

Exercise

CBSE-9
History

Nazism and the Rise of Hitler

General Instructions:

- (i) Questions **1-15** are very short answer questions. These are required to be answered in **one sentence** each.
- (ii) Questions **16-30** are short answer questions. Answers to them should normally not exceed **70** words each.
- (iii) Questions **31-45** are long answer questions. Answer to them should normally not exceed **100** words each.
- (iv) Answers should be brief and to the point.

Very short answer type

(1 mark)

- Question 1.** Why was the International War tribunal set up after the Second World War at Nuremberg?
- Question 2.** What was the war indemnity imposed on Germany by the Allied powers in accordance to the Treaty of Versailles?
- Question 3.** Why did the French occupy Germany's leading area, Ruhr in 1923?
- Question 4.** One of the major defects of the Weimer Constitution was Article 48. How can we say this?
- Question 5.** What were the different spectacles of power used by the Nazis?
- Question 6.** How did Hitler become the dictator of Germany through the Enabling Act of 1933?
- Question 7.** Name the countries with which Hitler signed the Tripartite Pact in 1940.
- Question 8.** What was Herbert Spencer's ideology that influenced Hitler's racist policy?
- Question 9.** Which different communities living in Nazi Germany were considered undesirable and fit for extermination?
- Question 10.** Which different ideologies were taught to the German youths as a member of Nazi youth organization called 'Hitler Youth'?

- Question 11.** Throw light on the Nazi cult of motherhood in a single sentence.
- Question 12.** Which different terms were used by the Nazis in mass communication for the acts of killing or murder?
- Question 13.** Mention the different reactions among the common man in Germany against Nazi brutalities.
- Question 14.** Many sections of German society were filled with the fear of proletarianisation during the period of great Depression. What does this mean?
- Question 15.** Name the different special surveillance and security forces created by Hitler to have a control on society according to Nazi's way.

Short answer type

(2 & 3 marks)

- Question 16.** Throw light on the genocidal war that Germany waged on the eve of Second World War?
- Question 17.** Initially US were not interested to join the Second World War but it later joined. Throw more information on this.
- Question 18.** As a result of First World War, aggressive nationalism and dictatorship gained popularity in Europe. Present your analysis of this.
- Question 19.** Discuss the spread of socialist movements in Germany at the time of the birth of the Weimer Republic.
- Question 20.** Unemployment became the basic feature of German economy at the time of economic crisis. Give an assessment of this.
- Question 21.** Rituals and spectacles in mass mobilization were used by Hitler as a new style of politics. Throw more information on this.
- Question 22.** How did Hitler try to dismantle the structure of democratic rule in Germany in 1933?
- Question 23.** Discuss the quick successes that Hitler achieved in foreign policy after becoming dictator in 1933.
- Question 24.** How did the Nazis apply their racial policies in the occupied part of Poland?
- Question 25.** Discuss the policy of Nazi state towards Jews.
- Question 26.** Discuss in brief the system of Nazi schooling with respect to justify their racial policies.

- Question 27.** Hitler said, "In my state, mother is the most important citizen." How far is it correct?
- Question 28.** How did the Nazis use media to popularize their views?
- Question 29.** Discuss in brief the reaction of ordinary German towards the Nazi policies.
- Question 30.** Throw light on hyperinflation experienced in Germany after in 1923.

Long answer type

(5 marks)

- Question 31.** Discuss in detail the background in which Weimer Republic took birth in Germany? Why was this Republic not welcomed by majority of Germans?
- Question 32.** "The First World War had devastating impact on the continent of Europe both psychologically and financially." Discuss.
- Question 33.** How did the Weimer Republic and Economic Crises heighten political radicalism in Germany?
- Question 34.** The economic crisis not only resulted in unemployment but also fears and anxieties in the minds of ordinary Germans. Present your analysis of this.
- Question 35.** Discuss the methods adopted by Hitler which enabled him to rise to power in 1932?
- Question 36.** In his move towards destroying the democracy in Germany, Hitler suppressed all the opposing views, enacted new laws and set up Special Forces. Present your analysis of this.
- Question 37.** Hitler's policy of conquest finally halted at Soviet Union. Present your assessment of this.
- Question 38.** Hitler's worldview rested on his racial policy and Lebensraum. Throw more information on this.
- Question 39.** Discuss the ruthless policies followed by the Nazi state towards establishing a state of pure German Aryans.
- Question 40.** In the Nazi state war and genocide became the two sides of the same coin. Present your justification of this.
- Question 41.** Discuss the different steps taken by the Nazi state to shape the mind of youth according to their views.

