

## Key Terms

### A

**Adolf Hitler Schools** – Schools to train students how to be party leaders

**Anschluss with Austria in March 1938** – This is where Austria joined up with Germany which led to a violent burst of anti-Semitism in Germany.

**Anti-Semitism** - This is the term given to persecution of the Jews. This was not new. Across Europe and Asia they had faced pogroms (mass exterminations) throughout the Middle Ages and Industrial era. This is because they stood out with a different religion and customs and as moneylenders their material wealth was coveted and people were often jealous of their success

**Article 48** – The provision of the Constitution that allowed the President to take control of the country in case of emergency. It brought Hitler to power.

**Asocials** - Anyone who was not an 'ideal German' was seen as a burden on the State or 'asocials.' These included the unhealthy, beggars, tramps, gypsies, the disabled and the mentally disabled.

**Autobahns** - German Motorways. More than 3,000 km of road was built by 1938 employing 125,000 people.

### B

**Bamberg Conference** – The Nazi Party Conference in 1926 in which Hitler officially took back control of the party and solidified the Führerprinzip, giving Strasser and Goebbels, his two biggest rivals, important positions and making influential speeches. . It was a gamble that paid off and brought the Nazi Party in line behind the immutable 25 point programme.

**Bauhaus – School of Building** - Their architects built housing estates and kiosks and tried to do away with the pre-war focus on elaborate design and focused on basic shapes in unusual designs, and making efficient buildings made of unusual materials.

**Bavarian Infantry Regiment (List Regiment)** – Hitler's unit in WWI that saw action and the First Battle of Ypres, The Somme and the battles of Arras and Passchendaele.

**Berlin Freikorps** – The Freikorps were right wing ex-forces paramilitary volunteer groups characterised by their loyalty to the Kaiser and Germany and their vehement anti-Communism and anti-Semitism.

**The blood libel** – This was the accusation that the Jews used the blood of Christians in their festivals like Passover and there are myths of Jewish demons. These stories were used to justify pogroms (mass murders) of the Jews.

**Boycott** – This is where the people of Germany were encouraged not to shop at Jewish stores on April 1st 1933. He put the Jewish symbol, the Star of David, on the windows and doors to denote Jewish businesses

**Bund Deutscher Madel** (League of German Maidens 14-18).

### C

**Central Party (ZP)** – The Catholic Party and one of the most popular centrist parties. It helped form the first Weimar Coalition government, helped Hitler pass the Enabling Act and their leaders, Brüning and Von Papen played a key role in Hitler coming to power. Abolished in 1933.

**Chancellor (Prime Minister)** – Chosen by President to form and run a government.

**Concordat** - This 1933 agreement between the Pope and Hitler stated that the Catholic Church would not criticise Hitler and would stay out of politics and Hitler agreed to allow them to keep worshipping and running Catholic schools and Youth organisations

**'Confessional Church.'** – The Protestant Church set up to campaign against Hitler

**Conscription** - In 1935 this took thousands of young men into compulsory military service. By 1939 1.4m were in the army as opposed to 100,000 in 1933

## D

**Dachau** - The first Concentration Camp (along with Moringen) opened in March 1933.

**Dawes Act 1924** – In the Dawes Act reparation payments were reduced to an amount that was within Germany's capacity to pay. 1 billion marks was to be paid in the first year and then it would increase over the next four years to 2.5 billion marks a year

**Decree for the Protection of the People and the State** – The decree that enabled Hitler to arrest his opponents and 'restore order' in Germany after the Reichstag Fire. It repealed the freedom of speech, the press and movement were abolished and the police were given the power to confiscate property, detain people indefinitely without trial and legalised the death penalty for a host of crimes. 4,000 Communists were then arrested including Ernst Thälmann. The Leftist newspapers were banned, the Nazis took control of the radio and 51 Nazi opponents were killed.

**Der Ewige Jude** – A propaganda movie made by the Nazis of which there were 200. They also made 1,300 other movies that included 45 minute news reels.

**Dolchstoß** – The Stab in the Back Theory. The theory pushed by Hitler that WWI was lost not by the military but at home by the influence of internal forces such as the Jews, the Communists and the Weimar Republic.

