

War weariness in Germany:

There had been a small number of protests against the war in Germany since 1915 but by the middle of 1918, many German civilians had had enough of the war.

- Thousands of men had been killed and many thousands more injured.
- There were serious food shortages in Germany, as well as other economic problems.
- They were exhausted with working the long hours demanded for the war effort.

War weariness in the military:

As the war went on, more soldiers became disheartened with the war, although most remained confident of victory. However, in the summer of 1918 disillusionment became worse and desertions from the army dramatically increased as allied forces, reinforced by US troops, won battle after battle. Sailors in the navy were also becoming increasingly unhappy. This led to mutiny (rebellion) in October 1918, which in turn led to the Kaiser's abdication and Germany's defeat.

What led to Germany's defeat and the end of the monarchy:

- On 29th September 1918, Field Marshall Hindenburg and General Ludendorff informed Kaiser Wilhelm II and members of the Bundesrat and Reichstag that Germany would never be able to win the war. They advised negotiating with the allies for an armistice based on the US President Wilson's conditions for peace, which demanded greater democracy in Germany.
- On 3rd October 1918, Kaiser Wilhelm II appointed a liberal man, Prince Max of Baden, as chancellor and reluctantly transferred some of his powers to the Reichstag. A new government was formed, which took back control of Germany from the army leaders. This wasn't enough. President Wilson demanded Kaiser Wilhelm should abdicate. In Germany popular demonstrations against the war increase.
- On 28th October, sailors in the navy stationed at Kiel in Northern Germany refused to follow orders to attack the Royal Navy. The mutiny spread quickly to other ports where more sailors refused to follow their orders.
- The naval mutinies triggered other uprisings across Germany. Some workers went on strike and held large protests in the streets. Some soldiers refused to restore order. Within days, some local authorities had been overthrown; councils of workers and soldiers were running many towns and cities. Meanwhile, at the front, soldiers were deserting.
- Kaiser Wilhelm fled to the army headquarters in Spa, Belgium, on 9th November. Ministers tried to persuade him to abdicate. He refused. Army leaders then withdrew support and on 10th November he fled to the Netherlands.
- Germany was then declared a republic by Philipp Schliemann, a leading member of the SPD, the largest party in the Reichstag. The November Revolution had begun. SPD leader Friedrich Ebert was made temporary leader of the country.

- On 10th November, Ebert formed the council of Peoples representatives with leading socialist's, to run the country until elections could be held. The army leaders agreed to work with the new government.
- On 11th November, the new government signed the armistice. The First World War was over and Germany had been defeated.

Stab in the Back theory:

Throughout the war, many German's believed it when they were told that Germany was winning. Although many were relieved the war was over, defeat was an unexpected shock. This led to the idea that the German army had been 'stabbed in the back' by politicians. Many historians believe that army leaders were largely responsible for this idea as, despite being in charge in 1918, they forced politicians to seek peace and left negotiations to them. As Germany had never been invaded, some found defeat difficult to accept.

Germany before and during WW1

Economic problems in Germany:

- The British Royal Navy was preventing food supplies reaching Germany by sea. By 1918 serious food shortages. Many people were malnourished and surviving on turnips and bread.
- Germany had printed more money to finance the war. However, it did not have the gold reserve to support this so the value of the German mark was lowered in 1918 than it was in 1914.
- As the Royal Navy prevented ships from reaching Germany, there were non-food shortages such as raw materials needed by some industries and medicines.
- Many working class Germans had their wages restricted during the war, so were worse off in 1918 than they had been before the war. In contrast, a few businesses had made vast amounts of money for their owners, which made workers angry.
- Many middle class and upper class Germans had helped to pay for the war through buying war bonds from the government. The government would need to repay this money to keep their support.
- As more soldiers died and other were too injured to work, the state had to support an increasing number of families through war pensions.
- With the loss of workers and a focus on producing equipment for the war effort, industrial production in 1918 was about one third less than before the war.

