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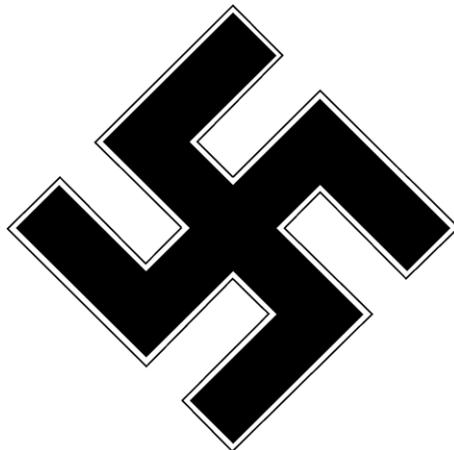
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Oxford Cambridge and RSA

GCSE (9–1) History B (Schools History Project)

Living Under Nazi Rule, 1933-1945

Question Papers & Model Answers



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* Plans only

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (Sample Question Paper)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can **Source A** tell us about Nazi propaganda?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

An announcement in a German newspaper, 16 March 1934.

Attention! The Führer will be speaking on the radio. On Wednesday 21 March, the Führer is speaking on all German stations from 11am to 11.50am. The district Party headquarters have ordered that all factory owners, department stores, offices, shops, pubs and blocks of flats put up loudspeakers an hour before the broadcast of the Führer's speech so that the whole workforce and all national comrades can participate fully in the broadcast.

7 How useful are **Interpretation B** and **Sources C** and **D** for a historian studying the growth of Hitler Youth organisations between 1932 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the interpretation and the two sources as well as your own knowledge. [15]

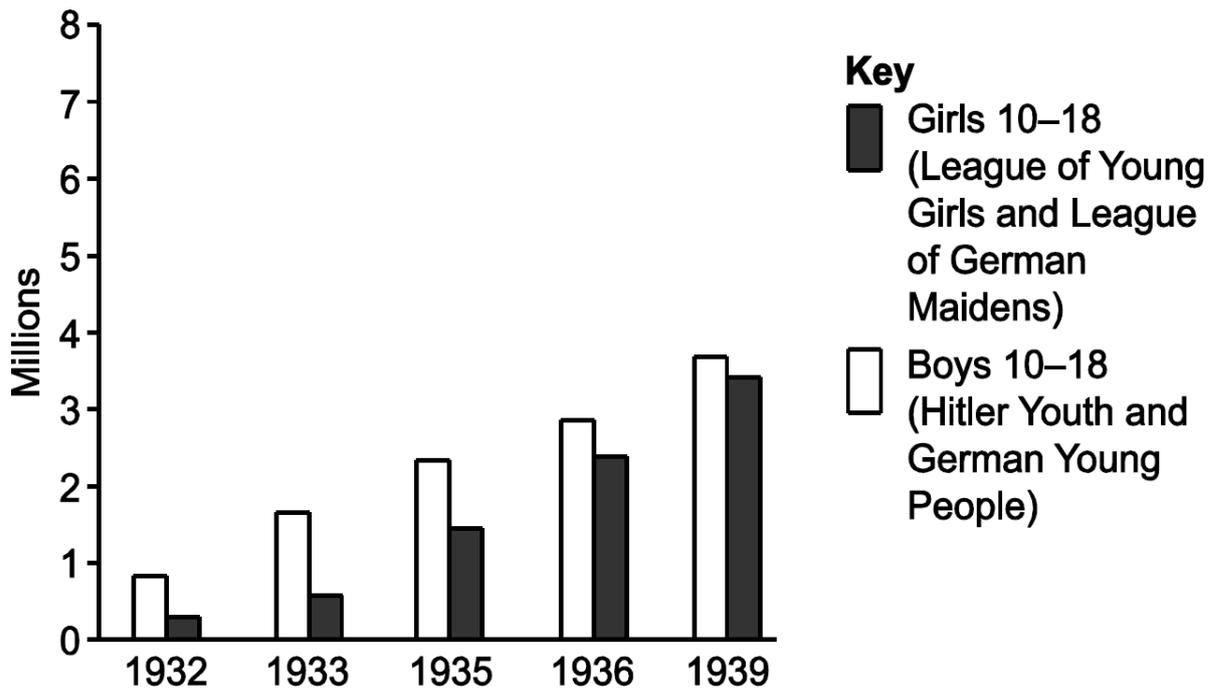
Interpretation B

From *The Third Reich in Power* by Richard J Evans, 2006.

From July 1936 the Hitler Youth had an official monopoly on the provision of sports facilities and activities for all children below the age of fourteen; before long, it was the same for 14–18 year olds. In effect, sports facilities were no longer available to non-members. Hitler Youth members were given special days off school for their activities. The results of such pressure soon became apparent. By the end of 1933 there were 2.3 million boys and girls between the ages of ten and eighteen in the Hitler Youth organisation. By the end of 1935 this figure was approaching four million, and by the beginning of 1939 it had reached 8.7 million.

Source C

Graph showing membership numbers of the Hitler Youth organisations, 1932–1939.



Source D

Poster published by the Nazi government in Germany, 1938.

The words on the poster mean: "Build youth hostels and homes".



Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'There was little effective opposition to the Nazis.'

How far do you agree with this view of Germany between 1933 and 1945?

[18]

9* 'German occupation in the Second World War was, in general, far harsher in eastern Europe than in western Europe.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (Practice Paper 1)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can **Source A** tell us about the impact of the Second World War on the German people?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

A poster published in Germany, 1943. The writing says: '*Hard times. Hard duties. Hard hearts.*'



- 7 How useful are **Interpretations B** and **C** and **Source D** for a historian studying the work of the Gestapo between 1933 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the two interpretations and the source as well as your own knowledge?

[15]

Interpretation B

The front cover of a book published in 1956 by a British writer, Edward Crankshaw. Crankshaw was part of the British Secret Intelligence Service during the Second World War.



Interpretation C

An extract from *The Gestapo and German society: Enforcing Racial Policy 1933–1945* by Robert Gellately, 1990. Denunciation means reporting someone to the authorities.

The denunciations from the population were the single most important cause for Gestapo arrests. The Gestapo would have been seriously held back without this public co-operation. The public providing information was one of the most important reasons the terror system worked. So the Gestapo wasn't really a 'dominant' organisation; it depended on the continuing co-operation of German citizens.

Source D

An extract from an announcement in a German newspaper in 1936.

The Secret State police (Gestapo) is an official machine whose special task is the prosecution of crimes and offences against the State. Their task is to detect these crimes, bring the criminals to justice and to punish them. Since the National Socialist Revolution, all opposition to the State and its leadership is forbidden. The Secret State Police is part of the struggle against threats to the State and must fight all dangers to the State.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

- 8* 'The Nazis were highly successful in achieving their aims in relation to women between 1933 and 1945.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

- 9* 'Hitler's position of total power by August 1934 was achieved mainly through the use of violence.'

How far do you agree with this view of Germany between January 1933 and August 1934? [18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (Practice Paper 2)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can **Source A** tell us about Nazi control of German society between 1933 and 1939?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

An extract from a radio report, recorded on 30 September 1933 inside Oranienburg, one of the early concentration camps. The report was broadcast on Germany's international radio station, both in Germany and abroad.

REPORTER: The fellow German standing before me, this convicted Communist, doesn't know me and I don't know him. He has not been coached for this but has just been called over to us. You don't have to worry, you will not be punished even if you tell me that you are dissatisfied. You need say nothing more than the truth.

PRISONER: Yes sir.

REPORTER: Tell us how you feel about the food.

PRISONER: The food here is good and plentiful.

REPORTER: Has anything at all happened to you here?

PRISONER: Nothing has happened to me.

- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying responses to Nazi rule in Europe?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge. [15]

Source B

Extracts from a set of regulations issued by the German police chief in the Polish town of Toruń on 27 October 1939. The German army had occupied the town on 7 September.

1. Polish inhabitants must stand aside for the representatives of German authority. The streets belong to the victors and not to the vanquished.
2. Male Polish inhabitants must show their respect to the German authorities by uncovering their head.
3. In shops and at market stalls all German nationals must be served first before the vanquished.
4. The wearing of Polish school uniforms, of caps with Polish badges, and Polish uniforms by railway officials is prohibited.
5. It is forbidden particularly for young to gather in the streets and at street corners.

Source C

A photograph taken by a US Army photographer in Rennes, France, when it was liberated by the Allies in 1944. The women who have had their heads shaved by fellow French citizens have been accused of being Nazi collaborators.



Interpretation D

A 1946 poster for a French film called *The Battle of the Rails*. The film tells the story of French railway workers who sabotaged the Nazi war effort in occupied France. The words at the top read 'Rene Clement's masterpiece, for the glory of the railwaymen of France.'



Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'Hitler's establishment of a dictatorship between January and July 1933 was achieved by legal means.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

9* 'The German people did not support the war between 1939 and 1945.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2018)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

6 What can **Source A** tell us about Hitler and the Nazi Party in January 1933?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

An extract from Hitler's speech, entitled 'Appeal to the German people', broadcast on the radio on 31 January 1933. Millions of Germans listened to the speech.

It is an appalling inheritance which we are taking over. Fourteen years of Communism have undermined Germany. The task before us is the most difficult which has ever faced Germany. But we believe in our nation and in its values. Farmers, workers, and the middle class must unite to build the new Reich.

The National Government will restore to the German people unity of mind and will. It will rise above position and class to bring our people again to an awareness of racial and political unity. It will make national discipline govern our life.

Within four years the German farmer must be free from impoverishment. Within four years unemployment must be overcome permanently.

In foreign policy the National Government will see regaining the freedom of our people as its highest mission. Germany will be a state of equal worth and with equal rights.

Now, German people, give us four years and then judge us and give your verdict! Let us make a start. We have no desire to fight for ourselves; only for Germany!

- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying total war in Germany between 1943 and 1945?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge. [15]

Source B

From a report of a speech made by Goebbels in Berlin, February 1943. The report was produced by the Propaganda Ministry. Capitulation means giving up.

The English say that the German people are resisting the government's total war measures. They say the German people do not want total war, but capitulation!

[Shouts from the crowd: Never! Never! Never!]

I ask you: do you believe with the Führer and with us in the final victory of the German people? I ask you: Are you determined to follow the Führer through thick and thin in the struggle for victory and to put up even with the heaviest personal burdens?... I ask you: Do you want total war? Do you want it, if necessary, more total and more radical than we can imagine it today?

[The crowd stood up and there are shouts of 'Führer: command, we follow!']

Source C

A British propaganda leaflet produced in 1943. The leaflet tried to justify the bombing of German cities to the British public.



Interpretation D

From the preface of a book by historian Gotz Aly, *Hitler's beneficiaries: plunder, racial war and the Nazi welfare state*, published in 2008.

I was born in 1947 and still have memories of postwar Germany. People often talked about how they were better off during the war. 'We were well off during the war,' they complained. My mother told me that my aunt 'got a package every few days from her husband who was serving in the army, which contained everything she could possibly want.'

