

Germany 1890-1928 [Revision Cascade]

Difficulties of Ruling Wilhelmine Germany	Kaiser	Historians think Wilhelm meant well, but his rule was a “disaster”
	Weak, complex government	The government was a maze of different bodies – Kaiser, Chancellor, Bundesrat, Reichstag, Army – all with the power to throw a spanner in the works
	Prussian militarism	Prussia – and Prussia’s needs – dominated the German government
	Reichstag	Had to agree laws, and the budget, and was beginning to get organised (e.g. growth of SDP, Z)
	Socio-economic developments	Rapid industrialisation brought with it social problems and the growth of Socialism
Caprivi’s ‘new course’	Chancellor, 1890	Wilhelm replaced Bismarck with his army friend
	Socialism	The Anti-Socialist law was allowed to lapse in 1890
	Trade	Caprivi negotiated trade treaties which reduced tariffs, and thereby the price of food
	Employment	Sunday work, work for children under 13, and more than 11 hours work for women, were forbidden
	Army	In 1893 he tried unsuccessfully to reduce the length of national service in the Army from 3 years to 2
Why Caprivi resigned	Conservatives	Conservatives were calling him a Socialist
	Agrarian League	Agrarian League was angry that food prices were falling
	Army	The Army was angry at the reduction in National Service
	Wilhelm	Caprivi argued with Wilhelm – Wilhelm’s courtiers were telling him to take on ‘personal rule
	Subversion Bill	In 1894, Wilhelm told Caprivi to draw up an anti-Socialist ‘Subversion Bill’. Caprivi refused. Although he persuaded the Kaiser to drop the idea, he resigned
Weltpolitik in Foreign Policy	Kruger Telegram, 1895	When the Boers of South Africa defeated a British Raid into their territory, Wilhelm sent a congratulatory telegram to Paul Kruger, the Boer president, and he openly supported the Boers during the Boers War (1899-1902)
	Jerusalem, 1897	Wilhelm alarmed the other powers by making a trade treaty with the Ottoman Empire, entering Jerusalem (like Jesus), and promising to protect Protestants, Catholics ... and 300 million Muslims
	Kiaochow (1898) and the Boxer rebellion (1900)	Germany occupied the port of Kiaochow in China and forced the Chinese government to lease it to Germany as a naval base in the Far East – when this caused the Boxer Rebellion (1900) Wilhelm sent troops, telling them to act “like the Huns”
	Morocco, 1905 & 1911	In 1905 Wilhelm visited Morocco and promised to protect it; France & Britain forced him to back down (Algeiras Conference, 1906), and again in 1911 when he sent the gunboat Panther to Agadir.
	Daily Telegraph interview, 1908	Wilhelm told the British they were “mad as March hares” and that German people hated them

Weltpolitik in Home Policy	Wilhelm	A personal obsession of the Kaiser, who wanted “a place in the sun” for Germany
	Colonies	Needed to protect Germany’s overseas possessions
	Power and parity	A symbol of Germany’s power and parity with Britain
	Support at home	Enthusiastically supported in Germany by the Navy League and German nationalists, and by industrialists who hoped for business contracts
	Navy Laws	Needed to break a blockade in the event of a war = Admiral Tirpitz’s Navy Laws ; by 1914, Germany had built 44 battleships, 58 Cruisers, 72 U-boats and 144 torpedo boats
Problems with Weltpolitik	International tension	Created tension with other powers, especially Britain
	Arms race	Created a naval arms race with Britain, which immediately started building Dreadnought battleships
	German Army	Created tension with the German Army, which resented the money spent on the Navy
	Cost	Created huge government debt, and extra taxes – eventually the Reichstag refused to increase spending any further
	Reichstag	The SDP opposed the policy, which they said would cause a war, and the Daily Telegraph interview caused an outcry in the Reichstag which led to a curtailment of Wilhelm’s power
Was WWI Wilhelm’s failure?	Reinsurance Treaty	Cancelling the Treaty with Russia meant that Russia mobilised against Germany in July 1914