- As well as the reduction in manufactured goods to sell, trade had been severely disrupted by the war, and national income was two thirds less than it had been before the war.
- Germany had bought food and other goods from other countries on credit. These debts would have to be repaid.
- Germany had lent money to its allies to help their war effort. However, these countries had serious economic problems themselves, so could not repay their debts.
- The allied blockage of Germany caused great suffering, with people reduced to scavenging. According to German statistics at the time nearly 763,000 Germans died of starvation during and immediately after the war. Another 150,000 died in the flu pandemic of autumn 1918.

TERRITORIAL TERMS		MILITARY TERMS		GUILT AND REPARATIONS TERMS	
1.	The Rhineland became a demilitarised zone. (No German soldiers were allowed into this area)	1.	Germany's army was reduced to 100 000 men.	1.	CLAUSE 231: Germany had to admit full responsibility for starting the War.
2.	Alsace-Lorraine was given to France	1.	Germany not allowed an air force.		(GERMANY WAS TO BLAME)
3.	Schleswig was divided in two. Northern Schleswig was given to Denmark, Southern Schleswig to Germany.	1.	Germany only allowed 6 naval ships and no submarines.	2.	REPARATIONS: Germany had to pay £6, 600 million, mainly to France and Belgium.
4.	West Prussia and Posen were given to Poland.			3.	The League of Nations was established.

Treaty of Versailles

Elections in January 1919:

Despite the chaos in Germany, there was a very high turnout in the elections for the new National Assembly on 19th January 1919. moderate parties won most the votes: The SPD won 40% of the votes, the centre party won 20% Ebert became the first president of Weimar Germany Scheidemann became the chancellor.

Strengths of the Weimar constitution		Weaknesses of the Weimar constitution	
•	Proportional representation made sure small parties had a fair share of seats.	•	Proportional representation led to coalition governments that were unstable, or found it difficult to have strong policies and often fell apart.
•	Women able to vote as well as men.	•	Lack of strong government led to weakness in a crisis that ended up with the president passing laws without the prior consent of Reichstag. Article 48 of the constitution enabled the president to do this.
•	Voting age reduced from 25 to 21.	•	It was not the choice of the people so was not that popular.
•	No one group or person could have too much power.		
•	There was an election for president every seven years.		
•	Central government was more powerful than before, but local government still retained power in the regions.		
•	The Reichstrat could regulate the power of the Reichstag by delaying new laws.		

Industrialisation:

- Industrialisation in Germany began before 1890 but between 1890-1913 the speed of industrial growth was astonishing this was partly due to rapid population growth which provided workers as well as consumers.

Positives	Negatives
Traditional industries grew rapidly, coal production rivalled Britain by 1914 and iron and steel production improved.	Industrialisation was accompanied by rapid urbanisation as people moved to towns and cities for work. Living conditions were poor leading to outbreaks in disease such as cholera.
More coal, iron and steel helped to fuel railways, trains and ships aiding communication and trade.	Although most people shared an increased prosperity and unemployment was low, the gaps between rich and poor grew wider.
By 1914 Germany was also out producing the rest of Europe in newer industries such as electrical goods and chemicals.	Agricultural production did not increase at the same rate leading food to be imported and this was expensive.
Generally people became wealthier and standards of living improved.	High rates of immigration, mostly from Eastern Europe provided more workers but fuelled social problems as hatred of foreigners (especially anti-Semitism) grew.

Growth of socialism:

In Germany
socialism (the idea that profits from industry should be shared equally between everyone in society) had been growing alongside industrialisation since unification in 1871 and continued to grow in popularity after 1890. Socialism was greatly feared by the ruling and middle classes, it became an increasing problem for the Kaiser because he needed the Reichstag to pass new laws.