It was only when I began work on this book that the truth behind these stories became clear to me. Hitler was able to maintain morale by sharing out the spoils of Germany's military victories – the profits made from forced labour, confiscated property of murdered Jews, and the deliberate starvation of millions of people. Germans bombed out by Allied air raids were resupplied with furniture taken from Jews who had been deported and murdered. As I was writing this book, I found I could no longer take pleasure in several beautiful pieces of antique furniture in my home.

All these benefits made Germans open to Nazi propaganda and led them to support the Third Reich.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

- 8*** 'Terror was more important than propaganda in controlling people in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

- 9*** 'Nazi policies made the lives of German people worse between 1933 and 1939.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2019)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Holocaust?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

A letter received by a Polish resistance group in 1944 from Jewish members of the Sonderkommando. The letter came from the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and was accompanied by pictures the Sonderkommando had taken. Sonderkommando were prisoners forced to work for the Nazis.

Urgent. Send two rolls of film as soon as possible. It is possible to take pictures. We are sending you photographs from Auschwitz-Birkenau of people who have been gassed. One shows a heap of bodies piled outdoors. Bodies are burned outdoors when the crematorium can't keep up with the numbers of bodies to be burned. Another photograph shows one of the places in the forest where people are told to undress, allegedly for a bath, but in fact before being driven to the gas chambers. Send more film rolls as fast as you can.

- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying the establishment of the Nazi dictatorship between January and July 1933?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

Source B

The image and headline from a Nazi newspaper, published on 1 March 1933. The words have been translated into English below.



NOW WE WILL TAKE RUTHLESS STEPS

Communists set Reichstag alight – Communist arsonists arrested –
Signs of a Communist uprising – Increased measures against the terrorists –
All Communist MPs arrested – All Communist newspapers banned

Source C

An extract from an article entitled 'A walk through Dachau Concentration Camp', published in a local German newspaper in June 1933.

The former Dachau Powder Factory has become a modern camp for political prisoners. Where grass and weeds once grew, neat paths have now been laid. We visited a row of barracks, and everywhere we saw the same picture: cleanliness, order, light and air. The prisoners work gladly and willingly and most of them are probably happy to have an orderly life, good food, and a roof over their heads. For those unclean people who oppose the Nazi Volk community, one term hangs over their head like a looming sword: concentration camp.

Interpretation D

An extract from a book by historian Ian Kershaw in 2008.

The violence and repression were widely popular. The 'emergency decree' that took away all personal liberties and established the platform for dictatorship was warmly welcomed.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'The lives of all workers improved as a result of Nazi policies between 1933 and 1939.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

9* 'The German people supported the war between 1939 and 1945.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2020)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Nazi dictatorship in July 1934?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

A Gestapo report on the 'Night of the Long Knives' from July 1934.

The suppression of Röhm's plot to overthrow the Führer has been like a purifying thunderstorm. It has been greeted by a liberating sigh of relief by the people. Wide sections of the population, however, have been deeply shocked by the shooting of people unconnected with the Röhm revolt. It is realised these were excesses, which took place without the knowledge and against the will of the Führer.

- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying control and opposition in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge. [15]

Source B

An extract from a secret report by Socialists on attitudes in Nazi Germany in June 1937. It was sent to Socialist leaders who were living in exile.

The number of those who deliberately criticise the regime is very small, quite apart from the fact that they have no way to express this criticism. The regime controls all of the press and radio stations.

Propaganda is everywhere. It does not stop people feeling discontent but propaganda tells them that to complain is to threaten the Third Reich – a prospect which would leave them horrified. They have seen what happens to the Jews and do not wish to share their fate. It becomes increasingly evident that the majority of the people have two faces: one which they show to their family and friends and people they see as reliable. The other face is for the authorities. The private face shows the sharpest criticism of everything that is going on now; the official face beams with optimism and contentment.

Source C

A painting from 1938 which was displayed in a beer hall in Munich.



Interpretation D

An extract from the memoirs of Henrik Metelmann, 1970. Metelmann came from a working-class family in Hamburg and was a member of the Hitler Youth.

I loved it when we went on our frequent marches, feeling important when the police had to stop the traffic to give us right of way and passing pedestrians had to raise their arm in the Nazi salute. Whenever we were led out on a march, it was always into the working-class quarters. We were told that this was to remind the workers, but I sometimes wondered what we wanted to remind them of; after all, most of our fathers were workers.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'The Second World War had a negative impact on the German people between 1939 and 1945.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

9* 'The most common response to Nazi occupation was collaboration.'

How far do you agree with this view of Nazi rule in Europe between 1939 and 1945?

[18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2021)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can **Source A** tell us about wartime opposition in Nazi Germany?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

An extract from a leaflet made and distributed by the White Rose student group in January 1943.

A call to all Germans!

The war is coming to its certain end. Hitler cannot win the war, he can only prolong it! Do you and your children want to suffer the same fate as the Jews? Do you want to be judged by the same standards as the Nazis? Are we to be forever the nation which is hated and rejected by mankind? No. Reject the Nazi gangsters. Prove by your actions that you think otherwise.

The better part of the nation will fight on our side. Cast off the cloak of indifference you have wrapped around you. Make the decision before it is too late. Do not believe the Nazi propaganda which has driven the fear of Communism into your bones.

Support the resistance. Distribute the leaflets!

- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying the lives of Jewish people in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge. [15]

Source B

A 1930s sticker advertising a seaside resort in Germany. The words read, 'The North Sea resort of Norderney is free of Jews'. The seaside resort was run by the KDF ('Strength Through Joy').



Source C

Instructions issued in 1938 by Heydrich, who was in charge of the Gestapo.

Secret

Copy of Most Urgent telegram from Munich, 10 November 1938.

To All Headquarters and Districts of the State Police and the Security Police.

Measures against Jews tonight

Following the attempt on the life of the German diplomat von Rath in Paris, demonstrations against the Jews are to be expected in all parts of the Reich. The instructions below are to be applied in dealing with these events:

Only measures are to be taken that do not endanger German lives or property (synagogues are to be burned down only where there is no danger of fire in neighbouring buildings).

Places of business and apartments belonging to Jews may be destroyed but not looted. Particular care is to be taken that non-Jewish businesses are completely protected against damage.

Interpretation D

An extract from an interview with Alfons Heck, who was a member of the Hitler Youth in 1938. The interview was carried out and televised in 1989.

Until Kristallnacht, many Germans believed Hitler was not engaged in mass murder. The treatment of the Jews seemed to be a minor form of harassment of a disliked minority. But after Kristallnacht no German could any longer be under any illusion. But I myself never met a fanatic Nazi who wanted the extermination of the Jews. Certainly we wanted the Jews out of Germany, but we did not want them to be killed.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'The reason why most Germans did not resist the Nazis was that they were afraid.'

How far do you agree with this view of Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939?

[18]

9* 'Hitler's position of total power by August 1934 was achieved through legal means.'

How far do you agree with this view of Germany between January 1933 and August 1934? **[18]**

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2022)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can **Source A** tell us about wartime opposition in Nazi Germany?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

An extract from a report of a local branch of the Nazi Party to the Gestapo in 1943.

I have been informed that gatherings of young people have become more common than ever, especially since the last bombing raid on Dusseldorf. These youngsters hang around into the late evening with musical instruments and young females. Since this lowlife is to a large extent outside the Hitler Youth and adopts a hostile attitude towards the organisation, they are a danger to other young people. There is a suspicion that it is these youths who have been writing slogans like 'Down with Nazi brutality' on walls.

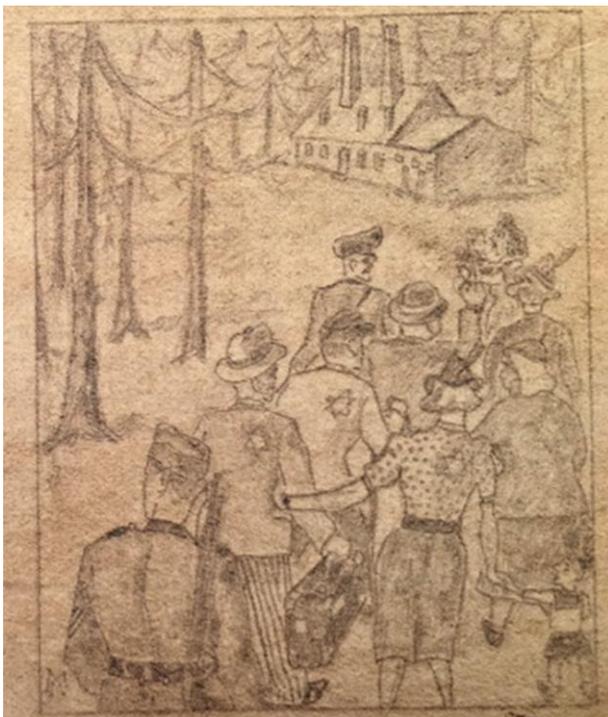
- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying Nazi camps in occupied Europe?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

Source B

One of a set of 32 sketches made by an unknown prisoner in around 1943 at the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. The sketches were found in 1947, in a bottle which had been buried.



Source C

Scenes and commentary from a Nazi film about the Terezin camp in Czechoslovakia. The film was made in 1944 and called 'The Führer Gives a City to the Jews'. The Nazis intended that the film would be shown in neutral countries during the war.



The single women and the girls make themselves comfortable in their living quarters.



The big sport event in the camp is football.

Interpretation D

The text from the back cover of the DVD 'Escape from Sobibor', made in 1987. The film was set in the Sobibor death camp in 1943.

Few stories of triumph have emerged from the Holocaust but 'Escape from Sobibor' is one such story, depicting the true events that led to the mass escape from one of the most notorious death camps of the Third Reich. On 14th October 1943, the inmates of Sobibor in Eastern Poland put into action a terrifyingly ambitious plan that gave every prisoner the chance to escape and survive.

Those organising the escape knew that the plan must include every prisoner – leaving no one behind to face revenge by the SS. This film recounts those events with accuracy.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'The lives of women and girls became worse as a result of Nazi policies.'

How far do you agree with this view of Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939? **[20]**

9* 'The most serious threat to the Nazis came from the Churches.'

How far do you agree with this view of opposition to the Nazis in Germany between 1933 and 1939? **[20]**

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2023)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Nazi government in March 1933?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

An extract from a speech made by Hitler to the Reichstag on 23 March 1933 about the 'Law to Remedy the Distress of People and German Reich' (Enabling Act). The Act would give Hitler the power to pass laws without the approval of the Reichstag.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Reichstag! Today, the Reich Government and National Socialist German Workers' Party [Nazi Party] have presented you with an extraordinary measure for your consideration. It is a 'Law to Remedy the Distress of People and German Reich'.

We are presenting this because strong leadership is necessary to create stability, to deal with the economic catastrophe and to ward off the evils of communism. The weak politicians in Germany have been the cause of our decay.

