

Paper Reference(s) 1HI0/31
Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1)

History

PAPER 3: Modern depth study

**Option 31: Weimar and Nazi Germany,
1918–39**

**Time: 1 hour 20 minutes plus your additional
time allowance**

Sources / Interpretations Booklet

**DO NOT RETURN THIS
SOURCES/INTERPRETATIONS
BOOKLET WITH THE QUESTION
PAPER.**

Sources / interpretations for use with Section B.

SOURCE B: From a book written by an American journalist, published in 1960. He visited Germany frequently in the years 1925–28.

Hitler and the Nazis were hardly ever mentioned in conversation, except in jokes about the Munich Putsch. In the elections of May 1928, only 810,000 out of 31 million people voted for the Nazis. In contrast, the Social Democrat Party received more than 9 million votes.

There was a wonderful feeling of excitement in Germany in those days. Life in Berlin and Munich seemed more free, more modern, more exciting than in any place I have ever visited. The young people of Germany wanted to live life to the full in complete freedom. Most Germans you met believed in democracy and peace.

SOURCE C: A photograph of Hitler at a Nazi Party rally held at Nuremberg in 1928. The Nazi Party had strong support in the city of Nuremberg.



**INTERPRETATION 1: From Germany:
The Third Reich 1933–45 by G Layton,
published in 1992.**

After the Munich Putsch, Hitler realised that he had to make the Nazi Party capable of gaining power by winning elections. In 1926, he re-established his control over the Nazi Party.

The Nazi Party was reorganised. New groups were created to attract support, like the Hitler Youth. The Party was taking shape and its membership was increasing.

In the 1928 election the Nazis gained votes in rural areas. They had also started to target the middle classes with their propaganda.

INTERPRETATION 2: From Spartacus Education, a history website.

The Weimar government brought inflation under control and the economy began to improve. Because of this, the German people started to believe in the democratic system and were not interested in Hitler's ideas.

Hitler claimed he was no longer trying to start a revolution and said he was willing to compete with other political parties in democratic elections. However, this policy of taking part in elections was unsuccessful. The Nazi Party won 14 seats in the December 1924 election. In the 1928 election they only won 12 seats; less than 3% of the people voted for the Nazi Party.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Source B from: 'Rise And Fall Of The Third Reich', William L. Shirer, Simon and Schuster, 1990

Source C: © Historical / Contributor/ Getty Images

Interpretation 1 Source from: Germany; the Third Reich, 1933–45 , Geoff Layton, Hodder & Stoughton, 1992

**Interpretation 2 Source from:
<https://spartacus-educational.com/GERnazi.htm>**