Social reform:

- There were some efforts to meet the workers' concern:
- In 1891 employing children under 13 years old, women working over 11 hours a day and businesses operating on a Sunday were banned
 - Throughout the period old age pensions and welfare provisions for those too ill or injured to work (introduced in 1890) were improved.
 - After 1900 industrial courts to settle disputes between workers and their employers were made compulsory in towns of over 20,000 people.

Prussian militarism:

Prussia had often been threatened by other countries so believed strongly in militarism. This meant:

- A large army in proportion to its population size.
- High government spending on maintaining the army at all times.
- A strong culture of service and absolute loyalty to the king from the army.
- The army was respected and admired by Prussian society.

Influence of Prussian military:

As Prussia was the dominant state within Germany, its militarism became very influential. Also, as the Prussian army was experienced, well equipped and well led, it was used as the basis for the German army.

Navy laws:

Reasons for the Naval Laws:

Wilhelm was convinced that it would:

- Lead to further industrial growth.
- Protect and potentially increase Germany's empire.
- Be a great symbol of Germany's power in the world.
- Rival the Royal Navy of Britain.

The Navy League:

A patriotic group which aimed to popularise the navy and naval expansion and represented the Navy as a symbol of German greatness. It was supported by many industrialists and soon had over 200,000 members.

Germany
before WW1

Chancellors under Kaiser Wilhelm:

- In the theory, the Kaiser had a great deal of power as he could remove the Chancellor, ministers and the Reichstag when he wanted.
- One of Wilhelm II's first actions as Kaiser was to dismiss Bismarck; he did not want anyone to be more powerful than himself and disagreed with Bismarck's *Realpolitik* (ideas based on realism instead of idealism). After this Wilhelm II chose a Chancellor and other ministers who had the same aims and beliefs as he did.

Growth of Parliamentary government:

- Wilhelm II did not have complete power as Germany had an elected Reichstag which was needed to pass legislation.
- Before 1890 political parties had started to develop and this continued under Wilhelm II's rule; this meant Reichstag members were loyal to other members of their party and not always totally loyal to the Kaiser.

The importance of the Naval laws:

- Britain's response to the Naval Laws helped create a greater fear in Germany which generated support for the Kaiser's other policies.
- Helped industries and businesses by creating more work and employing more people.
- Created conflict between the Kaiser and army leaders who argued that the army should have the money allocated to the navy (although spending on the army increased as well).
- The huge cost was borne by raising taxes (mostly indirect taxes which hit the lower classes more) and borrowing money.
- The SPD were very opposed to the Naval Laws (mostly due to the expense). This won them support but also helped the Kaiser present the SPD as the unpatriotic enemy within.
- The Naval laws encouraged patriotism, nationalism and therefore helped support the policy of *Weltpolitik*.

The new constitution had weaknesses

- Proportional representation meant no single party won a majority of seats which meant the country was ruled by weak coalitions which always broke down meaning there were always new elections
- 1923-30 there were 10 coalition Governments
- Many judges and civil servants did not agree with the new Weimar Government and challenged it
- Article 48 meant the President could rule without Parliament in an emergency
- The army did not support the Weimar Government and wanted the Kaiser to return

Spartacist revolution:

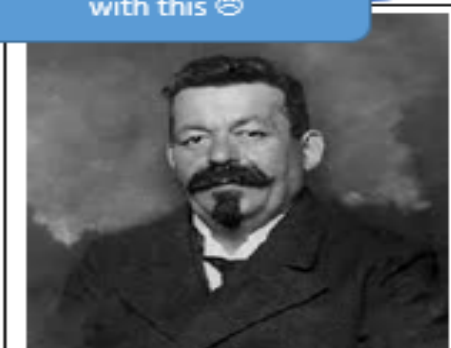
- A left wing Communist movement
- Leaders were Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht
- They took over the Telegraph bureau
- The Freikorps were called in to halt the revolution as the government could not deal with the problem themselves
- The leaders were murdered by the Freikorps this made the government look weak because they did not know that this had happened