- Question 42.** The Nazi state took several steps to ensure that German women maintain the purity of German race.
- Question 43.** The Nazi state to popularize its views used both the language and media with great care. Present your analysis of this.
- Question 44.** Discuss in detail the attitude of ordinary people of Germany and the Jew towards the ruthless policies pursued by the Nazi state.
- Question 45.** The knowledge of the Nazi holocaust was completely known to the world only after the defeat of Germany. Throw more information on this.



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Answer Key

Very short answer type

(1 mark)

- Answer 1.** The high level leaders and military officers had formed International Military Tribunal at the international level to prosecute the criminals of Nazi war.
- Answer 2.** According to the allied power Germany was responsible for war and damage and forced to pay compensation amounting £6 billion and was demilitarized
- Answer 3.** Germany refused to pay war reparations in gold and the French occupied its leading industrial region, Ruhr, to claim their coal in 1923.
- Answer 4.** One of the major defects of the Weimer Constitution was Article 48, which gives the president the power to impose emergency, suspend civil right and rule by decree.
- Answer 5.** The spectacles of power of the Nazis were the red banners with the Swastika, ritualized round of applause after his speeches and the Nazi salute.
- Answer 6.** On 3 March 1933, Hitler became the dictator of Germany through the famous Enabling Act as it established dictatorship.
- Answer 7.** Tripartite pact was signed between Germany, Italy and Japan.
- Answer 8.** According to Spencer's ideology, only those species survived on earth that could adapt themselves to the changing climatic conditions.
- Answer 9.** The communities that were considered undesirable by the Nazis were Jews, gypsies, Russians, Poles and black living in Nazi Germany.
- Answer 10.** Youth organizations were responsible for educating German youth in the 'spirit of National Socialism', encouraging war, aggression and animosity for Jews.
- Answer 11.** Girls were told that they had to become good mothers, rear pure-blooded Aryan children, develop hatred for Jews and teach Nazi values to their children.
- Answer 12.** Nazis never used the words 'kill' or 'murder' but 'special treatment', 'final solution euthanasia', 'selection' and 'disinfections'.
- Answer 13.** Many saw the world through Nazi eyes, and spoke their mind in Nazi language. But not every German was Nazi. Many organized active resistance to Nazism, braving police repression and death.
- Answer 14.** Proletarianisation refers to the state of anxiety of being reduced to the impoverished ranks of the working classes.

Answer 15. The different special surveillance and security forces created by Hitler to have a control on society according to Nazi's way were Storm Troopers, the Gestapo, the SS (protection squads), the SD (Security Service) and the criminal police.

Short answer type

(2 & 3 marks)

Answer 16. Under the shadow of the Second World War, Germany had waged a genocidal war. This resulted in the mass murder of selected groups of innocent civilians of Europe. The number of people killed included 6 million Jews, 200,000 gypsies, 1 million police civilian and 70,000 German who were considered mentally and physically disabled.

Answer 17. At first, the USA had opposed involvement in the war. But it could not stay out of the war for long. Japan was expanding its power in the east. When Japan extended its support to Hitler and bombed the US base at Pearl Harbor, the US entered the Second World War.

Answer 18. After the First World War, a deep impact was left on the society of Europeans and their polity. Soldiers were placed above the civilians. Moreover, politicians and publicists laid great stress on the men to behave aggressive, strong and masculine. Aggressive war propaganda and nationalism secured highest prominence among the people. Popular support grew for the conservative dictatorship.

Answer 19. The overthrow of Imperial Germany and the relinquishment of the emperor gave an opportunity to parliamentary parties to change German polity. A National Assembly met at Weimar and established a democratic constitution with a federal form. Deputies were now elected to the German Parliament or Reichstag, on the basis of equal and universal votes cast by all adults, including women.

Answer 20. During 1924 – 1928, German economy was in a stable condition but as soon as - an economic crisis started in USA, the German economy crashed out. Many factories were shut down, export failed and millions of German got unemployed. Crash of Wall Street Exchange drowned the German economy as they were based on the short-term loans from the USA. The German economy was worst hit in 1932 which led to the unemployment of 6 million people. People didn't have jobs and wrote placards reading 'Willing to do any work'.

Answer 21. The Nazis could not perfectly gain mass support until the early 1930s. It was during the great depression that Nazism became a mass movement. Hitler devised a new style of politics wherein he understood the importance of ritual and spectacle in mass mobilization. He was a powerful speaker. His passionate words moved people. He promised to build a strong nation, undo the injustice of the Versailles Treaty and restore the dignity of the German people.

Answer 22. On March 1933, the famous Enabling Act was passed. This Act established dictatorship in Germany. It gave Hitler all the powers to sideline Parliament and rule by mandate. All political parties and trade unions were banned other than for the Nazi Party and affiliated organizations. The state established complete control over the economy, media, army and judiciary.