	Weltpolitik	<i>Weltpolitik</i> gathered against him a much-more-powerful Entente of enemies
	Schlieffen Plan	The ill-thought-out Schlieffen plan brought Belgium and Britain into the War and led to a ‘war of attrition’ that Germany was always going to lose
	Falkenhayn	Wilhelm’s personal appointment of Falkenhayn as Army Chief led to the disastrous Battle of Verdun (1916)
	Navy	The High Seas Fleet failed to break the Blockade, and the U-boat campaign brought America into the war
Impact of WWI on Germany	Military rule	Censorship; moral policing of women; military control over civilian workers (Patriotic Auxiliary Service Law, December 1916); and martial law in Berlin (Jan 1918)
	Political opposition	The <i>Burgfrieden</i> (general support) had collapsed by 1918 and there was political ferment
	Hunger	In 1916, Germans suffered the ‘ <u>Turnip Winter</u> ’, and by 1918, Germans were living on <u>K-Brot</u> , potatoes and berries
	Disease	750,000 Germans died from hunger and disease associated with the British Blockade, and scurvy, tuberculosis and dysentery were widespread
	Economy	War ruined trade, the economy declined 25%, the government was bankrupt, there was a shortage of male workers, and inflation.

Germany in 1918	Riots and strikes, Jan 1918	There were Hunger Riots in Germany in autumn 1915, summer 1916, and September 1918; and half a million workers went on strike in Berlin (Jan)
	Kiel Mutiny, Oct 1918	The Kiel Mutiny (Oct): German sailors refused to fight, and set up Communist-style 'soviets' (councils)
	The government collapsed, 9 Nov 1918	Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicated (Nov) and fled to Holland
	A humiliating Armistice, 11 Nov 1918	The German government signed a humiliating and harsh Armistice (Nov) which was a humiliating defeat
	Freikorps	Demobbed soldiers returned home but could not get a job; they joined Freikorps (private, right-wing armies)
Establishing the Weimar Republic	Berlin Strike, Jan 1918	In 1917-18 the harvest failed – this and the British Blockade was causing widespread hunger; half a million workers went on strike in Berlin
	Kiel Mutiny, Oct 1918	German sailors refused to fight and set up Communist-style 'soviets' (councils); there were food riots throughout Germany
	Kaiser Wilhelm abdicated, 9 Nov 1918	Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicated and fled to Holland; Philipp Scheidemann declared the new republic, with Friedrich Ebert as president
	Armistice, 11 Nov 1918	Harsh terms: Germany had to withdraw from all lands it had occupied, surrender its weapons and navy, and accept blame for the war and reparations
	Weimar Republic, Aug 1919	The Weimar Constitution was declared
Treaty of Versailles: political impact	Harsh terms	Germany lost all its colonies and 10% of its land in Europe, lost most of its military and navy, and accepted blame for the war and reparations
	Outcry in the newspapers	e.g. the Deutsche Zeitung vowed 'We will never stop until we win back what we deserve'
	Dolchstoßlegende	The nationalist myth that the German army had been 'stabbed in the back'
	November Criminals	Weimar politicians were widely hated as the men who had betrayed Germany
	Kapp Putsch 1920	There was a nationalist rebellion against the Treaty
Reasons some Germans opposed the Weimar Republic	Monarchism	Right-wing monarchists regretted the abdication of the Kaiser and wanted to return to the old autocracy; they included many judges and civil servants, who undermined the government from within
	Nationalism	Nationalists refused to accept Germany had been defeated in the War, hated the Treaty of Versailles, called the Weimar politicians 'November Criminals' and believed the Dolchstoßlegende
	Communism	German Communists wanted to copy the Russian Revolution and set up a government of soviets; they were a founding member of the Comintern and had a paramilitary wing ('M-Apparat')
	Anti-Semitism	There was hostility to the Jewish influence in Weimar government (e.g. Hugo Preuss drafted the Weimar constitution/Walther Rathenau was Foreign Minister), culture and economy