Some of our planned and necessary measures currently require the approval of the Reichstag. But it would be inconsistent with our national uprising if the Government was required to request the approval of the Reichstag in every case. It is for this reason we are introducing an Enabling Act.

The Government is not motivated by a desire to get rid of the Reichstag. The Government will only make use of this law for the implementation of vital measures. The existence of the Reichstag is not endangered.

- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying Nazi occupation in western Europe between 1940 and 1945?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge. [15]

Source B

A poster published in the Netherlands during occupation. The words saw, 'Men of the Netherlands, for your honour and conscience! Take a stand against communism. The Waffen-SS calls you!'

The Waffen-SS was the military wing of the SS. It fought alongside the regular German army.



Source C

An extract from an article in an illegal Dutch newspaper. The newspaper was called 'Our people' and the article was published in October 1943.

At the end of April this year, the German military commander announced that Dutch ex-soldiers were to be transported to Germany to work as forced labourers. Those who resisted risked the isolation, boredom and hardship of a German prison camp. Hundreds of thousands of our families saw their breadwinners in danger.

We must not underestimate our enemy. Certainly, the Germans have suffered defeat after defeat during the last year, but the Beast is not yet defeated. We cannot relax our struggles. We must persevere with fierce anger and push ourselves to the limit.

A **breadwinner** is a person in a family who works to provide the money that the family needs to live on.

Interpretation D

An extract from a book by historian Tony Judt. The book was published in 2011.

Typically, the Nazi occupiers joined forces with a local group within the occupied nation. In this way, a political group or minority that had been at a disadvantage in peacetime was now able to exploit the occupation to settle local scores. This also meant the Germans didn't always have to administer and police the local territory all by themselves: they could rely on others to do it for them.

For example, in occupied Belgium, some Flemish-speaking nationalists were tempted by the idea of German rule as a way of breaking away from their French-speaking rulers. The Nazis willingly played along as it suited their purposes. They released Flemish-speaking Belgian prisoners of war in 1940 when hostilities ceased, whereas French-speaking Belgians remained in prisoner of war camps throughout the war.

Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

- 8* 'Between 1939 and 1945, wartime opposition to Hitler and the Nazis in Germany was small scale and insignificant.'

How far do you agree?

[20]

- 9* 'Between 1933 and 1939, the main way the Nazis controlled the German people was by winning them over with popular policies.'

How far do you agree?

[20]

Living Under Nazi Rule, 1933-1945 (2024)

Answer questions 6 and 7.

- 6 What can Source A tell us about Germany towards the end of the Second World War?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

A poster published in Germany in early 1945. The words say, 'Frontline City Frankfurt will be held!' A 'Frontline City' was a city Hitler had declared must be defended against Allied attack at all costs.



- 7 How useful are Sources B and C and Interpretation D for a historian studying Nazi control of Germany in 1933?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

Interpretation B

An extract from the book *The Nazi seizure of power* by historian W S Allen, published in 1965. The book contains a detailed study of the experiences of the German town of Norheim. This extract was based on an interview with Hermann Schulze in the 1960s.

Hermann Schulze lost his job at a railway yard because he was a member of the Social Democratic Party [the main Socialist Party in Germany]. His house was searched at least seven times and he was questioned by the Gestapo at least twenty times. In the summer of 1933, Schulze was given a job at a stone quarry in return for a promise to give up political activity.

In the winter of late 1933, an unknown man knocked at Schulze's door and asked for him by name. Schulze took him in. It was raining and the man was wet. The man described himself as a socialist who was running away from the Gestapo. He asked did Schulze have any weapons? Could he supply the names of any loyal socialists in the area? Schulze answered 'no' to each question and added, 'I'm done with all that. All I can do is put you up overnight and feed you, which I'd do for any human being on a night like this'.

In the morning, after breakfast, the man went to the door and, just before he left, turned his coat lapel back and showed Schulze an SS badge. Then he left without saying a word.

Source C

An extract from a set of instructions published in 'The Oberstdorf Village and Tourist News' (a small, local village newspaper) on 1 April 1933. Oberstdorf was a remote village and tourist resort.

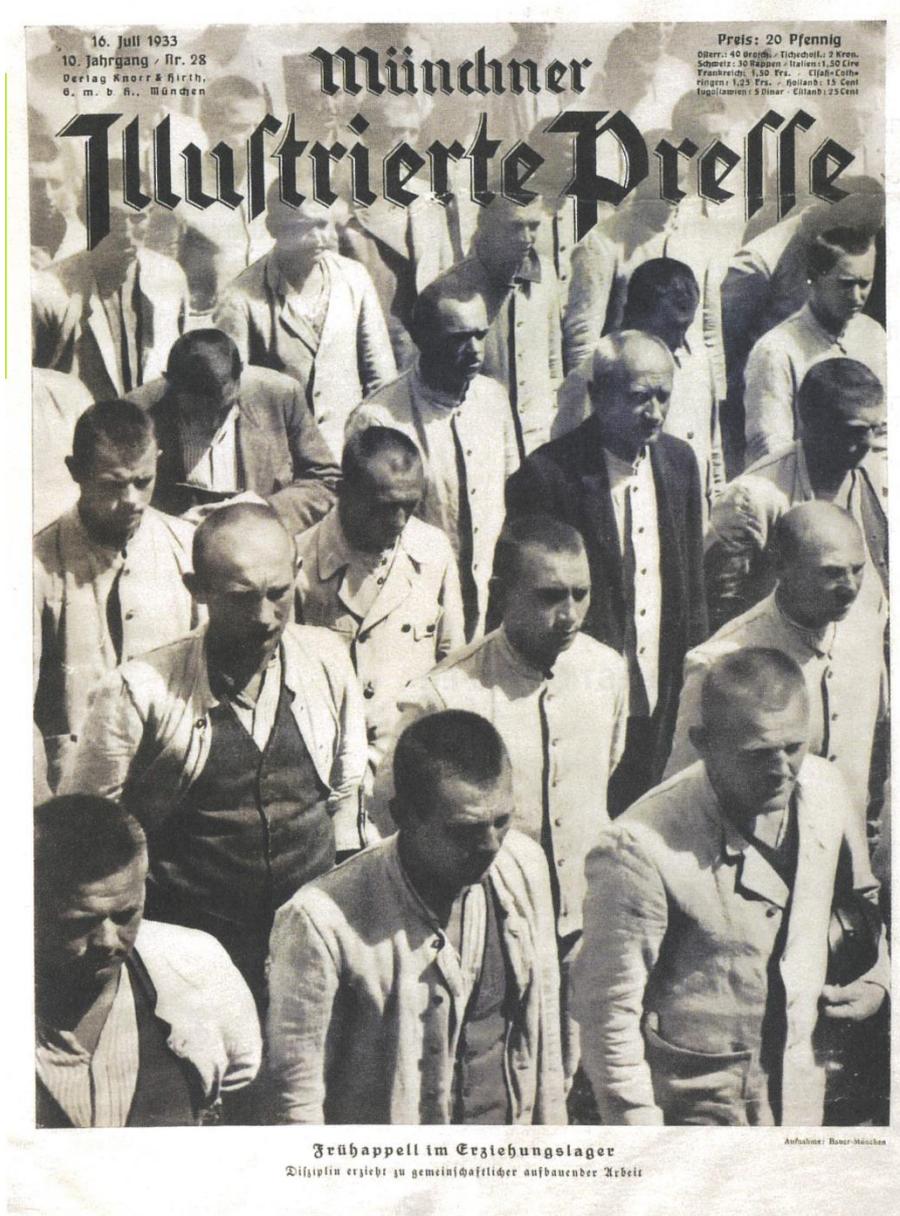
The instructions relate to the nationwide boycott of Jewish shops and businesses organised by the Nazis.

The Oberstdorf NSDAP (NAZI) Action Committee will decide which shops, department stores and law firms are Jewish. Descendants and relatives of Jews will be counted as Jews for the purposes of this order.

The following banners on lorries or trucks must be driven through the streets in the following order: Boycott all Jewish businesses! Don't buy in Jewish department stores! Don't go to Jewish lawyers or doctors! The Jews are our downfall!

Source D

The front cover of the 'Munich Illustrated Press', published in July 1933. The caption says, 'Early morning roll call (register) in the education camp'. The camp it is referring to is Dachau.



Answer **either** question 8 **or** question 9.

8* 'In the period January 1933 to August 1934, the passing of new laws was the most important method Hitler used to gain total power.'

How far do you agree?

Give reasons for your answer.

[18]

9* 'The key turning point in the development of Nazi anti-Jewish policy was the use of the Einsatzgruppen in 1941.'

How far do you agree?

Give reasons for your answer.

[18]

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (Sample Question Paper)

7 How useful are **Interpretation B** and **Sources C** and **D** for a historian studying the growth of Hitler Youth organisations between 1932 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the interpretation and the two sources as well as your own knowledge. [15]

The context for Source B is that the Nazis were determined to have control of young people as Hitler saw this as key to building support, building a future Nazi Germany and waging war. This can also be seen in the fact that the Nazis also changed the school curriculum to ensure children followed Nazi race ideology. Interpretation B tells us that the Hitler Youth “had an official monopoly on the provision of sports facilities” with these facilities “no longer for non-members”. It also tells us that this resulted in a significant increase in numbers attending these groups. This went from 2.3 million in 1933 to “8.7 million” by 1939 showing an increase in membership. This suggests that the Nazis saw sports facilities as an important way of increasing participation in their youth groups and that this was something, therefore, that they wished to control. The increase in membership suggests that this control of the sports facilities ensured the Nazis were successful in achieving greater participation in Hitler Youth groups. The purpose of this source is to give a fair and balanced view of Nazi Youth movements. The fact that it shows the change in their success rate suggests the historian feels this is an important focus for the Nazis but that it required control of sports facilities to make it happen, suggesting the Youth groups weren’t popular enough on their own without extra intervention.

The context for Source C is that membership of these groups became compulsory after 1936 so this explains the numbers increasing. Source C is a graph which tells us that participation in Hitler youth organisations increased steadily over time with slight boys groups slightly more popular than girls groups. It tells us that membership increased between 200-300% between 1933 and 1939. This suggests that as time went on, the Nazi Youth groups became increasingly popular. The fast increase suggests that something may have changed to make this happen. It may also suggest that boys were more attracted to the groups than girls. This suggests that getting young people into these groups was important. Boys may have been more attracted because of the focus on competition and sport whilst some girls may have been put off by the focus on preparing for motherhood. The purpose of this source is to show change over time. It is useful for noting the way the figures rise but it does not, on its own, explain the reasons for the change.

