






Timeline of key events 1918-33

 Weimar Republic	 Hitler's rise power
1918	
October – Crews mutinied Hamburg/Kiel	
7th Nov – Eisner declares Bavaria a separate country	
9th Nov – Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicated	
11th Nov – Armistice ended WWI	
1919	
6th Jan – Spartacist Uprising – 100,000 workers involved, put down by Freikorps.	Hitler joined the German Worker's Party (DAP)
19th Jan – election for National Assembly which created the Weimar Constitution	
1920	
17th March – Kapp Putsch involving 5000 Freikorps led by Wolfgang Kapp. Took over Berlin for 4 days, until workers went on strike.	Hitler the DAP's 25 point programme , put in charge of propoganda, created logo, changed name (NSDAP)
1921	
August – Matthias Erzberger (who signed the armistice) assassinated	Hitler created SA and forced leadership contest, became leader
1923	
Jan – French invaded Ruhr , took materials, 100 workers killed.	8-9th Nov – Munich Putsch – Hitler attempted to take over Munich, was arrested, 14 Nazis killed. Imprisoned for 5 years but released in 9 months.
Oct - Hyperinflation	
20th Nov – Rentenmark introduced	
1924	
Dawes Plan – US banker loaned \$25 billion	
1925	
Locarno Pact – Agreed borders between GB, Fr, Ger, Belgium	Nazi Party ban lifted
1926	
Germany joined League of Nations	Bamberg Conference – Hitler made the party much more nationalist
Fritz Lang made 'Metropolis'	
1928	
Kellog-Briand Pact – Ger & 61 countries agreed not to go to war	
1929	
Young Plan – reduced reparations from £6.6bn to £2bn	
Oct – Wall St Crash in USA caused Great Depression in Germany	
1930	
Chancellor Brüning's policies rejected 256 to 193	
1932	
March & April – Presidential elections – Hindenburg won, Hitler second	
May – Brüning resigns, von Papen chosen, rules by decree	
July and Nov – Reichstag elections – Nazis largest party	
1933	
30th January – Hitler becomes Chancellor, Hindenburg & von Papen think they can control him	



EDEXCEL GCSE HISTORY WEIMAR AND NAZI GERMANY, 1918-39

 Nazi Germany 1933-39	
1933	
27th Feb – Reichstag Fire – Dutch communist blamed, Hitler issues 'Decree for the Protection of the People and the State' to pass emergency powers.	
5th March – Held another election and Nazis gained a 2/3rds majority	
10th March – First concentration camp built at Dachau	
24th March – Enabling Act – Hitler could pass any law without the agreement of the Reichstag for 4 years.	
26th April – Gestapo set up – non-uniformed secret police	
May – Hitler banned trade unions and all other political parties Book burnings – 20,000 burned	
July – Hitler signed The Concordat (agreement) with the Pope	
14th July – Law for the Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring – sterilisation	
Sept – Reich Chamber of Culture set up – controlled art, architecture, music etc.	
Sept – First autobahn started to be built	
Women sacked from being teachers, doctors, civil servants	
1934	
Jan – abolished 18 Länder parliaments	
30th June – Night of the Long Knives – SS arrested and killed 400 threats including Rohm, 150 senior SA leaders, von Schleicher and Strasser	
2nd Aug – President Hindenburg died , Hitler became Führer and forced the army (Wermacht) to swear an oath of loyalty to him	
Sept – Most famous Nuremberg Rally - 200,000 in the crowd.	
Oct – Confessing Church set up by the Pastors Emergency League – anti-Nazi	
1935	
Nuremberg Laws – Jews no longer German citizens, can't marry 'Germans'	
National Labour Service (RAD) became compulsory for men	
Military conscription announced	
1936	
Ludwig Müller created Reich Church in support of the Nazi Party	
Germany hosted Olympics and won 33 medals	
1937	
14th March - Pope Pius XI criticised Hitler in article ' With Burning Anxiety '	
1st July – Pastor Niemöller arrested and Pastor's Emergency League banned	
Grammar schools for girls banned	
1938	
9th-10th Nov – Kristallnacht – Nazi gangs attacked Jewish property and people	
1939	
Jan – Reich Office for Jewish Emigration set up, April Jews deported	
March – Hitler Youth became compulsory to join	
Sept – T4 programme – 5000 babies & children with disabilities killed	