Answer 23. In foreign policies and tactics, Hitler acquired speedy success. In 1933, he pulled out the League of Nations and in 1936, he reoccupied the Rhineland. He integrated Austria and Germany in 1938 under the slogan 'One people, one empire, one leader'. He proceeded to Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia and devoured their entire economy. His successions at home and in abroad reversed the fate of Germany.

Answer 24. Polish were considered 'undesirable' like the Jews and were herded like cattle in the General Government. Polish children who resembled Aryans were taken away from their families and examined by 'race experts'. Children who 'passed' the test were sent to be raised in Germany families. Those who failed the test were thrown in orphanages. Apart from this, they were coerced to leave their properties, which were later occupied by the Germans and a lot were murdered.

Answer 25. The policy of Nazi state towards Jews:

- There was no equality between the races but a hierarchy.
- Nazi believed in creating a pure German race comprising of the pure Nordic German Aryan race that was considered superior. They considered Jews as those who belonged to the lowest rung, who had to be eliminating as they were thought to be polluting the superior race. They were regarded as 'anti-race'.
- Jews were deported to concentration camps and were killed in gas chambers.

Answer 26. Racial science was added to the curriculum of school children to encourage animosity for Jews. Children were taught to hate Jews and hold Hitler in reverence. Teachers who were Jews or seen as politically untrustworthy were dismissed. Germans and Jews could not sit together or play together. Subsequently undesirable children, Jews, the physically handicapped, Gypsies were thrown out of schools.

- Answer 27.** Hitler said, "In my state, the mother is the most important citizen." The Nazi mothers were given special treatment in hospitals, concessions in shops, railways and theatre. The Jew mothers were disrespected and even punished for not producing racially desirable children. To promote women to produce many children, Honor Crosses were awarded. A bronze cross was given for four children, silver for six and gold for eight or more.
- Answer 28.** The Nazis use media to promote their views because they knew the popularity and power of the media. The Nazi regime used language and media with care, and often to great effect. Nazis never used the words kill or murder in their official communications. Media was carefully used to win support for the regime and popularize its worldview. Nazi ideas were spread through visual images, films, radio, posters, catchy slogans and leaflets. Media was used to abuse, mock and stereotype those who they did not like.
- Answer 29.** A majority of people viewed the world through Nazi eyes and many spoke their mind in Nazi language. However, it didn't mean that the every German was a Nazi. While there were many organizations that supported them, there was some active resistance who braved repression by the police and death. A large number of people were passive onlookers, who perhaps, were too afraid to protest. Some were indifferent witnesses.
- Answer 30.** Germany had fought wars on loans and was forced to pay war reparations in gold. This depleted the gold reserves. They had lost their industrial area of Ruhr to the French To retaliate with this situation, they recklessly printed paper currency. The value of the German mark was equal to 98860000 marks in December 1923. The value of the mark collapsed severely and prices of goods soared unimaginably. This was the phase of hyperinflation.

Long answer type

(5 marks)

- Answer 31.** The Weimar republic was established in Germany after the First World War to bring the world war to a speedy end. The defeat of Germany and the departure of the emperor gave the parliamentary parties an opportunity to establish the Weimar republic. This Republic was not welcomed by majority of Germans because the people of the Germany held Weimar republic responsible for the condition of Germany After the end of First World War. It had some serious inherent defects which made it very susceptible to bring dictatorship. .

Answer 32. The war had a devastating effect both psychologically and financially, not only in Germany but the whole continent. There was too much bloodshed and many people lost their homes. From a continent of creditors, Europe was turned into one of the debtors. The republic was carrying the burden of war and national humiliation. It was left financially handicapped. Soldiers lived a miserable life. People, especially men, were pressurized to act aggressive and strong and foster an attitude of racial animosity.

Answer 33. The uprising of the Spartacist League coincided with the uprising of the Weimar Republic. The political scenario in Berlin transformed and demanded for a Soviet style governance. The Democrats, Catholics and Socialists met in Weimar to give shape to the democratic republic. The Weimar Republic halted the uprising of the Free Corps, an organization of war veterans. The Spartacists formed the Communist Part of Germany. Militant nationalists and revolutionaries desired for radical solutions. This situation was further intensified by the phase of economic crisis and subsequent hyperinflation in Germany in 1923.

Answer 34. The Great Depression had affected the prosperity of Germany because they mostly depended on the loans that were forwarded to them by America. After this depression, America stopped sending the loans and in turn. They sent short- term loans that they had already made them. The years between the 1924 and 1928 saw some stability. For the German investments that were totally dependent on the short-term loans, and largely used from the USA. Fearing a fall in their prices, people were made frantic efforts so they could easily sell their shares.