The context for Interpretation D is that the Youth groups were seen as very important to the Nazis. They made them attractive to as many people as possible, including creating summer camps for the poor and needy. They provided uniform and played games. This allowed them to indoctrinate the youth with Nazi ideas. Source D tells us that the Nazis used posters to appeal to young people to join Youth Organisations. It tells us that they wanted the people to see Hitler Youth as fun (she is pictured smiling and has decorated the can) and useful (as she is collecting money to “Build youth hostels and homes”). This suggests that the Nazis saw the Hitler Youth groups as having a key role in supporting their ideal of building a better society. The use of smiles and the use of the yellow circle behind the girl in the poster suggests that they want to make the Youth groups attractive to both young people and those donating money. The purpose of the source is to make the Nazi Youth seem attractive and to get the German people to support the projects by giving money. This suggests that the Nazis feared that some young people did not want to join Nazi Youth groups. The use of propaganda such as this shows how important they saw the role for young people in Germany.

In conclusion, the interpretation and sources are very useful because they combine to help explain how propaganda, sports opportunities and being treated better than non-members helped the Hitler Youth grow from 1 million to almost 8 million by 1939. However, the statistics offer no detail about reasons for change and Source D is clear propaganda which shows the importance of the Youth Groups to the

Nazis. The most useful is interpretation D which gives both detail and some of the reasons for the increase in membership.

8* 'There was little effective opposition to the Nazis.'

How far do you agree with this view of Germany between 1933 and 1945?

[18]

<p>Plan</p> <p><u>Agree</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nazi control: Use of <i>gestapo</i>, concentration camps (e.g. Dachau) and destruction of political parties and trade unions. • Very little 1933-39 bar Swing Youth, Edelweiss Pirates. • Even at the end, Flying Court Martial, Hitler Youth and Volkssturm against Russians. 	<p><u>Disagree</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More when war going wrong e.g. Scholls in White Rose Group. • Passive Resistance such as joke books and "1918". • Army – 1944 July Bomb plot – 1000s killed.
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9* 'German occupation in the Second World War was, in general, far harsher in eastern Europe than in western Europe.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

<p>Plan</p> <p><u>Agree</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poland seen as <i>Lebensraum</i> in East to be destroyed and made part of Germany. Killings of teachers, politicians. • Poles seen as <i>Untermenschen</i> – treated as slave workers, told to show respect for Germans. • Ghettos and mass killing of Jews • In Netherlands, France, Channel Islands respect shown for race as seen as more equal. Many civil servants keep position. 	<p><u>Disagree</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After 1942/3, begin to deport Jews and use citizens as slave labour. Protests lead to imprisonment and killings. Many join the resistance. BUT never as bad or as deliberate as seen in East.
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Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (Practice Paper 1)

- 7 How useful are **Interpretations B** and **C** and **Source D** for a historian studying the work of the Gestapo between 1933 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the two interpretations and the source as well as your own knowledge?

[15]

The context for Source B is that Gestapo had a reputation for the use of torture such as beatings with rubber truncheons to get a confession. Interpretation B shows two Gestapo officers violently handling a woman. It tells us that the Gestapo are “vicious” and “sinister”. This suggests their work involved the ‘legitimised’ use of brutality against civilians. The purpose of this book cover of the book is designed to attract readers by using the Gestapo’s reputation for violence to encourage potential buyers. The fact that over 10 years later, this view of the Gestapo still exists suggests the original Nazi propaganda must have been powerful. It suggests that even years later the aim of striking fear into the opponents of the Nazis still exists.

The context for Source C is that we know from records that the public provided around a quarter of all evidence for the Gestapo with other police providing information and the Gestapo only identifying evidence in 15% of all cases. Source C is useful because it tells us how reliant the Gestapo were on co-operation from the public as they were “the single and most important cause for Gestapo arrests”. It suggests they weren’t actually a “dominant’ organisation” because of this reliance. The purpose of this source, written by a historian, is to provide research and hindsight and suggests that the importance of the Gestapo in identifying opposition in the first place was greatly exaggerated by other Nazi propaganda. This suggests that the Nazis were keen to emphasise the threat of the Gestapo and perhaps lead to so many denunciations through fear of the organisation.

The context for Interpretation D is that the Nazis believed that opposition could be greatly reduced through the use of the secret police. Many of these opponents were sent to concentration camps. Source D is useful because it tells us how the Nazis wanted the Gestapo to be seen. This is an “official machine” to protect the state and “is part of the struggle against threats to the State and must fight all dangers to the State”. This suggests that the Gestapo were a very important force in keeping the Nazi state secure and ridding the regime of opponents. The purpose of this announcement is to scare potential opponents. It is propaganda from a Nazi controlled newspaper designed to show the people that the Gestapo are all-powerful. This suggests that the government wanted the people to be afraid of the Gestapo as this would, they hoped, decrease opposition to them. It also suggests that Nazis knew the Gestapo could not do the job described and that propaganda was needed to increase fear to lead to the denunciations. I know that on average there was only 1 Gestapo agent for 4,400 people and, as before, they relied on the denunciations mentioned in Source C which existed because of fear of the Gestapo caused by announcements such as D.

Overall, this interpretation and the sources tell us the two sides of the Gestapo: that the government wanted people to be afraid of their power and for this to decrease opposition by punishing those who opposed the government (Source D). I believe Source C is the most useful because it reveals the truth that although the Gestapo did investigate and punish those who opposed the state, they relied on people’s fear of them to turn in others.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (Practice Paper 2)

- 7 How useful are **Sources B and C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying responses to Nazi rule in Europe?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge. **[15]**

The context for Source B is that Germans saw Poles as a second rate 'race' and wished to destroy Poland and make a Greater Germany Source B tells us that the Poles were to be treated as "the vanquished" and "show their respect" to the Germans who should be seen as "the victors". Uncovering heads, being served second and standing aside suggests that the Germans wished to humiliate the Poles as part of their rule. Many communists and members of the government were immediately killed or sent to concentration camps. The purpose of the source is to let the Poles know that these are official rules and suggests that the Germans wished to make the humiliation very public so that all knew.

The context for source C is that many French joined the Resistance and fought against the Germans, whilst others like Coco Chanel collaborated with them. Source C tells us that French women collaborated with the Germans during the war, and they had their heads shaved as a result. This suggests that whilst some were able to get on and collaborate with the Germans, others saw this as unacceptable. The purpose of the source is to show how angry many French people were with such collaboration which may suggest it was not uncommon but widely unpopular.

The context for interpretation D is that many joined the French resistance and opposed Nazi policies such as Trocme who saved up to 5000 Jews by helping them escape.

Interpretation D tells us that the act of sabotaging the Nazi war effort in France was seen as "glory" as depicted in the film. This suggests that the French hated Nazi rule and saw those who resisted as heroes. The purpose of the interpretation is to focus on the positivity of the resistance which may suggest that some were ashamed of those who collaborated with the Nazis.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2018)

6 What can **Source A** tell us about Hitler and the Nazi Party in January 1933?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

This source can tell us a lot about how the Nazi party wanted to be seen in January 1933.

The context for Source A is that the years before had seen high unemployment and chaos on the streets. This brought many changes to leadership as Germany struggled to cope. Hitler's position as Chancellor was uncertain with many voters and elite not supporting him. Many also thought the Nazis relied too much on the violence of the SA. Source A tells us that Hitler felt that Germany had been damaged and that restoring it would be "the most difficult task" that it had ever faced. It also says that Hitler blames this on "Fourteen years of communism". This suggests that he, as the new Chancellor of Germany, is facing many problems and that the communists are to blame for the situation. Hitler's message is also that, under his leadership, there is an opportunity for greatness. He then sets out what will be his aims – "racial and political unity" and sets a demanding target that "Within four years, unemployment must be overcome permanently". This suggests that the Nazis want to present themselves as the solution to the problems of the past and that people should trust them. This purpose of this radio speech is to present to the people the idea that the Nazis will solve these problems and unite the nation together. That they bring genuine hope and the people should support the Nazis. The use of such propaganda suggests that there was a need, in these early years, to persuade the people to support the Nazis. It suggests that the Nazis were willing to use propaganda as they knew that many of the public did not yet trust Hitler.

7 How useful are **Sources B and C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying total war in Germany between 1943 and 1945?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

The context for Source B is that this speech was made after the German advances in Russia had stopped and Germany was suffering from allied bombing raids. Source B tells us that Goebbels managed to get the people to respond to "total war" with the response "Führer: commands we follow". This suggests that the people are determined and willing to put up with the high demands of war and that their loyalty to Hitler continued. The purpose of this was propaganda by Goebbels who had whipped up the people into this state. The fact that he felt he needed to do this speech suggests that the Nazis were worried about how the people were responding and how good their morale was. The need for this propaganda suggests a genuine concern that the people were not going to continue their support and were fed up of war conditions.

The context for Source C is that the British had started bombing German cities in the same way that the British people had suffered from bombing from the Nazis. It tells us that the bombing had caused great destruction as the image is of chaos and confusion. This suggests that the British knew how devastating the bombing raids had been. The focus on the Nazi swastika in the middle is deliberate and shows the purpose of the source is propaganda designed to get the people to support the bombing of Germany. This suggests that the British government was concerned that the British people would not support the bombing as it reflected the destruction that they too had received. It is designed to get the British to support the bombing of Germany.

The context for Interpretation D is that it was done after the war by a historian seeking to re-evaluate Nazi Germany and Total War. It tells us that Germans who suffered during the war were "resupplied with furniture taken from the Jews" and that the benefits of taking from the Jews and

other defeated countries “made Germans open to Nazi propaganda and led them to support” the government. **This suggests** that the taking of Jewish and other property was vital to Nazi propaganda working and therefore suggests that the propaganda would have been less useful without this. It **suggests** that the Nazis were willing to do anything that would help them maintain morale which in turns **suggests** that this was a genuine concern for them during Total War.

8* ‘**Terror was more important than propaganda in controlling people in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939.**’

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

The Nazis used terror to ensure that most people were simply too frightened to oppose them or criticise them. The Nazis used the Gestapo, the secret state police, to monitor people’s everyday lives. They had many powers and could listen in on telephone conversations and open people’s mail. They also gathered information from informers, ordinary Germans who would inform on people they thought were anti-Nazi. The Gestapo could arrest people on suspicion of anti-Nazi activity, torture them and send them to concentration camps without trial. People were so scared that they could be arrested themselves that they readily informed on their neighbours. This use of terror was highly effective.

The Nazis also used terror through the use of concentration camps. These were created in 1933 as a way of ridding the country of potential opponents. Camps such as Dachau were used for “re-education”. Treatment included torture, hard labour and killings. The Nazis made the general public aware of such camps and therefore created a very real fear of them. People would disappear at night and communists, socialists and Jews were often targeted as well as anyone reported as being “un-Nazi”. The fear of such camps meant that people were terrified of being reports and this was an effective means of keeping control.