	Entartung movement	Weimar Germany tolerated prostitution, homosexuality, drugs, cabaret, jazz and modern art; many Germans thought these entarten ('degenerate') and wanted a return to a pure 'peasant' culture

The Weimar Constitution	President	An elected president was head of state, but he did not choose the government or make laws (except in an emergency)
	Reichstag	All men and women aged 20+ elected the Reichstag which chose the Chancellor and ministers who made all the laws
	Bill of Rights	Guaranteed all Germans equality before the law and political and religious freedom
	Proportional representation	This resulted in many parties and chaotic coalitions (e.g. Hindenburg and Papen asked Hitler to be Chancellor in 1933)
	Article 48	Gave the president the right to rule by decree 'in an emergency' (Hitler used this to establish a dictatorship in 1933)
Constitutional weaknesses: facts	Democracy	All men and women aged 20+ elected the Reichstag which chose the Chancellor and ministers who made the laws; but many Germans missed the Kaiser
	Proportional representation	This resulted in many parties and chaotic coalitions (e.g. Hindenburg and Papen asked Hitler to be Chancellor in 1933)
	Article 48	Gave the president the right to rule by decree 'in an emergency' (Hitler used this to establish a dictatorship in 1933)
	Judges and officials	All came from the Kaiser's time and hated the Republic; they treated right-wing rebels leniently (e.g. Hitler 1923)
	Dolchstoßlegende	Weimar politicians were widely hated as the men who had betrayed Germany
The Spartacist rebellion, 1919	Rioting in Berlin, 5 Jan 1919	Riots spread across Berlin, chanting 'Down, down, down'; the disruption grew until half a million workers were on strike
	Revolutionary Committee, 8 Jan	The German Communist Party joined the rebellion and issued a pamphlet calling for an armed rebellion
	Noske sent in the Freikorps, 9 Jan	Noske (Minister of Defence) sent the Freikorps and the army to crush the rebellion
	Luxemburg & Liebknecht killed, 15 Jan	Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were executed
	Repression, Feb 1919	The workers called off the strike, but the Freikorps continued attacking into March; at least 2,000 rebels were killed
Attacks from the left, 1919–23	Spartacist Uprising, 5 Jan 1919	Riots spread across Berlin; by 7 November there was a strike of half a million – it was supported/led by the German Communist Party
	Bavarian Soviet Republic, 1919	With Russian help, communists set up a soviet in Munich; it was crushed by the Freikorps
	Ruhr Red Army, Mar 1920	An army of 50,000 Communists, supported by mineworkers, took over the Ruhr; in April the Freikorps suppressed the rebellion
	Saxon Free State, Mar 1923	Communists set up the free State of Saxony, led by Erich Zeigner
	Thuringia, Oct 1923	Communists rioted, and joined a coalition government which lasted until the Berlin government threatened to send in the army

Attacks from the right, 1919–23	Freikorps	Right wing soldiers who wanted a return to the old German Empire; they joined right-wing parties (which Hitler gradually assimilated into the Nazis)
	Organisation Consul	A right-wing Freikorps group which assassinated left-wing government ministers Matthias Erzberger (1921) and Walter Rathenau (1922)
	Kapp Putsch, Mar 1920	A rebellion of Freikorps against the Treaty of Versailles, led by Wolfgang Kapp
	Black Reichswehr rebellion, Oct 1923	In Berlin soldiers calling themselves Black Reichswehr, rebelled, led by Bruno Buchrucker
	Munich Putsch, Nov 1923	Hitler planned a rebellion in Bavaria with the support of other right-wing politicians
The Kapp Putsch	Marinebrigade Ehrhardt mutiny, 13 Mar 1920	When the Freikorps group Marinebrigade Ehrhardt was ordered to disband, it refused, and occupied Berlin instead
	General Seeckt refused to attack	When Noske (Minister of Defence) asked the army to intervene, it refused
	Wolfgang Kapp formed a government	A nationalist civil servant, Kapp tried to form a government – but no prominent right-wing politicians or generals would help him