Poor Ebert having to deal with this ☹️

The Armistice:

- Signed 11 November 1918 (peace agreement)
- Germans felt that they had been forced to surrender by the new Government who had taken over after the Kaiser had abdicated
- These politicians became known as "the November Criminals" who stabbed Germany in the back

Year 11 learn sheet:
Germany 1919-1923 (not including Munich Putsch)



The Kapp Putsch:

- The group were Right wing supporters of the army and Freikorps
- The leader was Wolfgang Kapp
- They took over Berlin and the government fled to Dresden
- The group were upset because the treaty of Versailles was going to mean they had to abandon the Freikorps because it took their available army to over 100,000 men, this was making France and Britain nervous

The government ordered a strike and the people followed there was no gas, electric or water and they were forced to flee

- Hyperinflation:
- As many of the countries workers were not producing goods the country's economy was beginning to suffer
- The government had to begin printing more money
- This meant that value of the currency declined and prices in shops had to be increased
- The decline in the currency continued until prices for bread had reached 500,000 marks
- Stresemann introduced a new currency to solve the problem which meant he stabilised the currency

The Red rising:

As soon as Kapp fled abroad, left wing workers in the industrial area of the Ruhr stayed on strike, rose up and took over several towns. Known as the Red Rising, the government, now back in Berlin, sent soldiers and some Free Corps units to deal with the rebellion, over 1000 workers were killed.

Treaty of Versailles:

1. Germany lost 13% of its land, 48% of its iron production and 6 million citizens
 2. Article 231 the War Guilt Clause. Germany had to accept full guilt for WWI
 3. Reparation repayments of 6.6 billion
 4. They were not allowed to be a part of the League of Nations
 5. Their army was restricted to 100,000 and was not allowed in the Rhineland
- Weimar at first rejected the terms but had to accept or go back into war. They called the terms *Gewaltfrieden* (enforced peace) and the Chancellor resigned

Invasion of the Ruhr:

- Germany fell behind on their reparation payments to the allies
- The French and Belgian troops marched into the Ruhr area of Germany
- They picked this area because it is rich in raw materials and was classed as the best industrial area
- The German people went on strike/ PASSIVE RESISTANCE
- Which led to Germany having more problems with the reparations

Issue 1: French and Belgian troops invading the Ruhr.

Stresemann's solution: He met with the American Vice president, Charles Dawes, and arranged for the USA to lend money to Germany. Germany could now begin to pay what they owed. This deal is known as the Dawes Plan.
Success?: Yes French and Belgian troops left the Ruhr. However some German's felt Stresemann had given in to the bullying French tactics.

Issue 4: German industries were in trouble after the war.

Factories were run down, and there were few jobs and poor schools, housing and hospitals.
Stresemann's solutions: As well as using some of the money Germany borrowed from the USA (Dawes Plan) to pay reparations, Stresemann used it to build new factories, houses, schools and roads. This meant more jobs.
Success?: Slowly, Germany became more prosperous and many Germans were better off. However some Germans, even Stresemann himself, feared that Germany relied too much on American loads

Golden Age?

Housing and Benefits

- Weimar governments attempted to deal with a critical shortage of housing in parts of Germany. Investment, tax breaks, land grants and cheap loans were used to get more houses built.
- While Germany had benefits for the old and sick from 1880, the Weimar Governments took this further. In 1927 unemployment insurance was introduced.
- Benefits were also available for single mothers, war veterans and the disabled

Issue 2: Hyperinflation:

- **Stresemann's solution:** He stopped the printing of the old paper money and replaced it with temporary, new currency called the Rentenmark. This could be exchanged for the old currency.
- **Success?:** Yes. Germans quickly accepted the new currency and hyperinflation ended. However, people who had lost all their savings never got it back
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Stresemann and Golden age?