On the other hand, propaganda was also an important tool in keeping control. Joseph Goebbels, head of the ministry of propaganda, made sure that the German people were bombarded with Nazi messages throughout their daily lives to control the people. Posters criticised the Jews and glorified Hitler, and loudspeakers were set up in public places throughout Germany to get Nazi messages across to the people. Propaganda was also present in newspapers as Goebbels’ ministry told newspapers exactly what they were allowed to print and the type of illustrations they were allowed to include — the Nazi message would always be presented. When people are constantly fed the same message over and over again eventually many of them will begin to believe it, and this was the aim of Nazi propaganda. People were basically told what to think.

Propaganda went hand in hand with censorship. There was very strict control of exactly what the German people could see and hear. Radio broadcasting was controlled by the ministry of propaganda and foreign broadcasts could not be picked up. This meant that German people could not listen to anything that could undermine the Nazi message. German radio broadcasts included the speeches of Hitler, German music and German history. Censorship of books also meant that German people were only allowed to read what the Nazis wanted. Books by Jews, Communists and Socialists were destroyed in official book burnings, as were books by anyone of whom the Nazis disapproved. Any new book published was censored by Goebbels’ ministry. Again this meant that people were controlled by being told what to read as they could only read books containing the Nazi message.

It is true to say that propaganda was a highly effective way of controlling the German people, but it was not the most effective way. On its own propaganda would certainly have brainwashed many Germans into total acceptance of the Nazi regime, but there would still have been many who would not necessarily have accepted what they were told. The use of terror meant that even if they did not accept the propaganda, people were simply too scared for their own safety and the safety of their families to act against the Nazis. They felt it was best to keep quiet and accept the way things were. It

was not worth risking lives to criticise the Nazis. The use of terror, in my view, was far more effective as a way of controlling the German people.

9* 'Nazi policies made the lives of German people worse between 1933 and 1939.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

Life for Jews certainly became worse in this time period. One of the effects of Nazi was the attack on Jewish shops and businesses. This began immediately after Hitler came to power with the SA bullying and intimidating Jews on the streets and standing in front of Jewish shops to enforce a boycott. This persecution was stepped up and soon to become more formalised in law in the 1935 Nuremberg Laws. These denied German citizenship to Jews and banned Germans from marrying Jews. Finally, Kristallnacht, in 1938, saw the government state it would not protect Jews and some officials actively took part in the persecution. This pogrom saw attacks on 814 shops and almost 200 synagogues. It was a significant step towards violence from the initial 1933 boycott because about 100 Jews were killed. Even worse, Jews were fined 1 billion marks to pay for the damage and the SS began to round up Jews and send them to concentration camps.

Although some German woman approved of the policies, many would argue that the Nazi party had a negative effect upon the status and role of women in Germany. Women had three core aims via the 3Ks, of children, church and kitchen. Women had to produce offspring for the state and be the perfect housewife. Alongside needing to reproduce, women were not meant to work and had to keep to an image of a natural woman including no make and no dieting. However, with the onset of the war economy, Nazi policy to remove women from the workplace failed as there were not enough men to do the work so women were employed alongside men in the armaments factories. Some women enjoyed the focus on the role of wife and mother whilst others saw the restrictions as worsening their lives.

It could be argued that the Nazis had a positive effect on children. Through the Hitler Youth, boys were being prepared to become soldiers, which aided future unemployment, through military drills and fitness on weekends away. The success of the Hitler Youth was evident in the numbers that joined, even more so once in was made compulsory in 1936. However, indoctrination of the youth was furthered within education as students were taught alongside Nazi ideology including race studies and physical education. German children, as a result, became loyal Nazis which added to the success of the police state as children informed the state of their own parents and so heightened this sense of fear that was in Germany. Parents became frightened of their own children and there were punishments for not sending your children to Hitler youth camps.

For workers too, there were positives and negatives. One positive example was the reduction in the number of unemployed. When they came to power in 1933 there were up to 6 million people out of work. By 1939 this had been reduced to the 'official' figure of 35,000. However, life worsened as there was a lack of wage increases and workers lost key rights. For instance, in 1933 trade unions were banned and workers were forced to join the DAF. This was important because they lost the legal right to go on strike. Also, although wages went up so did the cost of living such as food prices. This meant that in reality, although they had job security the standard of living did not improve in a material sense.

It is difficult to fully judge the positives that Nazi policy brought. Whilst workers, women and young people also saw some improvements, this always came with a lack of freedom, indoctrination or other negatives. Even those who liked Nazi policy were likely to suffer from restrictions. And it is beyond doubt that the life of Jews became significantly worse as a result of Nazi policies.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2019)

6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Holocaust?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

The context for Source A is that we know that after the Wannsee Conference the Final Solution was to be the deliberate mass killing of Jews in murder camps like Treblinka and Auschwitz. Source A tells us about the Holocaust because it says “a heap of bodies” were the result of gassings. This suggests that there were a lot of killings which is also supported by the fact that it says “the crematorium can’t keep up with the numbers of bodies”. It also says that the Nazis told people to undress “allegedly for a bath”. This suggests that the Nazis wanted to keep the Jews calm so the process could be undertaken efficiently. The purpose of the source is for the writer to get more film rolls so that they can record and expose the truth. This suggests that there was a resistance, and that people were beginning to hear of what was going on but that more evidence is needed to show the world the truth about the Holocaust.

7 How useful are **Sources B and C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying the establishment of the Nazi dictatorship between January and July 1933?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

The context for Source B is that the Communists were the greatest threat to the Nazi party and by eliminating them as a political force, Hitler would grow in power. Source B tells us that the Nazis used the Reichstag Fire to attack the Communist Party. The newspaper tells that the Communists started the fire and follow up by saying “Signs of a Communist uprising”, calling them “terrorists”. This suggests that the Nazis are presenting the fire as undoubtedly a Communist conspiracy. The fact is then goes on to say “All communists MPs arrested” and their newspapers banned” suggests that they are right to follow up the fire with definite actions, using the law against them. The purpose of this source, a Nazi newspaper, is to win over the public and to present their actions as justifiable and within the law. This propaganda aimed to make the government’s actions acceptable.

The context for interpretation D is that many in Germany feared these new camps with people being taken away by the SA. Source C tells us that Dachau is now “a modern camp for political prisoners” with a consistent image of “cleanliness, order, light and air”. This suggests that this is a good camp and Nazi transformation of it has been positive. It further states that the inmates are “unclean people who oppose the Nazi Volk community”. This suggests that the punishment is fitting and a good thing for the community. The words “looming sword” associated with concentration camp suggest it would be a deterrent for opponents of the state. The purpose of this source is to reassure the general public that the Nazis are being fair, above the law and protecting them. The Nazis knew that the truth would not always be acceptable and it was part of the Nazis use of propaganda to make the government more popular.

8* 'The lives of all workers improved as a result of Nazi policies between 1933 and 1939.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

One positive example of how German workers' lives improved was the reduction in the number of unemployed. When they came to power in 1933 there were up to 6 million people out of work. By 1939 this had been reduced to the 'official' figure of 35,000. This was important because having a job gave these workers a better standard of living and hope for Germany's future.

Secondly, many workers did benefit from job security provided by the Nazi's focus on re-armament creating industrial jobs. They were also provided with bonuses by the Strength through Joy (KDF) which rewarded good workers with cheap holidays and cheap access to theatres and leisure activities. The Beauty of Labour organisation provided improved working conditions in workplaces by building toilets and showers. This was important because many workers felt valued by the government and Nazi Party.

However, it could be argued that many workers did not benefit much because many of the jobs were created by the RAD. This was created to provide cheap labour to build new motorways and dams. Unemployed 18-25 year olds were made to serve for 6 months living in poor conditions with harsh discipline and low wages aimed at preparing them for the army. This is a key point because it was good for propaganda but the workers did not benefit much personally.

Finally, another downside for workers was a lack of wage increases and their loss of rights. For instance, in 1933 trade unions were banned and workers were forced to join the DAF. This was important because they lost the legal right to go on strike. Also, although wages went up so did the cost of living such as food prices. This meant that in reality, although they had job security the standard of living did not improve in a material sense.

Overall, it is clear that there were mixed results for German workers between 1933 and 1939. I believe that to a reasonable extent their lives did improve because the fear of unemployment was removed which benefited more people than those who lost out due to loss of rights and a stagnant standard of living.

9* 'The German people supported the war between 1939 and 1945.'

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

There were some occasions where it was clear that the people did support the war. For example, the parades and celebrations that occurred in 1940 after the string of victories over Poland, France, Netherlands, Belgium and British armies in Europe suggest a degree of support. Later on, in 1943, Goebbels' Total War speech saw people cheering enthusiastically for longer days. However, this was clearly propaganda and does not necessarily show full support.

One way we can measure support is to examine the levels of opposition. During the war, despite problems with rationing and the impact of the Allied bombing raids on Germany, most opposition was isolated, low-level and ineffective. For example, there was one example of a woman who publicly painted "1918" as a reminder about German losses in World War, only to find it painted over the next day. Opposition included Joke Books about the Nazis but even then was rare because of the risk of being sent for "Re-education". Even when news reached home of Nazi defeats in the war and of atrocities in the East and against Jews, there was no widespread opposition. This suggests there may have been some support for the war.

On the other hand, it could be said that there were a number of high-profile cases of effective opposition to the Nazis. Cardinal Galen was too powerful to be under the normal threat of arrest and being sent to a concentration camp, and in 1941 he made 3 sermons whose content was widely spread, criticising Nazi policies on murder and concentration camps, the confiscation of Church property and the T4 Euthanasia programme. Although this was not directed against the war effort, it can be no accident that it occurred only once the war had started. The fact that Galen felt the need to take this to the people during the war suggests that perhaps many people were beginning to stop supporting the war. This would be increasingly so after 1943 when failures in North Africa and stalling campaigns in Russia made many people consider whether Germany was losing the war.

Opposition increased as it became clear that the Nazis were losing the war. Bonhoeffer helped Jews to escape after 1943, the White Rose distributed pamphlets asking Germans to oppose Hitler and, in 1944, Colonel Van Stauffenberg launched Operation Valkyrie to kill Hitler and remove the SS and Gestapo. These were high profile cases and were widely known. Although Bonhoeffer died in a concentration camp, the Scholl's were executed and Stauffenberg and 7000 others were killed as a result, the fact that there was the feeling that Hitler needed to be overthrown suggests that people were faltering in their support for the war and for Hitler.