	General Strike	The government fled to Stuttgart, where it called upon the workers to strike; Berlin was paralysed, the rebellion collapsed and Kapp fled to Sweden
	Move to Bavaria	Some conspirators went to Bavaria, where they got involved in Hitler's 1923 Munich Putsch
1923 Crisis: causes	Germany stopped paying reparations, Dec 1922	The Germans defaulted on their reparations payments, which were damaging the German economy and causing inflation
	France invaded the Ruhr, 11 Jan 1923	France invaded the Ruhr to take the reparations by force
	Passive resistance, 19 Jan 1923	The German government called a general strike to resist; there was some sabotage
	Hyperinflation, Jan-Nov 1923	Loss of production, together with printing money to pay the strikers, caused 'hyperinflation'
	Social chaos and rebellions, Mar-Nov 1923	There was social chaos, riots and looting; there were rebellions in Saxony, Thuringia, Berlin, Rhineland and Munich
The 1923 Crisis	Saxon Free State, Mar 1923	Communists set up the free State of Saxony, led by Erich Zeigner
	Thuringia, Oct–Nov 1923	Communists formed a coalition government which lasted until the Berlin government threatened to send in the army
	Black Reichswehr rebellion, 1 Oct 1923	In Berlin soldiers calling themselves Black Reichswehr, rebelled, led by Bruno Buchrucker
	Free Rhine Republic, 21 Oct 1923	To resist the French invasion, separatists calling themselves the 'Rhineland Protection Force' occupied town halls and tried to proclaim a Free Rhine Republic
	Munich Putsch, Nov 1923	Hitler planned a rebellion in Bavaria with the support of other right-wing politicians

Hyperinflation	Prices rose	Prices rose – bread went up from 1 to 200 billion marks; the value of £1 went up from 500 to 14 trillion marks
	Money became worthless	People got their wages in wheelbarrows; money was used as a toy, or as kindling
	Many people were ruined	People on fixed incomes (pensioners, war widows) and people with savings were ruined
	Speculators made a fortune	People with loans benefited. Speculators made a fortune
	Social chaos and rebellions	There was social chaos, riots and looting; there were rebellions in Saxony, Thuringia, Berlin, Rhineland and Munich
The recovery of the Republic under Stresemann	Grand Coalition, 1923	Stresemann organised a 'Grand Coalition' of centrist parties, which gave Germany stable government
	Solved the hyperinflation, Sep-Nov 1923	As Chancellor, Stresemann introduced a new currency and reorganised the state finances; this ended the economic and social chaos behind the political instability
	Foreign Minister, 1923–29	As Foreign Minister, Stresemann organised the Dawes and Young Plans, signed the Locarno Treaties and the Kellogg–Briand Pact, and joined the League of Nations
	Economic growth	The economy was growing 4% a year, production doubled, wages peaked in 1929
	Cultural progress	Art and architecture, film and cabaret, and liberal attitudes
How did Stresemann achieve political stability	Grand Coalition, Aug 1923	Stresemann organised a 'Grand Coalition' of centrist parties, which gave Germany stable government
	Called off the passive resistance, 26 Sep 1923	As Chancellor, Stresemann called off the passive resistance and the strike; this was unpopular, but it ended the crisis
	Solved the hyperinflation, Sep–Nov 1923	As Chancellor, Stresemann introduced a new currency and reorganised the state finances; this ended the economic and social chaos behind the political instability
	Saxon Free State, Oct 1923	Stresemann sent the army to suppress the rebellion in Saxony
	Bavaria, Nov 1923	Stresemann negotiated with the leaders of Bavaria to prevent a rebellion there (so that, in November, the Bavarian government suppressed Hitler's Munich Putsch)
How did Stresemann achieve economic stability	Called off the general strike, 26 Sep 1923	This got production going, and helped to end the hyperinflation
	Rentenmark, 30 Aug 1923	Stresemann called in the old worthless marks and introduced a new currency (the Rentenmark); this was vital in creating economic stability