**duty year** – In 1937 the Germans were attempting to re-arm their war machine so women had to work on a farm or in a family home for board and lodging – no pay for one year.

## E

**Edelweiss Pirates** – One of the most important working class youth gangs were the Edelweiss Pirates. They listened to swing music and covered walls in anti-Nazi graffiti. They could be recognised by their badges which would show with their skull and Cross bones or the Edelweiss flower, their chequered shirts dark short trousers and white socks. They weren't unified and had different names in different places like the Roving Dudes, the Navajos and the Kettleback Pirates.

**Eintopf** - A meal comprising of meat and vegetables in one pot which was advertised as the 'meal of sacrifice for the nation.'

**Enabling Act** – This became law on 24 March and signalled the end of the Weimar Republic and democracy. It was re-enacted in 1937. This brought the state into line with Gleichschaltung – Nazi philosophy where every aspect of the National socialist state and the lives of citizens would be controlled by the Nazis.

**Euthanasia Programme in 1939** - The Nazis secretly began to exterminate the mentally ill in with a 'mercy killing' campaign. About 6,000 disabled babies, children and teenagers were killed through starvation or lethal injection. This was because they were deemed 'unworthy of life.'

## F

**Female suffrage** – Women's vote which they got in 1919

**The four year plan (1936-40)** - Goering wanted to rally the economy behind rearmament and preparing for war and to make Germany self-sufficient in war materials.

**Frauenfront** - 230 women's groups were brought under the control of the Women's Front and Gertrude Scholtz-Klink. Jews could not be members....

**Fuhrerprinzip** – The principal that all of the Nazis should follow Hitler without question behind which Hitler rallied the Nazis after his release from prison in 1924.

## G

**Gauleiter** – The name of the Heads of the different branches of the Nazi Party.

**Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo)** – The Nazi Secret Police that spied on the German People and sent people to the Concentration Camps.

**German Communist Party (KPD)** – This was formed by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg in December 1918 when they became disillusioned with the Spartacist League. It was the KPD and its leaders that masterminded the Spartacist Uprising in January 1919.

**German Democratic Party (DDP)** – helped form the first Weimar Coalition government but changed its name in to the Democratic Party in 1930.

**German Constitution** – In August 1919 the Constitution set up a proportional representation electoral system, the President, Chancellor, Reichstag and Reichsrat and denoted who had what powers

**The German Faith Movement** - A Nazi religion made to replace Christian values and ceremonies in German society with pagan (non-Christian) Nazi values (As seen above). It only got support from 5% of the population.

**The German Labour Front**- This replaced all Trade Unions and it would decide wages and donate workbooks – no workbook meant no job.

**German Mark** – The German currency until 1933.

**German Revolution** – The Navy was joined by the Army, workers and citizens groups who took to the streets across Germany in mass protests against the war and the Kaiser. This led to a **general strike** where everyone refused to work and armed protestors marched in the street. It ended when the Kaiser gave up power and fled to Holland on the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

**German Women's Enterprise Organisation** – This had 6 million members and organised mother schools and training programmes for women

**German Workers Party (DAP)** – The Right Wing Party that Hitler joined in 1919 that would eventually evolve into the NSDAP.

**Gewaltfrieden** – 'The enforced peace.' The reality of the signing of the ToFV. Ebert called it as such because Germany was in no military, social or political position not to sign the ToFV so were forced to do so.

**Ghettos** - Jews were then made to surrender precious jewellery and on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1939 evicted from their homes and forced into areas of German cities reserved only for Jews.

## H

**Herrenvolk** – The Master Race that Hitler wanted to create of pure Anglo-Saxon, blond, blue eyed, athletic Aryans

**Hitler Jugend** (Hitler Youth for 14-18) for the boys.

**The Hitler Youth Law of 1936** - This made it practically impossible for the young not to join the Hitler Youth organisations. 3 million still didn't.

**Hitlerjunge Quetz** - A propaganda movies made by the Nazis of which there were 200. They also made 1,300 other movies that included 45 minute news reels.

**Hyperinflation** – The extreme rise in prices in Germany in 1923 that resulted from the printing of money to pay the striking workers in the Ruhr.