Overall, people largely publicly supported the war-effort and Hitler through the early victories of the war although it is hard to measure how genuine this was due to fear of the secret police and the heavy use of propaganda to suggest widespread joy with the regime and the war. There was little effective opposition until 1943 and even then it was limited to religious or military groups. Ultimately, despite huge losses and great hardship, the Hitler Youth and Volkssturm fought on for Hitler until his death in Berlin in 1945 and it was only then that the Nazi regime and the war effort was properly opposed and the Nazis fell from power.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2020)

6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Nazi dictatorship in July 1934?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

The context for this source is that the SA and Rohm had been seen as a threat by Hitler because the SA were rivalling the army for size and power and it was believed that Rohm himself might one day challenge Hitler. The Night of Long Knives removed the SA's leadership and ended this perceived threat and Nazi propaganda portrayed Rohm as having led a coup to threaten the dictatorship and to peace. Source A tells us that the people greeted the Night of the Long Knives with a "sigh of relief" and saw it like a "purifying thunderstorm". This suggests that the people were relieved and pleased that it had happened and that the clash between the SA, led by Rohm, and Hitler was over. MANY HAD SEEN THIS AS A THREAT TO THE NAZI DICTATORSHIP. The purpose of this source is for the Gestapo to investigate how the Night of the Long Knives is seen. It deliberately suggest that the people were happy and then tries to suggest that the "excesses" were seen as going "against the will of the Fuhrer". The report will have been read by Hitler to this suggests that they wanted Hitler to feel that it had been successful, that the people supported the Nazi dictatorship and didn't blame Hitler for the excess deaths that "shocked" many people. This suggests how even the Gestapo wanted to please Hitler.

7 How useful are **Sources B and C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying control and opposition in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

The context for Source B is that Goebbels's propaganda was everywhere and included measures such as the Editor's Law which meant editors could be held responsible personally should their newspaper publish anything negative. People were also terrified of the Gestapo taking them in for any sign of discontent. Source B tells us that many people feel "discontent" but few "deliberately criticise the regime". It blames propaganda for forcing people to have "two faces" where they privately criticise the regime whilst publicly "beam with optimism and contentment". This suggests that the Nazis have been successful reducing opposition, encouraging public support and creating fear of sharing the fate of the Jews. It suggests that people may not be unhappy but are not willing to let others know this. The purpose of this source is to let Socialist in exile know the truth about what is going on. As such it is likely to be accurate and the report suggests that, despite some discontent, there was little chance of any opposition.

The context for Source C is that by this point Hitler had full control of propaganda. The Olympics, rallies, radio, newspapers, arts and theatre were all under control of Goebbels's Ministry for Propaganda and were able to portray Hitler in such ways to the people. Source C shows us Hitler surrounded by an adoring public, a strong and organised army and hardworking people with the background of a picturesque Germany behind the Swastika. This suggests that Hitler had been successful in uniting Germany and making the country powerful and happy again. The purpose of this source is propaganda, designed to show Hitler as the protector of the land. The fact that such propaganda was still used in 1938 suggests that the Nazis continued to see it as an important tool in controlling the people. The fact that it was from Munich suggests that propaganda was used all over the country and this piece may be a celebration of Hitler's coup in 1923 as a way of focusing on the positives that Nazi rule had brought

The context for Interpretation D is that the Nazi Youth had been deliberately used as a way of influencing the public with membership compulsory from 1936 and attendance compulsory from 1939.

Interpretation D tells us that the Hitler Youth went on “frequent marches”, that the “police had to stop the traffic” and “pedestrians had to raise their arm in the Nazi salute”. **This suggests that** the Nazi Youth marches were very highly coordinated and used as a way of emphasising Nazi power. We are told “it was always into the working class quarters to remind the workers”. **This suggests** that this was deliberate act and perhaps a threat to these families of both the Nazi power and the control they had over their children. **The purpose of this source** is to give an account of the use of the Nazi Youth. The doubt and confusion shown by the writer (“I sometimes wondered”) **suggests** how much control they had over the population and how there would have been largely unaware of how they were being manipulated at the time.

Overall, this collect of sources together are useful because they tell us that the Nazis used a range of methods to control the population including vast amounts of propaganda combined with the threat of terror should people oppose the regime. **The best source is Source B**, the Socialists’ report, because it shows that there was discontent but that propaganda combined with the threat of terror meant people complied and didn’t day resist.

8* ‘The Second World War had a negative impact on the German people between 1939 and 1945.’

How far do you agree with this view?

[18]

One way in which the war had a negative effect on the German people is in the initial restrictions brought in by the government. In the winter of 1939-40, temperatures were very low and many schools and businesses were closed. People were forced to forage for firewood and people also suffered with rationing. However, despite these problems, rationing never hit the levels of World War One and there was little opposition above localised moaning.

The people also suffered from a bombing campaign as the war progressed. Although an evacuation programme was set-up for children, many parents didn’t send their children due to a fear of Nazi indoctrination. 40,000 people died in the firestorm caused by bombing in Hamburg and many more died in Berlin and in other cities.

In the early days of the war, many people found pride in the news of repeated German victories as Poland, Netherlands, Belgium and France fell with the British held to their own lands. However, after 1943, losses in Russia and North Africa started having an impact on the German population. Not only did they suffer through deaths and worries about those fighting on the frontline, but many started to turn against the regime showing the negative effect. The leaflets distrusted by the White Rose Group and the 1944 Von Stauffenberg bomb plot suggest that the war was having a negative effect on the people.

On the other hand, there were some occasions where it was clear that the war had a positive effect. For example, in 1943, Goebbels’ Total War speech saw people cheering enthusiastically for longer working days. There was also some enthusiasm for the Volksturm which was created in 1944 and in the later years of the war, Hitler Youth members took up the fight against the Russians. However, so much of this involved propaganda and was accompanied by the threat of investigation by the Gestapo that it is difficult to fully assess how far this was a positive effect of the war.

Overall, despite some early enthusiasm at the early victories, and some determination at the end, it can only truly be said that the war was a negative experience. Deaths, casualties, bombing raid, rationing and a growing opposition suggest that for many, this was a very negative experience overall.

9* 'The most common response to Nazi occupation was collaboration.'

How far do you agree with this view of Nazi rule in Europe between 1939 and 1945? [18]

There is certainly a case that collaboration was a common response. After the fall of France, public buildings were covered in Swastikas whilst in the South, a free zone "Vichy France", saw general collaboration with Nazi policies. A similar story was seen in the Netherlands, at least at the beginning, where many public servants remained in place and ran Nazi-policies.

There were even some cases where people went beyond collaboration. For example, volunteers in Latvia killed communists and 26,000 Jews. In France, the famous fashion designer started a romance with a German intelligence officer and used Anti-Semitic legislation to remove directors from her perfume company.

On the other hand, there are also examples of resistance. There were significant resistance organisations in Poland and France who sabotaged Nazi plans. In France, Andre Trocme, a protestant pastor, arranged for the hiding of Jewish children and then arranged for 5000 Jews to escape to Switzerland. There were many other examples of such resistance.

Finally, towards the end of the war, there was a significant boost to resistance as it became clear that Germany was going to lose the war. The French resistance arranged attacks and passed intelligence to the allies whilst deportations of workers and Jews in the Netherlands, led to strikes and then many joining the resistance.

Overall, there were some cases of collaboration, especially early on in the war when German military strength meant it was difficult to resist. Although some did collaborate, I would argue that this was not the most "common response" and there were many examples of resistance. As the war entered 1944, this resistance increased as collaboration faded.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2021)

8* 'The reason why most Germans did not resist the Nazis was that they were afraid.'

How far do you agree with this view of Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939?

[18]

The Nazis used terror to ensure that most people were simply too afraid to oppose them or criticise them. The Nazis used the Gestapo, the secret state police, to monitor people's everyday lives. They had many powers and could listen in on telephone conversations and open people's mail. They also gathered information from informers, ordinary Germans who would inform on people they thought were anti-Nazi. The Gestapo could arrest people on suspicion of anti-Nazi activity, torture them and send them to concentration camps without trial. People were so scared that they could be arrested themselves that they readily informed on their neighbours. This use of terror was highly effective.

The Nazis also used terror through the use of concentration camps. These were created in 1933 as a way of ridding the country of potential opponents as people were too afraid to resist. Camps such as Dachau were used for "re-education". Treatment included torture, hard labour and killings. The Nazis made the general public aware of such camps and therefore created a very real fear of them. People would disappear at night and communists, socialists and Jews were often targeted as well as anyone reported as being "un-Nazi". The fear of such camps meant that people were terrified of being reports and this was an effective means of keeping control.

On the other hand, propaganda was also an important tool in keeping control. Joseph Goebbels, head of the ministry of propaganda, made sure that the German people were bombarded with Nazi messages throughout their daily lives to control the people. Posters criticised the Jews and glorified Hitler, and loudspeakers were set up in public places throughout Germany to get Nazi messages across to the people. Propaganda was also present in newspapers as Goebbels' ministry told newspapers exactly what they were allowed to print and the type of illustrations they were allowed to include — the Nazi message would always be presented. When people are constantly fed the same message repeatedly, eventually many of them will begin to believe it, and this was the aim of Nazi propaganda. People were basically told what to think.

Propaganda went hand in hand with censorship. There was very strict control of exactly what the German people could see and hear. Radio broadcasting was controlled by the ministry of propaganda and foreign broadcasts could not be picked up. This meant that German people could not listen to anything that could undermine the Nazi message. German radio broadcasts included the speeches of Hitler, German music and German history. Censorship of books also meant that German people were only allowed to read what the Nazis wanted. Books by Jews, Communists and Socialists were destroyed in official book burnings, as were books by anyone of whom the Nazis disapproved. Any new book published was censored by Goebbels' ministry. Again, this meant that people were controlled by being told what to read as they could only read books containing the Nazi message.

It is true to say that propaganda was a highly effective way of controlling the German people, but it was not the most effective way. On its own propaganda would certainly have brainwashed many Germans into total acceptance of the Nazi regime, but there would still have been many who would not necessarily have accepted what they were told. The use of terror meant that even if they did not accept the propaganda, people were simply too afraid for their own safety and the safety of their families to resist or act against the Nazis. They felt it was best to keep quiet and accept the way things were. It was not worth risking lives to criticise the Nazis. The use of terror, in my view, was far more effective as a way of controlling the German people.

9* 'Hitler's position of total power by August 1934 was achieved through legal means.'

How far do you agree with this view of Germany between January 1933 and August 1934? [18]

Hitler certainly used legal means such as the Reichstag Fire Act to achieve a position of power. On 27 February 1933 the Reichstag building was set on fire, and a Dutch Communist was discovered at the scene. Hitler took advantage of the situation and 4,000 Communist leaders were arrested by the police. Hitler used this opportunity to legally imprison a considerable number of his Communist rivals. The Reichstag Fire was also very important in establishing Hitler's total power in Germany because Hitler took further advantage of the situation created by the Reichstag Fire and persuaded President Hindenburg to pass an emergency decree. This decree was legal and gave Hitler emergency powers, and suspended German rights to personal freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of assembly. This meant that people could be arrested and held for as long as the police wanted without there having to be a trial, meetings of Hitler's political opponents could be banned legally and newspapers could be closed down. This gave Hitler huge powers to curtail the freedom and power of his political opponents, and to secure total power in Germany.

The control given to Hitler by the fire was followed up with the Enabling Act which was achieved through legal means but took advantage of loopholes to use the threat of violence to put pressure on Reichstag representatives. Hitler used Emergency Powers granted by the Reichstag Fire Act arrest opponents. He then used the SA to intimidate political rivals and to pass the Enabling Act. This gave Hitler the power to pass laws without consulting and gaining the approval of the Reichstag and the president for the next four years. This meant that Hitler could now make all the decisions himself and basically do exactly what he wanted to and was effectively the dictator of Germany. The law itself was legal but Hitler had allowed its passing through moves which included the threat of violence.