	Railways and Post Office reorganised	Stresemann reorganised the railways and the post office so they became profitable
	Government expenditure cut	Stresemann sacked many public employees and cut the salaries of the others, which rescued the government's finances
	Dawes Plan, 1924	This reduced reparations payments (so Germany found them easier to pay) and secured \$800m of loans (which got German industry going and created prosperity)

The Dawes and Young Plans	Reduced Reparations	Reduced reparations payments (so Germany found them easier to pay)
	\$800 millions of American loans	\$800m of loans (which got German industry going – the money was used to modernise factories – and created prosperity)
	Ruhr evacuated	Because reparations payments were restarted, the Dawes Plan stated that the Allied troops would evacuate the Ruhr – the British left in 1926, the French in 1930
	Reichsbank	The Plan set up a new Central Bank – independent of the government – to control German currency and interest rates
	Young Plan, 1929	The Young Plan reduced the total amount of reparations, and extended the final deadline by a further 59 years
Stresemann's successes abroad	Reparations, 1923	Stresemann started paying reparations so the British and French left the Ruhr
	Dawes Plan, 1924	This reduced reparations payments (so Germany found them easier to pay) and secured \$800m of loans (which got German industry going and created prosperity)
	Locarno Treaties, 1925	Stresemann signed the Locarno Treaties, accepting Germany's borders as set by the Treaty of Versailles.
	League of Nations, 1926	Stresemann took Germany into the League of Nations; Germany was a world power again
	Kellogg–Briand Pact, 1928	Stresemann signed the Kellogg–Briand Pact outlawing war; this helped other nations to trust Germany
Cultural achievements of the Weimar period	Art and architecture	Cultural achievements included Bauhaus architecture, and 'modernist' art (Grosz and Dix).
	Kammerspielfilm	The German film industry (Fritz Lang, Kammerspielfilm) was the largest in Europe
	Literature	e.g. bleak, left-wing, anti-war novels (such as Erich Maria Remarque's All Quiet on the Western Front, and Hermann Hesse's psychoanalytic Steppenwolf)
	Cabaret	Germany was famous for its liberal and 'modern' attitudes – e.g. cabaret (Marlene Dietrich) – especially in Berlin
	Homosexuality	Germany was famous for its liberal and 'modern' attitudes – e.g. open homosexuality, left-wing plays
The extent of recovery: political	Success – Grand Coalition, Aug 1923	Stresemann's 'Grand Coalition' of centrist parties gave Germany stable government
	Success – Prosperity	American loans and rising wages made the German people content with the government
	Failure – Nationalists criticised his policies	Nationalists attacked the Dawes plan and Stresemann's foreign policy as a sell-out to the Allies
	Failure – Hatred of the government	There were strong underlying trends of nationalism, right-wing politics, anti-Semitism and a hatred of the Republic and, particularly, the Treaty of Versailles
	Failure – Continued desire for a strong ruler	Judges, officials and many people missed the Kaiser; AJP Taylor called Weimar 'a republic without republicans'

The extent of recovery: economic	Success – Industrial growth	Factories were modernising; by 1929 production and exports were double their 1924 level
	Success – Economic growth	The economy was growing at 4% a year
	Success – Prosperity	The middle class was prospering and workers' wages reached a peak in 1929
	Failure – Prosperity depended on foreign loans	The economy was entirely dependent on foreign loans to keep it going
	Failure – Continued foreign borrowing	In 1924-1929, Germany paid 9 million Rentenmarks in reparations, but had borrowed 14 million Rentenmarks from abroad to pay them – this could not go on
The extent of recovery: culturally	Positive – Cultural achievements	Cultural achievements included Bauhaus architecture, and 'modernist' art (Grosz and Dix).