## I

**Invisible Unemployment** - However, these figures were fiddled and therefore there was invisible unemployment and these people were ignored. The unemployment figures didn't include Jews forced out of their jobs, unmarried men under 25 forced into the Reich Labour scheme, those in concentration camps or women who left their jobs to get married but who were looking for jobs

**Iron Cross** – The highest award for bravery you can receive in the German army. Hitler won both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> class medals.

## J

**The Jung Madel** (young girls 10-14)

**Jungvolk** (Young German folk for 10-14)

## K

**Kapp Putsch** – The attempt in 1920 by Kapp, Luttwitz and Erhardt to take control of Germany and save the military from being downsized and the Freikorps disbanded.

**Kellogg-Briand Pact** – The Pact in 1928 by most of the world's countries that agreed to not use war as a means to conduct international relations.

**Kiel Rebellion** – on 25<sup>th</sup> October the sailors at the port of Kiel were ordered by the Kaiser to take to sea in one final suicidal bid for glory. They refused.....

**Kinder, Küche, Kirche** - This meant 'Children, Cooking and Church,' and this summed up the role of women in Nazi Germany perfectly

**Kraft Durch Freude (KDF)** - 'Strength Through Joy.' This organisation to giving workers cultural trips and holidays to concerts, theatres, sporting events and cruises. All trips were low cost and by 1938 10 million had taken KDF holidays. However, not many could really afford the better trips like cruises to Madeira or Scandinavia.

**Kristallnacht** – In retaliation for the murder of a German official in Paris about 100 Jews were killed and 20,000 sent to Concentration Camps, 7,500 Jewish businesses were destroyed along with 191 synagogues between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November 1934.

## L

**Lander** – The 18 states of Germany with their own parliaments. All of these were shut down and the Landers abolished completely in 1934.

**Law against the Formation of Parties Act** - This banned all parties except the Nazi Party.

### **Law for the Encouragement of Marriage (1933)**

This aimed to increase Germany's falling birth rate by encouraging women to marry by giving young couples Marriage loans. For every child they had they didn't have to pay back a quarter of the loan. The only stipulation was that women had to leave their jobs. Hitler's mother's Birthday medals – women got awards in August for the number of kids they had - gold was for 8 or more kids, a silver for six and a bronze for 5.

**League of Nations**– The forerunner to the United Nations that was set up in 1919 to keep world peace. The Germans joined in 1926.

**lebensborn programme** – This allowed selected unmarried women to be impregnated by racially pure SS men.

**lebensraum** – (free land to inhabit) This was the term used to describe the Slavic land he wanted the Germans to expand into. He hoped to Germanise a few Slavs but the rest should be enslaved.

**Locarno Honeymoon** – This was the unprecedented feeling of cooperation between the European Powers after the Pact was signed.

**Locarno Pact 1925** – This was a peace treaty signed by Stresemann with Britain, France, Italy and Belgium which recognised the borders as drawn up in 1919.

### **M**

**Metropolis** – A 1927 film that depicted a futuristic world in which workers were the slaves of robots and the upper class. It was made by Fritz Lang and was an example of Berlin being the home of cutting edge movie making in the 1920s.

**The Marriage Health Law (1935)** - women should be racially pure to be allowed to marry

**Mein Kampf** – The book that outlined Hitler's political ideals that he wrote in 1924 whilst in Jail at Landsberg. It means 'my struggle'.

**The Ministry of Public Propaganda and Enlightenment and the Reich Chamber of Culture** - The organisations set up to control propaganda and censorship in Nazi Germany that were controlled by Josef Goebbels

**Monumental style** – The style of architecture that was popular in Nazi Germany as it showed strength and power.

**Moringen** – The first Concentration Camps (along with Dachau) opened in March 1933.

**Munich Putsch** – The attempt by Hitler to lead a right wing coup on Berlin in November 1923. It failed and Hitler ended up in jail and the Nazi party was banned.

### **N**

**National political Educational institutes** -These were leadership schools to train student between 10-18 how to join the SS.

**National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP)** – The official name of the Nazi Party that was formed out of the DAP in February 1920. It would rule Germany from 1933 – 1945.

