

AS HISTORY

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945
Component 20 The Weimar Republic, 1918–1933

Monday 20 May 2019 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/20.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From 'I Knew Hitler', by Kurt Lüdecke, 1938, describing the events of March 1933. Lüdecke was a member of Hitler's inner circle.

We were witnessing a dramatic occasion. Wels, the last SPD leader, was in an impossible position, facing a hostile Reichstag and surrounded by armed Nazi troopers. Under these circumstances, his Party's vote against the Enabling Act showed courage.

Speaking monotonously that his Party had never lacked patriotism, he cut a desperate and deflated figure; his voice seemed the last squeak of a beaten and miserable group. Now Hitler rose briskly to reply. If ever a Party was annihilated by a speech, it happened then and the hall swelled with cheers, roars of laughter and mockery. When he ended with 'I do not want your votes! Germany will be free but not through you!' the storm of applause was a hurricane.

5

Source B

From a diary entry by Karl Bachem, a former Centre Party Reichstag Deputy and distinguished historian, March 1933.

Was our vote right? Can it be morally justifiable to grant this Government, whose instincts are so completely different from our own, such far-reaching authority? The Enabling Act would have been passed even if the Centre Party had voted against it or abstained and, given the current Nazi mood, there would have been fury in the Reichstag, and we would probably have been beaten up and thrown out. The parliamentary group would have made a heroic exit, but with no benefit to our cause. All collaboration with the Nazis would have been out of the question. Will it be possible to influence them now? It is enough if co-operation with them can protect us against Communists.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the passing of the March 1933 Enabling Act?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'The Weimar Republic was seriously challenged by right-wing extremism in the years 1919 to 1923.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'Cultural changes, in the years 1924 to 1928, significantly reduced support for the Weimar Republic.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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