	Positive – The film industry	The German film industry (Fritz Lang, Kammerspielfilm) was the largest in Europe
	Positive – Liberal attitudes	Germany was famous for its liberal and 'modern' attitudes – e.g. cabaret (Marlene Dietrich), open homosexuality, left-wing plays
	Positive – Anti-war sentiment	There was an anti-war sentiment (Erich Maria Remarque's All Quiet on the Western Front)
	Negative – Right-wing hostility	Many Germans, especially right-wing organisations, regarded Weimar culture as decadent
Weaknesses of the Weimar Republic in 1929	Constitutional – proportional representation and Article 48	The basic underlying constitutional weakness – especially proportional representation and Article 48
	Economic – Germany was dependent on American loans	The economy was entirely dependent on American loans to keep it going
	Foreign policy – hatred of Versailles	Nationalists still hated the Treaty of Versailles and attacked Stresemann's foreign policy as a sell-out to the Allies
	Cultural – hatred of 'degenerate' attitudes	Right-wing organisations regarded Weimar culture as decadent
	Political – a 'Republic without republicans'	There was an underlying trend of nationalism, right-wing politics, anti-Semitism and hatred of the Republic; the historian AJP Taylor called Weimar 'a Republic without republicans'
Early Nazi Party	DAP, Jan 1919	In 1919 Anton Drexler – a right-wing Munich machine-fitter – formed the German Workers' Party (DAP), a group which hated Versailles, Communists and Jews
	Hitler joined the DAP, Sep 1919	The army employed Hitler to spy on Drexler's German Workers' Party (DAP)
	25-Point Programme, 1920	Hitler (in charge of DAP propaganda) brought out a statement of beliefs
	National Socialism, 1921	Hitler took over as leader, renamed the party the National Socialist Party (Nazis) and designed its swastika flag
	Growth in numbers, 1923	Based in Munich in Bavaria, by 1923 the party had 55,000 members (including General Ludendorff) and 15,000 'storm troopers' (the Sturmabteilung, or SA)

Nazi ideas in the 1920s	National socialism	The Nazis wanted to destroy the Treaty of Versailles, and advocated loyalty to Germany, state control of the economy, and equality, help for farmers and pensioners
	Racism and Lebensraum	The Nazis believed in Aryan racial purity, anti-Semitism and Lebensraum (conquests in the east to give Germans 'living space')
	Anti-Communism	The Nazis wanted to destroy Russia, trade unions, and the Communist Party
	Mein Kampf, 1924	Hitler advocated a strong Government and complete obedience to the Fuhrer
	Revolution or election?	Until 1924, Hitler planned to take power by leading a revolution; after 1923 he changed this and worked to be elected into power
The role of the Sturmabteilung	Hall Guards	Formed in Feb 1921 by Emil Maurice to defend Hitler's meetings from attacks by Communists
	Gymnastic and Sports Division	In Sep 1921 Hitler renamed it the Gymnastic and Sports Division of the Nazi Party, to avoid trouble with the government for having a private army
	Brownshirts	The SA recruited ex-soldiers and angry, unemployed youths, fed and housed them in barracks, paid them a small wage, and gave them a uniform (the 'brownshirts')
	Frontbann	After the Nazi Party was banned in 1924, Hitler renamed the Nazi Party (to the Freedom Party) and the SA (to the Frontbann) so they could continue to meet
	Street-fights	As well as guarding Nazi meetings, the SA went out looking for 'Zusammenstosse' (= street-fights) with political opponents
Munich Putsch: causes	Weimar weaknesses	The government of 'November criminals' was hated, especially during the chaos and anger of the French invasion and hyperinflation in 1923
	Nazi Party strength	Based in Munich in Bavaria, by 1923 the party had 55,000 members (including General Ludendorff) and 15,000 'storm troopers' (the Sturmabteilung, or SA)
	Stresemann called off the passive resistance	This angered many Germans, who saw it as another surrender to the French; Black Reichswehr revolted in Oct 1923