**Nazi Teacher's Association** - Many teachers, if they wanted to succeed in their career would join this association and attend camps where they would learn how to indoctrinate young minds.

**The New Plan (1933-37)** - Schacht wanted to reduce unemployment and make Germany self sufficient if they were blockaded again (called autarky)

**The Night of the Long Knives** – Also known as the Blood purge or Operation Humming Bird – was the purging of Hitler's political and military rivals. Hitler first attacked the **Ernst Rohm** and 100 other SA on 30 June 1934 at the Bavarian Resort of Wiessee. 200, including **Karl Ernst**, were killed in total. Over the next two days he killed 400 more enemies.

**November Criminals** – The name given to those who signed the Armistice in 1919 and surrendered. This name also came to include the signatories of the Treaty of Versailles. They were branded as traitors, Jews, Communists and cowards.

**The Nuremberg Laws 1933** - These were the Reich Citizenship Law and the Law to Protect German Blood and Honour. The Reich Citizenship law stated that only those with true German blood could be a citizen of Germany. This meant Jews lost their citizenship, right to vote and hold government office. The Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honour forbade marriage or sexual relations between Jews and German citizens. Those already married were encouraged to divorce but few did so.

## O

**Order Castle' schools** - were for the best of the Leadership schools to have elite physical and political training

## P

**Pastors' Emergency League** – An association for Protestant Pastors that opposed Hitler. It was supported by 6,000 Pastors which rose to 7,000 by 1934.

**Political Intrigue** – This is the historical term given to the political infighting and dodgy dealing in the Reichstag that led to Hitler being made Chancellor in January 1933

**President** – German Head of State elected by the people. Chose the Chancellor.

## R

**Race studies** - This was introduced as a new subject. Children were taught to classify races through skull size and rank them in intellect. Aryans at the top – Jews at the bottom.

**Reich Church** – The Protestant Church where their followers called themselves 'German Christians,' wore Nazi uniforms and gave the Nazi salute. Their motto was 'The swastika on our chests and the Cross in our hearts.'

**Reich Labour Service** - This was set up to provide young men with manual jobs. By 1935 it was compulsory for the all men aged between 18-25 to serve in the corps for six months. They got uniforms and learned military drill but earned very low pay and worked in very harsh conditions.

**Reichsmark** – This was the currency, pegged to gold, that eventually became the German currency after the Rentenmark had served its purpose.

**The Reich Office for Jewish Immigration** - This was established under Reinhard Heydrich in January 1933. This began forced emigration.

**Reichsrat** – Upper House of Parliament made up of 67 members of the 17 Lander. Could veto Reichstag laws. Lost power in March 1933.

**Reichstag** – German Parliament made up of roughly 500 Deputies (MPs) who voted on laws. Lost power in March 1933.

**The Reichstag Fire** – In February 1933 Marinus Van Der Lubbe burned down the Reichstag and Hitler used this as an excuse to get rid of his Communist enemies.

**Reichswehr** – The German Army

**Rentensmark** – This is the temporary currency brought in by Stresemann to replace the Mark which stabilised the German economy and rescued it from hyperinflation. Its value was pegged to property prices so it was short lived.

**The Rhineland** – The demilitarised zone on the Western border of Germany that the Allied forces withdrew from in 1927.

**Roter Frontkämpferbund (RFB)** – Otherwise known as the Red Front Fighters, they were the fighting wing of the Communist Party that clashed regularly with the SA. By 1932 they were outnumbered and out resourced by the SA.

**The Ruhr** – The area of Germany that accounted for 80% of German iron and coal production and manufacturing. It was invaded by the French and Belgians in 1923. It would remain under occupation until 1925.

## S

**Sabbath** – The Jewish and Christian Holy Day. For Jews it is Friday night to Saturday night and for Christians it is Sunday.

**Selective breeding** – The method by which Hitler hoped to create a pure Aryan racial state through and destroying the Jews and all other non-German minorities by creating laws about whom could procreate with whom.

**Sachlichkeit** – New Objectivity – This was the art movement that tried to depict the world as it was rather than the way the artist wanted it to be in the 1920s i.e. realism.

