

Knowledge Organiser: Unit 3, Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918 – 39. Part 1: The Weimar Republic 1918 – 29.

Summary

The Weimar Republic was the name given to Germany after the Kaiser had abdicated in November 1918. This was a time of despair and hope for Germany. At first, the country faced lots of chaos but under Gustav Stresemann, there was some recovery and stability.

Key People

Kaiser Wilhelm II	Abdicated in November 1918
Ebert	1 st President of the Weimar Republic
Gustav Stresemann	Chancellor summer 1923. He helped to bring about economic recovery after 1924 by building relations with other countries.
Hindenburg	2nd President of the Republic

Key Events

1	1918 November. World War One ended. The Kaiser abdicated and Germany became a country with no monarchy (a republic).
2	1919 January. The Spartacists Uprising
3	1919 June. The signing of the treaty of Versailles
4	1919 August. The Weimar Constitution is approved
5	1920. The Kapp Putsch.
6	1923 October. The French occupation of the Ruhr which leads to hyperinflation
7	1924. The Dawes Plan.
8	1925. The Locarno Pact
9	1926. Germany joins the League of Nations
10	1928. Kellogg Briand Pact is signed.
11	1929. Young Plan agreed.
12	1929 Wall Street Crash

Key Concepts

The **Weimar Republic faced much opposition**, It was disliked by the left wing who wanted Germany to be like Communist Russia and it was disliked by the right wing who wanted the monarchy back.

The **Treaty of Versailles** caused many problems for Germany. The German people disliked the politicians for signing it and it caused political problems and economic problems, particularly due to reparation payments.

Weimar Constitution was the most democratic constitution in the western world, providing fair representation for all. However, it also contained the means for its own destruction.

The Golden Age was the period from 1924-29 and it saw significant changes in culture, the standard of living and the position of women.

Key Words

Abdication	When a monarch gives up the throne and all power.	Kellogg Briand Pact	Pact 65 countries agreed to resolve conflict peacefully
Armistice	Agreement to end a war.	Locarno Pact	An agreement about borders signed by Britain, France and Italy.
Article 48	The President could use this to ignore the Reichstag and rule as he saw fit	Reichstag	German Parliament
Coalition	A government of two or more political parties.	Rentenmark	Currency of Germany after 1923
Constitution	Agreement about how the country should be ruled	Reparations	Money to be paid to other states for the cost of the war
Dawes Plan	The USA agreed to loan money to Germany	Republic	A country without a king or queen as head of state.
Freikorps	Ex-military soldiers who wish to overthrow the Republic	Treaty of Versailles	Stated the terms of ending the First World War.
Gewaltfrieden	An enforced peace	Weimar	New government set up here as Berlin was too dangerous
Hyper-inflation	When money loses its value	Young Plan	Cut the reparations payments and gave Germany longer to pay
Kaiser	King		

Knowledge Organiser: Unit 3, Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918 – 39. Part 2: Hitler's rise to power, 1919 - 1933

Summary

Hitler sets up the Nazi Party in 1920 and becomes Chancellor in January 1933. This happens for a variety of reasons – Hitler's strengths, inbuilt problems of the Weimar Republic, and the weaknesses of other individuals.

Key People

Goebbels	Minister of Propaganda
Goering	Minister of the Economy
Himmler	In control of SS and Gestapo
Von Papen	Chancellor 1932
Von Schleicher	Chancellor 1932 – 1933.
Hindenburg	President of the Republic 1925- 34.

Key Concepts

The **Munich Putsch** is a significant event. Although a failure, Hitler gained publicity, he wrote Mein Kampf and he realised that if he was to win power, he needed to do this by votes and not by force.

Stable Stresemann caused problems for the popularity of the Nazi Party. When times were good, voters were not attracted to the Nazi policies.

The **Wall Street Crash** was a major turning point in the fortunes of the Nazi Party. The Nazi message did not change but people were now prepared to hear it. The Backstairs

The Backstairs Intrigue - At a time when Nazi popularity at the polls was decreasing, Hitler was handed power by political elites (including Hindenburg and von Papen) who feared a Communist take over and Civil War

Key Events

1	1919 Hitler joins the German Workers' Party
2	1920 Hitler sets up the Nazi Party
3	1921 Hitler introduces the SA
4	1923 The Munich Beerhall Putsch
5	1925 Mein Kampf is published
6	1926 Bamberg Conference
7	1928 The Nazis win 12 seats in the Reichstag
8	1929 Death of Stresemann. Wall Street Crash and the onset of economic depression
9	1930 Nazis win 107 seats in the Reichstag
10	1932 July. Nazis win 230 seats in the Reichstag
11	1932 November. Nazis win 196 seats in the Reichstag.
12	1933 January. Hitler is appointed as Chancellor.

Key Words

Anti-Semitism	Hatred of the Jewish People	Propaganda	Method to influence what people think
Aryan	Pure German blood	Putsch	attempt to seize power illegally
Blood Martyrs	16 Nazis who died in the Munich Putsch	Roter Frontkämpfer-bund	Private army of the Communist Party
Führerprinzip	Belief one person should rule the party	Party SA (Sturmabteilung)	Nazi Party private army. Also known as the 'brown shirts'
Gaue	Local party branches	SS	SS (Schutzstaffel)
Iron Cross	Awarded for bravery	Swastika	Emblem of the Nazi Party
KPD	German Communist Party	Volk	German people
Mein Kampf	'My Struggle'. Hitler's autobiography.	Völkischer Beobachter	'People's Observer'. Nazi Party newspaper.
NSDAP	National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazi Party)	25 Point Programme	25 Point Programme

Knowledge Organiser: Unit 3, Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918 – 39. **Part 3:** Nazi control and dictatorship 1933 – 39.