Answer 35. Methods adopted by Hitler which enabled him to raise to power in 1932 these are:

- The Unification of the State: The unification of Germany administratively integrated and officially occurred on 18 January 1871.
- Liquidation of the Parties: It is a process by which a party must brought to an end.
- Unification of the Labor Unions: In German many labor do their work for unification of their unions to perform integrated.
- The Social Revolution: Hitler was a great speaker and he made a new propaganda to reach his thoughts to every people of the Germany Through the posters and speeches. Hitler was adopted these methods to the rise the power in 1932 at Germany.

- Answer 36.** Hitler, in his own words, said that his orders and ideas are the democracy. He forced people to follow his ideologies and rules and were punished if they ever denied them. People who did not follow Hitler's way were punished badly. No one was allowed to speak or perform any actions against his theories. Special Forces were appointed and were given instructions to immediately capture the person who went against the orders of the Nazi camp.
- Answer 37.** In his conquests to conquer Eastern Europe, he attacked the Soviet Union in June 1941. He exposed the German western front to the aerial bombings of the British and the eastern front to the strong and massive army of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Red Army crushed the German army into a humiliating defeat at Stalingrad. They hunted the defeated German armies until they reached Berlin, where they established dominance over the entire Eastern Europe. This is how Hitler's conquests were halted at the Soviet Union.
- Answer 38.** The geopolitical concept of Lebensraum referred to living space for the population of Germany. Its main features were:
- New territories had to be acquired for the settlement.
 - Acquisition of the new territories would enhance the area of Germany, enabling the settlers so to retain the cultural ties with their country.
 - It would enhance the material resources and power of Germany.
- Answer 39.** The Aryan women who showed deviance from the prescribed code of conduct were punished severely and condemned in public. Any German citizen who maintained cordial contact with the groups abhorred by the Nazis – the Jews, Africans, Polish and Russian, were humiliated to the utmost extent by blackening their faces, shaving their heads, parading them in town with placards hung on their necks that read 'I have sullied the honour of my nation'. They were labeled as criminal offenders, were deprived of their civic honour and imprisoned.
- Answer 40.** It can be correctly said that genocide and war were the two sides of the same coin. Just like war takes place as a sign of strong animosity between two nations, the genocide done by the Nazis was a sign of their abhorrence towards the racial groups who they considered repulsive. Just like war brings with itself horrifying tales of bloodshed and injustice, genocide resulted in the murder of countless innocent civilians. Just like war has a stringent political propaganda and economic motive underlying it, the genocide attacks had the murderous racial ideologies underlying it. It can be said that the genocide was the Nazi's form of war.

- Answer 41.** The Nazis were fanatically keen to instill their values in the youth, for which they exercised control on them both inside and outside school. In schools, they were given intense Nazi ideology training. 'Racial science' was introduced in school. Youth organizations were made to inculcate 'the spirit of Nationalism' Young children had to enter Jungvolk and in adolescence, all boys had to be a part of Hitler Youth, a Nazi youth organization. At 18, they had to join Labour Service to serve in the armed forces and enter into one of the Nazi organizations. Since their childhood, children were taught to worship Hitler and Nazism and abhor 'undesirable races'.
- Answer 42.** The state of Nazis took several steps so to ensure that the German women maintain the cleanness of the German race. Women were held responsible to maintain the purity of race and distance themselves from the Jews. They had to look after the home, instill Nazi values in their children. They had to be the bearers of the products of the Aryan culture and the race. In the Nazi Germany, all the mothers they were not treated equally and neither were their children. Women who produced 'racially superior' children were given special treatment. They were given honours to produce more such children.
- Answer 43.** Nazis knew about the power of media so they promoted themselves in magazines and visual posters. The Nazi ideas were spread to media through visual images, radio, films, posters, slogans and leaflets. In posters, groups that were identified as the enemies of Germans and were stereotyped, mocked, abused were described as 'evil'. The socialists and liberals all represented as weak and 'degenerated'. They were attacked as malicious foreign agents. Propaganda films were made to propagate hatred for the Jews.
- Answer 44.** The attitudes of ordinary people of Germany played an important role. Nazism completely changed the subjective consciousness of the German people and their attitudes, values and state of mind into an obedient national community where the Nazis believed that they have to replace the classes, religious and the regional allegiances. Hitler attempted to create unified protestant Reich church from Germany 28 existing protestant churches.
- Answer 45.** It was only after the end of the war that people came to know about the horrifying Holocaust. The Germans were preoccupied with their own grief and financial burden after their defeat in the war. The world came to know of the brutality of the Holocaust through the diaries, notebooks and archives of the inhabitants of the camps. The Nazis distributed petrol to its functionaries to destroy all incriminating proofs present in offices. According to the new research, a mass of ordinary Germans know about the evolving terror of Hitler's Holocaust. They just knew about the concentration camps and that all of them were full of Jews who were stigmatized as sub-human and as the race-defilers.