**Sicherheitsdinst (SD)** – The intelligence wing of the SS that was headed by Reinhard Heydrich and was staffed by academics, lawyers and other professionals.

**Social Democratic Party (SDP)** – The most popular political party in Germany. It was a slightly left of centre party that effectively help run the country from 1918 – 1933 and from their party came most of the Chancellors between 1918 and 1930.

**Spartacus League** – This was a coalition of left wing groups, workers and returning soldiers who wanted a Communist Revolution. Members of the league or those with similar ideas were known as **Spartacists**.

**The Sterilisation law (1933)** - These ensured that women with 'mental deficiencies' couldn't give birth (320,000 were sterilised) and. Also Jewish women were allowed to abort their babies whereas racially pure women were not. This sought to sterilise people with 'simple-mindedness,' epilepsy, physical deformities or disabilities, or chronic alcoholism. Between 1934 and 1945 350,000 were sterilised. All black babies were also sterilised.

**The 'struggle against the gypsy plague' decree (1938)** – This meant that so all Gypsies had to register with authorities.

**Sturmabteilung (SA)** – The Brown Shirts who were an army of thugs created by Hitler in 1921 as a way of protecting himself and attacking the opposition. It was mostly made up of young ex Freikorps members.

**Swing Youth** - The Middle Class version of youth rebellion were called the Swing Youth. They were so called due to their love of swing music. Hitler and the Nazis frowned on this behaviour due to the nature of the music, which they considered 'black,' Jewish and communist and the Nazis didn't like rebellious attitudes. However, they were never really considered a threat. They were seen as an oddity and an annoyance as the boys had long hair and the girls wore make-up, finger polish and bright colours.

## T

**Text books** - text books had to be approved by the Nazis after 1935

**Treaty of Versailles** – The peace treaty in June 1919 that ended WWI officially, crippled Germany and caused resentment enough to play a crucial role in the development of WWII.

**Triumph of the Will** – Documentary about the 1936 Olympics and other rallies by Leni Riefenstahl  
– The Protestant church that supported Hitler headed by Ludwig Muller. Their followers called themselves ‘German Christians,’ wore Nazi uniforms and gave the Nazi salute. Their motto was ‘The swastika on our chests and the Cross in our hearts.’

**25 Point Programme** – The political programme put forward by the Nazis in 1920 to appeal to the working class, nationalist, racists, left wingers, right wingers, the middle class and big business.

## U

**Undesirables** - Others were considered undesirable like homosexuals, alcoholics and Juvenile delinquents. They all had to be removed from society.

**Unification of Germany** – On 18 January 1871 all the German States united to become the German Reich (Empire).

**Untermenschen** – The Sub-humans. Anybody who was not Herrenvolk or of pure white German stock.

## V

**Volkischer Beobachter** – ‘The People’s Observer.’ The first Nazi newspaper founded by Adolf Hitler.

**volkgemeinschaft** - workers community

**Volkswagen (People’s car) scheme** – This is where workers could pay in 5 marks a week to a scheme to save up for a car. However, this was a scam. By 1939 nobody had a car, war broke out and the money disappeared.

## W

**The Wall Street Crash** – This was the name given to the Stock Market Crash on Wall Street in New York in October 1929 that led to the Americans recalling loans from Germany, plunging it into recession.

**Weimar National Assembly (Constituent Assembly)** – Formed a month after the first elections in January 1919 that formed the **Weimar Republic** (A state run with a parliament not a Kaiser) in order to draw up a constitution for how the Republic would be run.

**‘With burning anxiety’** - A speech by Pope Pius XI in 1937 that showed his opposition to Hitler with his famous speech at the Vatican which rallied the Catholics behind him.

**Women’s Bureau** – Headed by Agnes Von Grone was a church organisation against Hitler but it was disbanded in 1936

## Y

**The Young Plan** – Stresemann negotiated a further reduction in reparations. Total reparations went down from £6.6 billion to £1.8 billion and the payment period was extended to 59 years.

## Z

**Zeittheatre and zeitopera** - New age theatre and opera that mirrored the art movement and championed realism.