Summary

This was a time when Hitler formed a legal dictatorship and put in place methods of propaganda and censorship to persuade and encourage all Germany people to support Nazi ideals

Key People

Pastor Niemoller Head of the Confessional Church. Outspoken against the Nazi regime.

Marinus van der Lubbe Communist blamed for the Reichstag fire

Ernst Rohm Leader of the SA

Reinhard Heydrich Head of the SD (Security Services)

Key Events

- 1933 January. Hitler appointed Chancellor
- 1933 February. Reichstag Fire.
- 1933 March. Nazis win 288 seats in the Reichstag.
- 1933 May. Trade unions banned
- 1933 July. Nazi Party are the only legal party in Germany. Concordat signed with the Pope (Catholic Church)
- 1934 June. Night of the Long Knives.
- 1934 August. Hindenburg dies. Hitler wins the Presidential election and combines the post of President and Chancellor = Fuhrer.
- 1934 August. The German army swear an oath of loyalty to Hitler.
1936. Unified police and security force under Hitler's control.
1938. 16 army generals are removed from their posts.

Key Concepts

Removal –From 1933 to 1934, Hitler removed all opposition and established himself as Fuhrer.

Control –There was an attempt to control and influence attitudes. This was done by propaganda and terror.

Opposition –The youth and the churches opposed the regime. Gleichschaltung – A way of controlling all art and culture so that it was consistent with Nazi ideas.

Key Words

Centralisation	Germany was divided into districts (lander), now it was ruled directly from Berlin.	Gleichschaltung	Hitler's attempt to bring German society into line with Nazi philosophy.
Concordat	Agreement between the Pope and Hitler. The Catholic Church would stay out of politics and Hitler would leave the Catholic Church alone	Mit Brennender Sorge. 'With Burning Concern'. The Pope wrote to priests in Germany about concerns over Nazi moves to control religion.	
Confessional Church	German Protestant Church that refused to comply with the Nazi Party rules.	Roter Frontkämpfer-bund	Private army of the Communist Party
Dachau	First concentration camp for political prisoners. DAF German Labour Front – state trade union.	Party SA Sturmabteilung	Nazi Party private army. Also known as the 'brown shirts'
Edelweiss Pirates	Youth groups opposed to the Hitler Youth.	Night of the Long Knives.	. Carried out to remove internal and external opposition to the party.
Enabling Act	Gave the Nazi Party full power for 4 years.	Purge	to get rid of opposition.
Gestapo	Secret police headed by Goering, then Himmler.	Sicherheitsdienst (SD)	intelligence body of the Nazi Party.

Knowledge Organiser: Unit 3, Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918 – 39. **Part 4:** Life in Nazi Germany 1933 – 39.

Key Words

Summary

The lives of German citizens were changed after Hitler's appointment as Chancellor. For some, life was better under the Nazis but for others, it was much worse.

Key People

Pastor Niemoller	Head of the Confessional Church. Outspoken against the Nazi regime.
Marinus van der Lubbe	Communist blamed for the Reichstag fire
Ernst Rohm	Leader of the SA
Reinhard Heydrich	Head of the SD (Security Services)

Key Events

1	1933 Boycott of Jewish shops and businesses. Law for the Encouragement of marriage and sterilisation passed.
2	1935 Nuremberg Laws passed. Conscription introduced.
3	1936 Membership of the Hitler Youth made compulsory.
4	1936 Olympic Games held in Berlin.
5	1938 Jewish children no longer allowed to attend German schools. Kristallnacht Lebensborn Programme
6	1939 Euthanasia Programme Designated Jewish ghettos set up.

Key Concepts

Anti-Semitism —Persecution of the Jews grew continuously after 1933.
Young —The Nazis placed much emphasis on controlling the young as only then could they secure a 'thousand year Reich'. Youth organisations and education indoctrinated the German youth.
Women —The Nazis had traditional family values but even these were tested by the needs of war and the desire to ensure a growing Aryan population.
Living Standards —The Nazis did reduce unemployment but they did this by banning Jews and women from the workplace and by putting Germany on a war footing. Workers had limited rights.

Autobahn	Motorway	Kristallnacht	Nazi organised attack on the Jewish community. Seen as a green light to the escalation of violence against them.
Autarky	Self sufficiency	Lebensborn	Unmarried Aryan women impregnated by SS men.
Confessional Church	German Protestant Church that refused to comply with the Nazi Party rules.	Lebensraum	Expansion of land
Beauty of Labour	Government action to improve working conditions	Motherhood Cross	Award given to women depending on how many children they had.
Herrenvolk	One pot dish	Napola	New schools designed to train the future leaders of Germany.
Invisible unemployment	Nazi unemployment figures did not include women, Jews, opponents or unmarried men under 25.	Nazi teachers League	All teachers had to swear an oath of loyalty to Hitler.
Kinder, Kirche, Kurche	Children, Kitchen, Church. Nazi ideal of womanhood.	Nuremberg Laws	Definition of the Jew for the first time. Jews stripped of their citizenship rights and forbidden to marry non-Jews.
Rearmament	Building of the armed forces in preparation for war.	Reich labour Service RAD.	Scheme to provide manual labour (work) for unemployed men under 25
Strength Through Joy	Government attempt to provide leisure opportunities for workers'.	Volksgemeinschaft	People's community