Wages:

German workers did to a certain extent benefit from increases in the value of real wages. This made average workers some of the highest paid in Europe. Many of the middle-class did not benefit though, they had been bankrupted by hyperinflation

Science

Germany had the post educated population in Europe, and this was reflected in the several Nobel prizes won by Germans in the period by several prominent international scientists including **Albert Einstein**

Architecture

- The establishment of the Bauhaus school of design by Walter Gropius. He believed in only using basic shapes and colours. This was very different to the old 'elaborate' style.
- Major figures left Germany to live in the USA including Gropius who later taught at Harvard University.

Issue 3: Germany was no longer a world power

Stresemann's solution: he worked hard to improve Germany's relationship with other nations. In 1925, Germany signed the Locarno Pact with Britain, France, Belgium and Italy. They promised to never invade each other! In 1926, Germany joined the League of Nations, which previously they had been banned from. In 1928, Germany signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact, the participating countries agreed never to go to war, unless to defend themselves if they were attacked.

Success?: Germany regained its international status and became an important part of the League of Nations.

Women

- Women in Weimar Germany over 20 could vote under the Weimar Constitution.
- They were entitled to equal education and received equal pay in professional jobs.
- Germany had been a very 'traditional' country until 1919. Now Women enjoyed new freedoms such as drinking and smoking and could go out without a male, wear short skirts, cut their hair short and wear make-up.

Art:

Germany was at the forefront of new styles and movements in art and design. Most Weimar artists tried to show everyday life. They believed that art should be a comment on the society of the time. This style became known as Neue Sachlichkeit meaning 'new objectivity'.

Cabaret and dance:

Weimar cabaret was a common feature of late 1920s Germany, which has become fancy lifestyles styles, music and dance. After World War I cabarets became enormously popular across Europe. The Weimar government lifted censorship. Gay men, lesbians and transvestites; once forced to conceal their sexuality, seized upon the liberal attitudes of the cabaret scene to openly display their lives.

NAZI Party 1919:

Anton Drexler formed the German Workers Party
It was very right wing and nationalistic
While working for the army as a spy Hitler was recruited by Drexler as he was so good at public speaking

Nazi Party 1920:

February Hitler and Drexler drew up a manifesto of party ideas "the 25 point plan" – Hitler kept to these ideas for most of his life
- Hate of the Treaty of Versailles, hate of the November Criminals, hate of the "Stab in the back" and the Armistice, hate of Communists and Jews and hate of Weimar
The party changed its name to the National Socialist German worker's Party (Nazi for short)
The membership grew due to Hitler's public speaking.

Nazi party 1921:

Hitler became leader
He gave himself the title "Führer" which meant he would have absolute power in the party

Nazi party 1921-1923:

He adopted the swastika and the use of the raised arm salute
He introduced the Sturmabteilung (the SA) to protect Nazi speakers in 1921 led by Ernst Rohm
Became known as the "brown shirts due to the colour of their uniform"
Disrupted meetings of Social Democrat and Communist meetings

Reasons for the Munich Putsch

- Hitler hated the Weimar
- German people hated Weimar and felt humiliated following French invasion of the Ruhr so would support Hitler
- Growth of the Nazi Party
- SA would be armed support
- Hitler
- Hitler thought Bavaria would support him

Factor 1: The Depression

The depression hit Germany hard. Businesses collapsed, unemployment soared and banks closed, but this helped Hitler. Those voters who had paid little attention to Hitler in the 1920's now started listening to him. The Nazi's continued to repeat their core beliefs: that the Treaty of Versailles was a crime to Germany that Jews should be blamed for the economic problems, and that Germany should be reborn as a great and powerful country.

Factor 2: the Appeal of Hitler

Hitler himself had a lot to do with his increasing popularity. He had a charismatic personality, and could make people believe that he could be trusted to make Germany a great nation.

