

AS HISTORY

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

Component 20 The Weimar Republic, 1918–1933

Monday 18 May 2020

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 AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a pamphlet produced by the German Communist Party in 1931 and aimed at the working class.

Working comrades!

You are suffering! Brüning, in the service of big business, is slashing wages so that more money can flow into the pockets of the rich. Millions of workers are thrown out of work and denied the vital necessities of life. Help for the unemployed and war pensions are being reduced so that the wealthy can get wealthier. You want bread, work and freedom. These 5
will not come from Brüning; you must struggle for it yourselves. You call for a people's war against poverty. In numerous strikes, National Socialist and SPD-supporting workers have fought alongside Communist workers against reduced wages whilst their leaders called for an end to the strikes, standing on the side of Brüning!

Source B

From an article by Daniel Binchy, the Irish Ambassador to Weimar Germany, September 1932.

Brüning became Chancellor at a time of great economic emergency, which, with its disastrous consequences for finance and politics, threatened to wreck the whole structure of German civilisation. His partnership with President Hindenburg was based on mutual trust; both were distrustful of the Socialists and anxious to dam the rising tide of radicalism, whether Nazi or Communist. Brüning's necessary plan for restoring 5
financial order, involving cuts in wages and social services, was rejected by the Socialists, mainly through fear of losing votes to the Communists, forcing the use of emergency decree. Brüning steered Germany through the two most difficult winters and warded off what seemed to be inevitable financial disaster without damaging the framework of social services. 10

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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 Brüning's handling of the Depression in Germany?

[25 marks]

Section B

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

Either

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'Government policy, in the years 1919 to 1923, was responsible for the hyperinflation of 1923.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

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'There was political stability in Germany in the years 1924 to 1928.'

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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