Key words	
Abdicate	Stepped down from being King (e.g. Kaiser Wilhelm II)
Armistice	A 'cease-fire' – ended the First World War on 11/11/1918
Article 48	The President could overrule the Reichstag to rule by decree
Autobahn	Motorways – employed many men, 2500km finished by 1938
Bauhaus	German art school which influenced style in 1920s Weimar Germany
BDM	Bund Deutscher Mädel – League of German Girls 14-21 year old girls
Beauty of Labour (SdA)	Got workers better conditions e.g. toilets, changing rooms, canteens
Censorship	Banning certain information or ideas e.g. 1600 newspapers closed
Chancellor	Head of the government, chose the ministers.
Concordat	Agreement signed between Hitler and the Pope – not to interfere
Diktat	Germany called the ToFV this because it was forced upon them
Dolchstoß	'stabbed in the back' how Germans felt after Treaty of Versailles
Edelweiss Pirates	Youth opposition – working class, wore US clothes, 2000 members
Eugenics	Selective breeding to produce 'better' humans
Freikorps	'Free corps' – ex-soldiers - unemployed but trained with weapons
Gauleiter	A Nazi representative in each Gau (area)
German Labour Front (DAF)	Replaced trade unions, controlled employers and employees
Gestapo	Non uniformed secret police, under SS control, led by Heydrich
Hitler Youth	For 14-21 year old boys (6-10 Pimpfe , 10-14 Jungvolk)
Länder	Each of the 18 regions of Germany kept its own local parliament
Lebensraum	'Living space' – Nazis invaded Slavic countries for this
Mein Kampf	Hitler's autobiography written in prison
National Labour Service	RAD – paid work for the unemployed e.g. repairing roads
November criminals	The nickname given to the politicians who signed the armistice
NSDAP	National Socialist German Worker's Party (Nazi Party)
President	Head of the Weimar Republic, elected every 7 years
Proportional Representation	% of votes for a party = % of seats they get in the Reichstag
Racial Purity	Nazis divided people according to race.
Reichsrat	Elected every 4 years, represented different areas of Germany
Reichstag	The most powerful house of parliament, controlled tax. Elected 4y.
SA (Stormtroopers)	Hitler's private army, run by Ernst Röhm , set up in 1921 'brownshirts'
SD	Set up by Heydrich in 1931 – kept track of Nazi opposition
SS (Schutzstaffel)	1925 controlled all police/security services and concentration camps
Strength through Joy (KdF)	Made work enjoyable, 25ml members by 1936, films, theatre, sports
Swing Youth	Middle class youth opposition – held illegal dances, 6000 members
Totalitarianism	Total loyalty to the leader, no democracy 'Führerprinzip'
Treaty of Versailles	Punishment given to Germany after WWI.
Weimar Constitution	The set of rules for running the country after the Kaiser abdicated

Key people	
Philipp Bouhler	Became Nazi Party Secretary in 1925
Anton Drexler	Leader of the German Worker's Party (DAP) before Hitler
Friedrich Ebert	First President of Germany from 1919 to 1925, SPD party
Joseph Goebbels	Minister of People's Enlightenment and Propaganda
Hermann Göring	One of the most powerful Nazis, created Gestapo, created the Four Year Plan – to mobilise Germany for war.
Reinhard Heydrich	Chief of Reich Main Security Office (including Gestapo and SD)
Heinrich Himmler	Leader of the SS from 1929
Paul von Hindenburg	Led the German army in WWI. President of Germany from 1925 to his death in 1934.
Franz von Papen	Vice Chancellor under Hitler from 1933-34. Failed to control Hitler.
Ernst Röhm	Founder & leader of SA, executed on Night of the Long Knives.
Bernard Rust	Nazi Education Minister
Kurt von Schleicher	The last Chancellor of Germany before Hitler, murdered on NoLK
Getrud Scholz-Klink	Reich Women's Leader – created German Women's Enterprise
Franz Schwarz	Appointed Nazi Party Treasurer in 1925
Gregor Strasser	Leading Nazi until his execution on the Night of the Long Knives
Gustav Stresemann	Chancellor & Foreign Minister in Weimar Germany 1923-9. Introduced reforms e.g. Rentenmark, Dawes Plan, Young Plan
Kaiser Wilhelm II	King of Germany until he abdicated on the 9 th November 1918

Key Questions

What problems did Weimar Germany face 1918-23?

- Impact of WWI & Treaty of Versailles
- Political problems – Weimar Constitution, Spartacists, Kapp Putsch
- Economic problems – French invasion of Ruhr, hyperinflation

Why did Hitler become Chancellor?

- Impact of Great Depression
- Use of SA
- Hitler's personal appeal
- Big business support (e.g. Bosch)
- Fear of communism (middle class, businesses, farmers etc.)

How did Weimar Germany recover from 1923-29?

- Stresemann's reforms (Rentenmark, Dawes & Young Plans, Locarno & Kellogg-Briand Pact, LoN)
- Improvements in standard of living
- Improvements for women
- Culture: Bauhaus, art, cinema etc.

How did Hitler increase his control ?

- Reichstag fire, Enabling Act
- Night of the Long Knives
- Control of the Church
- Police State
- Censorship and propaganda
- Control of youth and women
- Controlled workplace e.g. DAF