

History: Year 10 January - February

Kaiser Germany

Causes of WWII		Causes of WWII continued		Kaiser Wilhelm II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The German King. Could ignore government advice and make his own decisions. He made all military and foreign policy decisions.
Foreign Policy	A plan of action adopted by a country when dealing with international nations and situations.	1936 Invasion of the Rhineland	On the 7th of March 1936, Hitler marched 22,000 into the Rhineland, the demilitarised zone of Germany bordering France.	Reichstag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliament, elected by men over 25. Little influence or power but debated laws drawn up by the Kaiser.
Hitler's main aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reverse the Treaty of Versailles 	1936 Anti-Comintern Pact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the 25th of November 1936, Germany and Japan, signed the anti-Comintern Pact, an agreement that they would work together against Communism, which was joined by Mussolini in 1937. 	Weltpolitik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kaiser's policy for Germany becoming a global power with a strong empire.
1934 Dollfuss Affair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When Hitler encouraged the Austrian Nazi party to try to seize power. They failed. 	1937-39 The Policy of Appeasement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Britain's policy of giving Hitler what he wanted in order to avoid another war. Was criticized by Winston Churchill for allowing Hitler to grow too strong but was favoured by many of the pacifist public. 	Industrialisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Germany started to industrialise in the late 1800s. This led to poor living and working conditions in the cities.
1935 Saar Plebiscite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 of people voted to return to German control. Gave Hitler a confidence boost. 	1938 Anschluss with Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nazis invaded Austria to 'keep order' and held a vote to see if there was support for union. There was a heavy presence from Nazi stormtroopers and unsurprisingly 99% of Austrians voted in favour of the Anschluss 	Socialism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many workers were unhappy with conditions and so joined trade unions and organised strikes to force the government to improve things.
1933-6 rearmament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1933 – secret rearmament. 1935 – open rearmament 1936 - Conscription 	1938 The Sudetenland Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hitler wanted to Sudetenland area of Czechoslovakia where 3m Germans lived. He threatened to go to war over it. 	The SPD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Democrat Party believed that wealth should be shared equally among the poor. Very popular.
1935 The Stresa Front	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pact between Britain, France and Italy against German rearmament. Nothing was said about Italian aggression. 	1938 Munich Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> British PM, Chamberlain, flew to Munich to meet Hitler, alongside Mussolini and Daladier [French PM]. Hitler was given the Sudetenland without consulting Czechoslovakia or Russia. 	Naval Laws 1898-1912	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Led to a huge amount of money was spent to rapidly increase the size of Germany's navy. Taxes were increased and many people were frustrated.
1935 The Anglo-German Naval Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed Germany to build up to 35% of British naval strength and up to 45% of their submarine strength. 	1939 The Invasion of Czechoslovakia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within 6 month, Hitler's troops marched in and took the rest of the country. There was little resistance and Britain and France did nothing. 	WWI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially v.popular but British blockade soon caused shortages. Soon, demonstrations demanded an end to the war.
		April 1939 Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Britain, France and Russia met to form an alliance to defend Poland. Appeasement is at an end. 	Oct 1918	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The German navy in Kiel mutinied. Mutiny spread to army, and workers soon joined in. The Kaiser had lost control.
		August 1939 The Nazi-Soviet Pact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The USSR and Germany agree not to go to war with each other and secretly promise to invade Poland and split it between them. 	9th Nov 1918	The Kaiser abdicated. The SDP took over and promised to hold elections.
		Sept 1 st , 1939	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Germany invaded Poland, and on 3rd September, Britain declared war on Germany. 	11th Nov	Germany surrendered. Armistice signed.

History: Year 10 | February - Easter

The Impact of WWI on Germany		
1	Virtually bankrupt	Borrowed vast sums of money. Factories were exhausted. War pensions were costing a fortune.
2	Society divided further	Some factory owners made a fortune in war, while wages were cut.
3	Politically instable	There was mutiny and rebellion all over Germany. Ex-soldiers and sailors felt that the government had betrayed Germany by ending the war.

The Weimar Republic

1. Democratic republic	SPD leader Ebert declared a democratic republic and organized elections.
2. The Spartacists	Wanted Germany to be Communist. Seized control of power in Berlin in Jan 1919. 3 days of brutal fighting with Freikorps [ex-soldiers]. Spartacist leaders killed.
3. Elections	Ebert held elections, SPD largest single party, Ebert new German President.
4. Weimar	As Berlin was too unstable, the new government met in the town of Weimar nearby. They created a constitution, a new set of rules for how Germany was to be governed.
5. The Weimar Constitution	This gave all Germans equal rights, including the right to vote. The constitution also contained Article 48 which gave the President the power to make laws without consulting the Reichstag.

The Impact of the Treaty of Versailles	
1. Reparations	Germany was ordered to pay £6.6 billion in £50m instalments, The first payment was made in 1921 but Germany couldn't afford the payment in 1922 or 1923.
2. Occupation of the Ruhr	In Jan 1923, 60,000 French and Belgian troops marched into the Ruhr to take what was owed in terms of reparations. This was totally legal under the terms of the treaty.
3. Hyperinflation	The government ordered their workers to go on strike. They continued to pay them and printed more money as a result. As shop-keepers raised their prices, more money was printed and hyperinflation set in. Money became worthless.
4. Negative impact	People with savings in the bank were the biggest losers. Some people had saved their whole lives and lost their savings over night.
5. Negative impact x2	Elderly people who lived on fixed incomes found they were unable to buy the essentials. Many small businesses collapsed.
6. Positive impact	People who had borrowed money found it easy to pay off their debts.

Political change and unrest, 1919-1923

1. The Kapp Putsch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In March 1920, Dr Kapp and 5000 Freikorps [ex-soldiers and police] took over the city of Berlin. He wanted to take over the country and regain the land lost in 1919. The government fled but the people didn't support Kapp and went on strike, ending the Putsch.
2. Assassinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 1919-22, there were over 350 political murders in Germany. Mostly carried out by right-wing extremists. They wanted to eliminate those responsible for the treaty.

Political changes and unrest continued	
3. Red Rising in the Ruhr	In March 1920, after the Kapp Putsch, left-wing workers in the industrial Ruhr stayed on strike. They took over several towns in what is known as the Red Rising. The government sent soldiers and some Freikorps units to deal with the rebellion. Over 1000 workers were killed.
4. The Munich Putsch	In November 1923, Hitler and the Nazis tried to seize control of the Bavarian government in southern Germany. Hitler promised to overturn the treaty of Versailles, destroy communism and restore Germany's national glory. He planned to capture Munich and march on Berlin. Key Bavarian politicians at the Munich beer hall refused to support his plan to march on Berlin. Hitler pressed with his plan anyway. As Hitler and about 2000 supporters marched through Munich, they were met by armed police. Three policemen and 60 Nazis died in a short gun battle. Hitler and Ludendorff brought a former First World War General, who is now a Nazi supporter were arrested.