 1** and **either Question 2 or Question 3**.

Question 1 (compulsory)

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the economic policies of Nazi Germany during the period from 1933 to 1945. [30]

Source A John Gunther, an American journalist, writing in his popular contemporary account of Europe, *Inside Europe* (1938). The book was written during Hjalmar Schacht's term of office, but published after his resignation in 1937.

Not only has Schacht been Hitler's keeper of the purse but he has contrived to make himself indispensable as a link between Hitler and the whole of German economic life. Schacht, beyond any doubt, is one of the ablest financial experts alive. He really understands money. He had the quadruple job of paying for imports, financing public work projects to relieve unemployment, meeting the cost of rearmament and maintaining the ordinary budget of government. Where did Dr Schacht get all the money from?

He juggled with internal loans from banks, insurance companies and the like, which were bled almost empty, giving in return government Mefo Bills, worth no more – and no less – than the government's promise to pay. These loans amounted to nothing less than the compulsory mobilization of the wealth of the German people, and the money has been used to finance a colossal war machine. Externally, Dr Schacht has performed even greater feats of financial wizardry, contriving to pay for imports by getting his creditors to foot the bill, saying 'I cannot pay my debts unless you lend me more.' This process reached its most extreme phase back in December 1934, when the Bank of England granted a £750 000 credit to Germany, so that Germany might have means to meet old debts and build aeroplanes that could cross the English Channel in seven minutes.

Source B Adolf Hitler, in a memorandum to his ministers, ordering a Four-Year Plan, which replaced the New Plan (4 September 1936)

The world has been moving with ever-increasing speed towards a new conflict, which will be with Bolshevism. I therefore draw up the following programme for a final provision of our vital needs:

Parallel with the military and political rearmament of our nation must go its economic rearmament and mobilization. In future, the interests of individuals can no longer play any part in these matters. There is only one interest, the interest of the nation; only one view, the bringing of Germany to the point of political and economic self-sufficiency ...

The job of the Ministry of Economics is simply to set the national economic tasks; private industry has to fulfil them. But if private industry thinks itself incapable of doing this, then the National Socialist State will know how to resolve the problem on its own. Nearly four precious years have now gone by; there has been time enough in four years to find out what we cannot do. Now we have to carry out what we can do.

I have set the following tasks:

- (i) The German armed forces must be operational within four years.
- (ii) The German economy must be fit for war within four years.

Source C Dr Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi Minister of Propaganda, describes, in his diary, a meeting with the Gauleiters and government ministers (8 October 1943)

Speer's industrial experts didn't say much that was new for me, but their pessimistic descriptions of the state of the war and war production were a good introduction for Speer's own fifty-minute address. Based on solid facts and figures, he demonstrates as clearly as can be that nothing will now help except total effort for total war, as – for all the good it did – I already said in my speech at the Sportpalast [in February, when I too advocated a vigorous approach to total war].

Speer told the Gauleiters very bluntly that no protests and no arguments would deter him from converting all industrial plants to war production. He is, of course, right: the Führer has ordered him to transfer a million workers into armaments at once and, furthermore, to release sufficient young men from the armament industry to form about twenty divisions. The Gauleiters are screaming holy murder [furious], for of course it means the end of most of their flourishing industries. But they'll have to go along with him.

Answer **either Question 2 or Question 3.**

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To what extent was Nazi Germany a totalitarian state during the period from 1933 to 1939?

[30]

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“Hitler's mistakes were mainly responsible for Germany's defeat in the Second World War.” Discuss.

[30]

END OF PAPER

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