	Mussolini's example	Hitler hoped to emulate Mussolini's success 'march on Rome' in 1922 which had brought him to power
	Bavarian revolution cancelled	Kahr, Lossow and Seisser, political leaders of Bavaria, had cancelled their planned rebellion (4 November 1923); the Putsch was an attempt to force them to rebel
The Munich Putsch: events	The Beer Hall Meeting, 8:30pm, 8 Nov 1923	Hitler and 600 SA interrupted a political meeting in a Beer Hall, and forced Kahr at gunpoint to agree to support him
	Rohm occupied key positions, 9pm, 8 Nov	SA leader Ernst Rohm took over the Army HQ (but NOT the telegraph office); Kahr called in reinforcements
	Attacks on Jews and newspapers, 8-9 Nov	The Nazis rioted – Jews were beaten up, and the offices of the anti-Nazi Munich Post newspaper were trashed
	March on Munich 11 am, 9 Nov	The Nazis met and marched on Munich; they were expecting to be welcomed
	Residenzstrasse battle, noon, 9 Nov 1923	The Nazis were stopped by police in Residenzstrasse, 16 Nazis were killed, and Ludendorff and Hitler were arrested

Munich Putsch: results	Nazi membership	Membership of the Nazis plummeted
	Landsberg prison	Hitler was imprisoned for nine months and forbidden to speak in public until 1927
	Publicity from the trial	The trial (before a sympathetic right-wing judge) gave him huge publicity; he became a right-wing hero
	Mein Kampf	In a comfortable prison, he wrote Mein Kampf, outlining his ideas – it became a best-seller
	Hitler's change of strategy	Hitler realised that he would not be able to seize power by a revolution, and decided instead to get elected into power
Mein Kampf, 1924	Hitler's autobiography	After the 1923 Munich Putsch made him famous, a publisher asked him to write an autobiography; Hitler wrote it as a political manifesto of his policies and aims for Germany
	National Socialism	Hitler advocated loyalty to Germany, racial purity, equality and state control of the economy
	An Aryan 'Master Race'	Hitler advocated the triumph of the Aryan race by armed force, because all races, especially the Jews, were inferior to the Aryan (pure German) 'Master Race'
	Lebensraum	Hitler advocated expansion of a German empire into Poland and Russia to get 'Living Space'
	The Fuhrer	Hitler advocated a strong Government and complete obedience to the Fuhrer
Why did the Nazis have little success 1924–28?	Economic prosperity	Economic prosperity: the Nazi principles of hate and blame were less than effective in a time when everyone was reasonably well off
	Stresemann's political success	Stresemann's political success: the centre, pro-Weimar parties (SDP, Z, DVP) were co-operating and the government was stable and secure
	Germany's international status	Germany's international status: Germany's admission into the League of Nations silenced the nationalists who were claiming that Germany had been humiliated
	Hitler was banned from speaking	Hitler was banned from speaking: so the Nazis found it harder to campaign
	Extremism appeared ridiculous	Extremism (e.g. the Nazi uniforms/marching/salute) appeared ridiculous: William Shirer, an American journalist living in Germany, thought that Nazism by 1928 was 'a dying cause ... a joke'
Nazi decline, 1924–28	Reichstag seats down 32 to 12	The party, which had 32 deputies elected to the Reichstag in May 1924, won only 12 seats in May 1928
	Votes down from 2 million to 800,000	The number of people voting Nazi fell from 2 million in 1924 to 800,000 in 1928
	Ludendorff lost the Presidential election, 1925	General Ludendorff, the Nazi candidate in the 1925 presidential election, gained only 300,000 votes (Hindenburg got 12 million)
	Unappealing policies	The Nazi principles of blame were less than effective in a time when everyone was reasonably well off
	Shirer called the Nazis 'a joke'	American journalist William Shirer thought that Nazism by 1928 was 'a dying cause ... a joke'