Factor 3: Germans were unhappy with the Weimar government,

The Weimar politicians couldn't seem to agree how to help the unemployed and get Germany out of the depression. They argued constantly and achieved very little. First one chancellor (Muller) and then another (Bruning) made little impact. At one point, Bruning was passing laws by using the president's emergency decrees and making them legal under Article 48. Some people, who had always tried hard to support the key principles of democracy, were drawn towards political parties (both left and right wing) with more extreme ideas about how to run the country)

Factor 4: Fear of communism

In 1917, there had been a communist revolution in Russia, and the Communist Party took over all businesses and farms. There had been attempts by German communists to take over Germany in the years after the end of WW1 too, as a result, middle and upper class Germans particularly businessmen and land owners were frightened of German communists. They didn't want to lose the wealth and position society that they had worked so hard to build up.

Factor 5: Nazi Party structure method and tactics

Hitler thought he could become Germany's ruler by leading armed soldiers in a revolution. He tried this in 1923 but his Munich putsch failed he realised that he needed to change tactics, so he decided to win power legally by winning votes in elections. After prison, Hitler and the Nazis started to build up support through an effective combination of persuasion and intimidation:

Nazi party offices were set up all over Germany to recruit more loyal followers. There were 100,000 men in the SA by 1931, growing to 400,000 by 1932.

The Nazi party made use of propaganda through new media like radio broadcasts and cinema news reports. They also bought newspapers and printed millions of leaflets and posters to persuade and influence Germans to their ways of thinking. Hitler made one of his most loyal followers Joseph Goebbels, the chief Nazi propagandist from 1928. Hitler himself took part in fabulous parades to show off the Nazi power, and the rallies where he made passionate speeches.

What happened at the Munich Putsch?

The Nazis seized the beer hall where Bavarian politicians such as Von Kahr were attending a meeting
He held them at gunpoint and they agreed to support him
They were allowed to leave the beer hall though and arranged for troops and police to stop Hitler's uprising in Munich
16 Nazis were killed and 4 police men
Hitler was arrested with Ludendorff and the Nazi party was banned

Effects of the Munich Putsch:

Trial began in Feb 1924 and lasted a month. He used the trial as a public platform putting his ideas forward about the "November Criminals" and the Treaty of Versailles
Judges were sympathetic and only sentenced him to 5 years the minimum sentence and only served 9 months
In prison he wrote Mein Kampf (My Struggle) which contained all of his political views such as Lebensraum (a bigger living space for pure Aryans) and all Jews to be eliminated from Germany and Volksgemeinschaft (strongest races would dominate)

How did the Nazi Party change 1924-29:

- Following his release from prison Hitler managed to get the ban on the party lifted
- 1926 Hitler strengthened his position as leader removing opposition
- 1926 Hitler created his own private bodyguard the Schutzstaffel (SS)
- 1926 Hitler created the Hitlerjugend (Hitler Youth)
- 1925 = 27,000 members: 1928 100,000+ members
- However, in the 1928 election they only gained 12 seats

Nazi party background and why did people vote for them?

Year 11 Learn Sheet

Hitler consolidating his power

Political manipulation:

- In the 1932 July elections the Nazis won 230 seats and were the largest party in the Reichstag
- Hindenburg refused to make Hitler Chancellor keeping Von Papen in the post
- Von Papen failed to secure support in the Reichstag so Hindenburg appointed Von ~~Schleicher~~.
- Hitler met with Von Papen and persuaded him that he should persuade Hindenburg to make him Chancellor and he could be Vice Chancellor
- Von ~~Schleicher~~ was unpopular so Hindenburg agreed and made Hitler Chancellor

March elections:

- 5 March 1933 following the Reichstag Fire Hitler wanted to get a majority in the Reichstag
- Violence and terror were seen in the campaign with 70 deaths in the weeks leading up to it
- Hitler received large amounts of money from industrialists such as Bosch
- There was a massive propaganda campaign
- They imprisoned many opposition and the opposition did not have any media control
- The Nazis won 288 seats which was not a majority