Thirdly, using the powers of the Enabling Act, in May 1933 Hitler legally curtailed the powers of trade unions by making all trade unions into one big organisation controlled by the Nazis — the German Labour Front. Workers now had no independent union to guard their rights; Hitler had total power over them. This was followed by banning the formation of any new political party in Germany. The Social Democratic Party and the Communist Party had already been banned and other smaller parties had been dissolved. This meant there was now only one political party in Germany — the Nazis. Hitler's grasp on power in Germany was even stronger. Because of the Enabling Act, this was a legal move.

Finally, the Night of the Long Knives used the cover of a supposed uprising by Rohm to gain further power. Hitler was worried that Röhm, the leader of the SA, was becoming far too powerful and could prove a threat to Hitler's power. In June 1934 on the Night of the Long Knives, SA leaders were taken from their homes and delivered to the headquarters of the Nazis, where they were shot dead. A potential threat had been removed and Hitler's power was more secure. It is questionable how legal this was, but by now there was little way to oppose Hitler so he was able to use the cover of the Rohm coup to rid himself of opponents, claiming that it was an emergency and so required immediate action which he claimed was legal.

Overall, Hitler used legal moves following on from the Reichstag Fire and the Enabling Act to gain full powers of a dictator. Each one was passed by the required body but often included the use or threat of violence. In this way, it can be said that Hitler's seizure of power was legal but was reinforced by causing fear and threatening those who found it impossible to prevent the laws being passed.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2022)

6 What can **Source A** tell us about wartime opposition in Nazi Germany?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

The context for this source is that by 1943 the German cities were experiencing bombing raids and many of the public were aware that the war was going badly in the East. Source A tells us there was wartime opposition included youths “writing slogans like ‘Down with Nazi brutality’ on walls”. This suggests that opposition included young people and that they had become aware of issues that could be termed ‘brutality’. It suggests that they were brave enough now to take the risk to write slogans despite the risk of getting caught. The purpose of this source is to inform the Gestapo of levels of opposition at this point. The fact that this is being reported to the Gestapo suggests that the Nazis were genuinely worried about these levels of opposition and felt that they needed to do something about it.

7 How useful are **Sources B and C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying Nazi camps in occupied Europe?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

The context for Source B is that the Nazis did build both concentration camps and killings camps such as Auschwitz to kill Jews and others during this time period. Source B shows us that the Nazi camps in occupied Europe included groups of people being taken to buildings in the woods. The fact that they are wearing stars suggests that these are Jews and the building has chimneys which suggests it is a gas chamber. Together, these facts suggest the camps were kept secret and were used for the mass murder of Jews. The purpose of this drawing is a secret drawing designed to show what happened at these camps. The fact that the sketch, and another 31 sketches, was kept secret suggests that Jews were willing and able to take risks to try to let the world know what is happening. This suggests the Nazis did not have full control on keeping the camps secret.

The context for Source C is that the Nazis, by now, had begun the “Final Solution” which involved the mass killing of Jews and they did not want the world to know about this. Source C shows Jewish women being “comfortable” in their living quarters and men being allowed to play football in the camps. This suggests that they are being well treated by the Nazis and given a certain amount of freedom. The purpose of the source is propaganda to give the impression to neutral countries that there was nothing to worry about in their treatment of the Jews. This suggests that the Nazis are worried by rumours about the killing of Jews and perhaps fear an uprising against their rule. The propaganda is aimed to hide their true actions.

Interpretation D tells us of a “mass escape” from a death camp. It tells us it was brave because they had to save every prisoner for fear of “revenge by the SS”. This suggests that there were occasions when Jews could break out of the death camps. The fear of revenge suggests that the Nazis had made it clear to the Jews of the consequences of escaping, suggesting they had wanted to terrify them into not trying to escape. The purpose of the source is to sell the story of this escape to potential viewers. It emphasises the bravery needed. This suggests that even over 40 years later, many people were not aware that there were attempts to escape these camps suggesting that many people believed the Nazis had total control.

8* 'The lives of women and girls became worse as a result of Nazi policies.'

How far do you agree with this view of Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939?

[20]

It could be said that life for girls and women did become worse between 1933-39 as a result of Nazi policies which dictated how women should lead their lives. For example, there were very clear rules that women were expected to follow. They were expected not to smoke, not to wear make-up and wear traditional clothing and hairstyles. Failure to do so could lead to pressure to change and ultimately risked being reported to the Gestapo for being "un-German".

Some would argue that the Nazis believed that women were only of use to them as bearers of children. As a result, they were given incentives to marry with marriage loans and these could be discounted with reductions of 25% with each child. Many felt that this made their lives worse as the focus was almost exclusively on the children (and husband) and not the woman herself.

As they tried to get women to marry and bear children, many argue the Nazis made women's lives worse as they shortened their ability to get an education and have a career. Women were actively discouraged from university and a married woman would be forced to give up her job. This was true even in the German League of Maidens where the focus, unlike for boys, was on sewing, cleaning and cooking. The Nazis made their lives worse because they only saw them as future mothers.

On the other hand, the Nazis could argue that they made lives for women better. There was, for an example, a minister for women and 2 million women joined the National Socialist Women's League. Women were given a high status in the Nazi ideal of a family and were expected to focus on the 3 Ks – kinder (children), Kuche (kitchen) and Kirche (church). In this way it could be argued that the Nazis gave women high status. However, many women would disagree and would argue that this simply made them mothers and wives rather than women with their own status.

Overall, it is very clear that the Nazis had a very strict control on the expectations for women. For some, who agreed with Nazi policy, there could have been a feeling of being raised and honoured. However, these strict controls and expectations would have meant that most women felt restricted in their choices and freedoms and therefore life got worse.

9* 'The most serious threat to the Nazis came from the Churches.'

How far do you agree with this view of opposition to the Nazis in Germany between 1933 and 1939?

[20]

There was some significant opposition from the church in these years. Probably the most famous of these was Cardinal Galen who used his prominent position to produce sermons criticising the Nazis. His prominent position made him difficult to remove and so he represented some resistance. He was supported by people such Niemoller who founded his own non-Nazi church. He and others then preached against the Nazis. However, many, including Niemoller himself, were subsequently arrested and sent to concentration camps. Nevertheless, the church had shown perhaps the greatest sign of opposition.

On the other hand, it could be argued that the Catholic church produced very little opposition. The Pope signed the Concordat with Hitler which meant that they would respect each other, and this included no opposition to the Nazis from the Catholics. Years later, the Pope would write a public letter "With Burning Anxiety" condemning the Nazis but his actions show that the church was not necessarily the greatest opponent of the Nazis in the early years.

An alternative form of opposition came from youth groups. Groups such as the Edelweiss Pirates and the Swing Youth deliberately chose non-Nazi approaches. The Swing Youth would listen to jazz music

whilst the Edelweiss Pirates went as far as to physically attack the SS. Their actions worried the Nazis but, in truth, they made little real impact on the regime.

There is some evidence from the left in the years up to 1939. The Red Orchestra distributed leaflets and the Social Democrats ran opposition groups in the initial years after Hitler had taken over. However, their failure to work together and their infiltration by Nazi double-agents meant that this opposition was quite limited.

Overall, the truth is that there was minimal resistance to the Nazis in these years. The church provided some form of resistance through Galen and Niemoller but this was limited and much was undone but the Catholic concordat. On the other hand, other opposition provided by youth groups was an annoyance but had little greater impact whilst opposition from the Left was divided and short-lived. As such, the greatest opposition to the Nazis could be said to come from the church but even this was patchy.

Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 (2023)

6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Nazi government in March 1933?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

The **context** is that it occurs not long after the Reichstag Fire at a point when the Nazis are trying to consolidate power. Source A **tells us** that the Enabling Act was introduced “to create stability” and to fight against “the evils of Communism”. This **suggests** that it was necessary and a positive reason. It also **tells us** that the government “is not motivated by a desire to get rid of the Reichstag.” This **suggests** that the Nazis respected the Reichstag and democracy. The **purpose** of this source is to explain the reason for the Enabling Act and to justify it and to explain why it was being enacted. This **suggests** that the Nazis were worried about the reaction they might get to it passing. This **suggests** that they feared a negative reaction and may be opposition **suggesting** that they knew it was controversial.

7 How useful are **Sources B and C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying Nazi occupation in western Europe between 1940 and 1945?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

The **context** for Source B is that it takes part in Netherlands whilst the Nazis were occupying during World War Two. Source B **tells us** that men from the Netherlands were invited to join the Waffen SS for “honour and conscience” and to make “a stand against Communism”. This **suggests** that it was seen as a fitting and honourable thing for Dutch men to fight for the Nazis. As the Waffen SS was part of the SS it **suggests** that they agreed with the principles of the SS which included their approach to race relations and Jews. The **purpose** of Source B is to encourage Dutch men to join the SS and to see it as a positive. This **suggests** that the Nazis wanted to recruit more people from Netherlands to join which may **suggest** they were short of members. It may also **suggest** that the Nazis believed the Dutch men would be open to joining up but needed persuading to do so.

The **context** for Source C is that it takes place during the Nazi occupation of Netherlands in 1943, a time when Germany was beginning to face opposition and threats from invasion. Source C **tells us** that Dutch ex-soldiers were to be “transported to Germany to work as labourers and to not do so would mean being sent to a “German prison camp”. This **suggests** that the Nazis were willing to use force to get ex-soldiers to fight. It also **tells us** that there was a request for resistance and says “the Beast is not yet defeated”. This **suggests** that there is a resistance from the Dutch and that by 1943 there may have been some complacency about defeating the Nazis. The **purpose** of this newspaper is to inform the Dutch people what was going on. It **suggests that** there was resistance but the Nazis were trying to stop it as the newspaper was illegal. It **suggests** that the sending of ex-soldiers to the prisons or for forced labour was unpopular and led to resistance in the Netherlands.

The **context** for D is that it was done a long time after the war by a historian looking back at Nazi occupation of Europe. Interpretation D **tells us** that the Nazis could use minorities to “administer and police the local territory” in occupied nations and instead could “rely on others to do it for them”. It gives the example of releasing “Flemish speaking Belgian prisoners of war” but not doing the same for French speaking ones. This **suggests** that the Nazis were willing to use local issues to help them to control an area. It **suggests** that they are clever in the way they manage issues locally.

9* 'Between 1933 and 1939, the main way the Nazis controlled the German people was by winning them over with popular policies.'

How far do you agree?