Enabling act 23rd March 1933

- Hitler needed 2/3 of the Reichstag to be able to change the constitution. He had failed to get this in the March 5th elections
- He wanted to pass the enabling bill which meant he could pass any law he wanted without consulting the Reichstag
- It was passed on 23 March 1933 and was considered the "foundation stone" of the Third Reich
- It resulted in censorship, abolition of trade unions and the banning of all political parties

Removal of opposition:

- Due to the enabling law Hitler introduced **Gleichschaltung**: every aspect of life would be controlled by the Nazis
- 2 May 1933 all trade unions were banned and the DAF was set up who decided wages banned strikes. If anyone disagreed they would be sent to the newly opened concentration camps (the first being Dachau March 1933)
- 14 July 1933 the law against the formation of parties was passed and the Nazi Party became the sole legal party in Germany
- Hitler abolished the 18 "Lander" (provincial Parliaments) and put a Reich Governor in to replace them who would be a loyal Nazi

Reichstag fire:

- One week before the March elections on 27th Feb 1933 the Reichstag was set on fire
- The Nazis arrested Dutch Communist ~~Marinus Van Der Lubbe~~
- They claimed the Communists were staging a takeover
- Following the fire Hitler got Hindenburg to sign the "Decree for the Protection of People and State"
- This suspended civil rights and allowed the Nazis to arrest many of their ~~opposition~~

Death of Hindenburg

- August 1934
- The army swore allegiance to Hitler
- Hitler combined the roles of Chancellor and President to become "Führer"
- He asked the approval of the German people and more than 90% of voters agreed showing his popularity

The importance of the night of the long knives:

- Also known as Operation Hummingbird or the Bloody Purge
- Hitler ordered the killing of 400 SA leaders and opposition including Von ~~Schleicher~~ and Rohm by the SS on 30 June 1934
- This was to win the support of the army who distrusted the SA
- To remove the threat to his power (they were a massive organisation)
- It showed that Hitler would rule through terror and fear

Factor 1: impact of the Wall Street crash:

- In 1929 the stock market collapsed in the USA and bankers withdrew loans made under the Dawes Plan in 1924
- Unemployment rose (1932 6 million were unemployed)
- Farmers struggled as food prices fell
- Homelessness rose
- Benefits were cut
- The unemployed and hungry started to look to extremist parties (like the Nazis and Communists) for solutions
- The middle class were worried about the growth of the German Communist Party (KPD)
- The Government failed to deal with the economic crisis effectively and the Chancellor Brüning was blamed
- There was no majority or effective coalition in 1930. They relied on President Hindenburg using Article 48
- The Reichstag was used less
- In 1930 the Nazis won 107 seats and became the second biggest party in Germany
- Brüning was forced to resign in May 1930

Factor 2: propaganda

- Nazis increased their support through propaganda
- Josef Goebbels was in charge of propaganda
- Mass rallies
- Displaying posters and banners wherever possible
- In 1930 the Nazis owned 120 newspapers
- Nazi message constantly spread through the radio

Year 11 Learn Sheet

How did Hitler become chancellor?

Factor 3: Financial support from big business

Financial backing came from industrialists who were scared of Communism like Krupp and Bosch. They knew Hitler would also reduce the power of the Trade unions



Factor 4: Appealed to all people:

- Alternative to the weak Weimar Government
- Hitler offered the Jews and the Weimar Government as a scapegoat to the problem
- He promised the working classes jobs
- He promised the middle and upper classes to crush the threat of Communism
- Hitler stood against Hindenburg in the Presidential elections in 1932 and won a large section of the votes and although he lost Goebbels portrayed it as a victory

Factor 5: The SA

- Protected their speakers
- Disrupted meetings of their opponents
- They were the "bully boy thugs" of the party and beat up opposition.
- They had a membership of 170,000 in 1932
- The Communists had their own army (Red Front Fighters) and there were many fights between them and the SA. Hitler wanted to show Germany he could stamp out their threat