[20]

It could be argued that the Nazis had a positive effect on children and may have won many over through this method. Through the Hitler Youth, boys were being prepared to become soldiers, which aided future unemployment, through military drills and fitness on weekends away. The success of the Hitler Youth was evident in the numbers that joined, even more so once it was made compulsory in 1936. However, indoctrination of the youth was furthered within education as students were taught alongside Nazi ideology including race studies and physical education. German children, as a result, became loyal Nazis which added to the success of the police state as children informed the state of their own parents and so heightened this sense of fear that was in Germany. However, some parents became frightened of their own children and there were punishments for not sending your children to Hitler youth camps.

It could be argued that Nazi policy on women won over some but it also true that this was not the case for everyone. Women had three core aims via the 3Ks, of children, church and kitchen. Women had to produce offspring for the state and be the perfect housewife. Alongside needing to reproduce, women were not meant to work and had to keep to an image of a natural woman including no make and no dieting. However, with the onset of the war economy, Nazi policy to remove women from the workplace failed as there were not enough men to do the work so women were employed alongside men in the armaments factories. Some women enjoyed the focus on the role of wife and mother whilst others saw the restrictions as worsening their lives.

For workers, there is an argument that some were won over by popular policies. One positive example was the reduction in the number of unemployed. When they came to power in 1933 there were up to 6 million people out of work. By 1939 this had been reduced to the 'official' figure of 35,000. However, life worsened as there was a lack of wage increases and workers lost key rights. For instance, in 1933 trade unions were banned and workers were forced to join the DAF. This was important because they lost the legal right to go on strike. Also, although wages went up so did the cost of living such as food prices. This meant that in reality, although they had job security the standard of living did not improve in a material sense and so it can't be said that it was a popular policy by 1939 as many realised the reality behind the policies.

Nazi policy on Jews would have won some over but certainly not everyone. One of the effects of the Nazis being in power was the attack on Jewish shops and businesses. This began immediately after Hitler came to power with the SA bullying and intimidating Jews on the streets and standing in front of Jewish shops to enforce a boycott. This persecution was stepped up and soon to become more formalised in law in the 1935 Nuremberg Laws. These denied German citizenship to Jews and banned Germans from marrying Jews. Finally, Kristallnacht, in 1938, saw the government state it would not protect Jews and some officials actively took part in the persecution. This pogrom saw attacks on 814 shops and almost 200 synagogues. It was a significant step towards violence from the initial 1933 boycott because about 100 Jews were killed. Even worse, Jews were fined 1 billion marks to pay for the damage and the SS began to round up Jews and send them to concentration camps. There would have been some who liked these policies and would have won them over. However, this was not the case for everyone and clearly not for the Jewish communities themselves.

Many people may have liked Nazi policies, particularly at the start. However, whilst workers, women and young people saw some improvements, this always came with a lack of freedom, indoctrination or other negatives. Even those who liked Nazi policy were likely to suffer from restrictions especially the Jews themselves. Overall, the fact that the Nazis had to use harsh policies like the use of concentration camps and the work of the Gestapo, together with large amounts of propaganda such as the control of newspapers and radio, shows you that popular policies were not enough alone to win over the population.

Living Under Nazi Rule, 1933-1945 (2024)

6 What can Source A tell us about Germany towards the end of the Second World War?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

The **context** for Source A is that by early 1945 Germany was constantly being bombed and was now clearly losing the war. Source A **tells us** that the Nazis were determined not to lose Frankfurt with the phrase "Frankfurt will be held!". This **suggests** that the people were united and strong enough to defend their cities and keep the war effort going. It is a piece of **propaganda** which is being used with the **purpose** of keeping people's morale high and keeping them fighting. This **suggests** that the Nazis were worried that people had given up hope and would not fight for their cities, otherwise they would not need this type of propaganda.

7 How useful are Sources B and C and Interpretation D for a historian studying Nazi control of Germany in 1933?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

The **context** for Interpretation B is that it happened long after the war by a historian trying to investigate factors and reasons for Nazi control. Interpretation B **tells us** that the Nazis had control over the people with the fact that a former Social Democrat was "questioned by the Gestapo at least twenty times". This **suggests** that the Nazis were very active in trying to find potential opposition and also **suggests** that people were right to be scared of the secret police, the Gestapo. The **purpose** of the source was for the historian to show how active the Gestapo were. This **suggests** that the historian believes it is important for people to realise how controlling the Nazis were.

The **context** for Source C is that it takes place on the Boycott of Jewish shops, just 4 months into Nazi control. Source C **tells us** that the Nazis issued orders telling people to "Boycott all Jewish businesses" and "Don't go to Jewish lawyers or doctors". This **suggests** that the Nazis were determined to make life as difficult as possible for Jews in Germany. The **purpose** of the source is to ensure that everyone followed the Jewish Boycott on April 1st. This **suggests** that the Nazis were organising every part of the boycott and not leaving it down to individuals. This **suggests** both that the Nazis were very well organised but also that they were worried that there may not have been enough support for the boycott on its own, and that people needed to be told to do the boycott rather than willingly do so.

The **context** for Source D is that by 1933 the Nazis had used concentration camps to put any opponents of Hitler. It **tells us** that prisoners were placed in Dachau Camp. They are standing in line with shaved heads. This **suggests** that discipline was high and there was little room for inmates to disobey. This **suggests** that punishments are used for those not doing what they are told. The **purpose of this source** is to show people what happens in the camps. This **suggests** that the Nazis want to use fear of the Concentration Camp to ensure people do what they are told. It suggests that fear is a major part of the Nazi's tools in gaining control.

8* 'In the period January 1933 to August 1934, the passing of new laws was the most important method Hitler used to gain total power.'

How far do you agree?

Give reasons for your answer.

[18]

The Reichstag Fire Law of February 1933 was one of the most important new laws that allowed Hitler to gain power. On 27 February 1933 the Reichstag building was set on fire, and a Dutch Communist was discovered at the scene. Hitler took advantage of the situation and 4,000 Communist leaders were arrested by the police. Hitler used this opportunity to imprison a considerable number of his Communist rivals. The Reichstag Fire was also very important in establishing Hitler's total power in Germany because Hitler took further advantage of the situation created by the Reichstag Fire and persuaded President Hindenburg to pass an emergency decree. This decree gave Hitler emergency powers, and suspended German rights to personal freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of assembly. This meant that people could be arrested and held for as long as the police wanted without there having to be a trial, meetings of Hitler's political opponents could be banned legally and newspapers could be closed down. This gave Hitler huge powers to curtail the freedom and power of his political opponents, and to secure total power in Germany. It would be very difficult for anyone to oppose him.

A further law that gave Hitler more control was the Enabling Act. Hitler used Emergency Powers granted by the Reichstag Fire Act arrest opponents. He then used the SA to intimidate political rivals and to pass the Enabling Act. This gave Hitler the power to pass laws without consulting and gaining the approval of the Reichstag and the president for the next four years. This meant that Hitler could now make all the decisions himself and basically do exactly what he wanted to and was effectively the dictator of Germany.

On the other hand, it wasn't just new laws, but instead acts of violence that was most important. The Night of the Long Knives was, for example, also very important in Hitler gaining total power. Hitler was worried that Röhm, the leader of the SA, was becoming far too powerful and could prove a threat to Hitler's power. In June 1934 on the Night of the Long Knives, SA leaders were taken from their homes and delivered to the headquarters of the Nazis, where they were shot dead. A potential threat had been removed and Hitler's power was more secure.

Finally, a change to the constitution after the death of President Hindenburg was also very important. Hitler was now able to declare himself to be president as well as chancellor. He gave himself the title 'Führer' — he held the two most important positions in Germany, so he now had total power in Germany. This was followed up by getting the army to swear an oath of loyalty to Hitler. This was arguably more important than various laws because it would ensure Hitler could fully control the army and gain their loyalty over the next few year.

Overall, it can be seen that the passing of new laws was extremely important. The Reichstag Fire Act removed Communist opposition and the Enabling Act then allowed trade unions to be shut down and other political parties to be banned as well as meaning the Nazis could gain greater control without having to go to the Reichstag. This was followed up by the Night of the Long knives which removed internal opposition and the death of Hindenburg allowed Hitler to become Fuhrer. Although these last two were not new laws completely, it was the passing of new laws like the Enabling Act which meant all of this was possible.

9* 'The key turning point in the development of Nazi anti-Jewish policy was the use of the Einsatzgruppen in 1941.'

How far do you agree?

Give reasons for your answer.

[18]

The use of the Einsatzgruppen in 1941 was certainly a turning point. Invasion of the east and USSR led to a change in policy, especially as Jews were also linked to Marxism and the Slavs were seen themselves as inferior. This was the beginning of the 3rd and final solution which was the murder of Jews in occupied territory. However, it can be seen that even at this point, these murders were not highly organised with various killing squads, or Einsatzgruppen, carrying out mass murder by taking groups of Jews into secluded wooded areas and shooting them there. Over 1 million Jews were killed by the Einsatzgruppen. It would be concerns about the psychological damage caused to the killers that led to experiments to find alternative ways which included the use of exhaust fumes from vans. Operation Reinhard called for the killing of all Jews in Poland.

This was a change from the previous approach. Despite the violence and murders already seen in Germany with Kristallnacht (1938), the initial 'solution' in Austria, after the annexation or Anschluss with Germany in 1938, was to force Jews to emigrate. Jews were initially beaten and humiliated with their property looted. Many Jews chose to emigrate and this was encouraged through the Central Office for Jewish Emigration with over 100,000 emigrating over two years. The existence of this so-called "Vienna Model" suggests that far from a long-term plan to kill all Jews, instead there was confusion in Nazi policy with Jews actively encouraged to leave and this, for the time-being, was the solution opted for in Austria and was also repeated in Czechoslovakia. The use of Einsatzgruppen in 1941 was a clear change from this approach.

The Einsatzgruppen's actions were also a significant change from what had happened after the invasion of Poland. A second 'solution' was required with German invasion of Poland from 1939 as there 3.5 million Jews living there. Clearly, emigration would not be an easy solution so instead, whilst alternatives could be considered, Jews were concentrated into ghettos. The largest ghetto was that in Warsaw which held almost half a million Jews living in a tiny space, surrounded by high walls. Around 140,000 died there of hunger and disease but this was not the same as the deliberate killing done by the Einsatzgruppen.

However, an alternative argument for the real turning point came in 1942. The Wannsee Conference was called with Heydrich laying out plans for the transport and industrialised murder of Jews at deliberate murder camps. The plans included the use of train tracks, numbers for each country of occupation and the use of Jews themselves in roles to aid the killing in supposed shower blocks which were, in reality, gas chambers. Camps such as Sobibor, Treblinka and, most infamous of all, Auschwitz-Birkenau led to almost 2 million Jews being murdered by 1945.

Overall, the use of the Einsatzgruppen was certainly a significant change in policy to deliberate killing. This was clearly different to the use of emigration and the use of ghettos. However, it should be remembered that this approach was still unclear. That all changed after the Wannsee Conference and the change to killing camps such as Auschwitz. This was the key turning point in Nazi anti-Jewish policy.