

History Test 6c

September 15, 2017

Between the wars

Name: Cyrill Z.

Points: 19.5

Grade: 4.4

1. Explain thoroughly (!) how the failure of the Weimar Republic is connected to Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht. 6pts/ 3

When Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were killed by members of the Freikorps, which were ordered by the SPD, a great hatred evolved inside the Spartacist party towards the SPD.

~~The~~ After this there was no possibility that the Communist party will ever form a coalition/alliance with the SPD. This meant that the left-orientated parties were deeply divided. This rift was increased when the SPD formed a fatal alliance with the Reichswehr (which were right-orientated).

The killing of the Communist party leaders even lead to a stage, where the KPD would form an alliance with the NSDAP, which was so fatal in many ways. They could now block the whole Reichstag and they could also refuse a new chancellor. This then lead to a majority of votes toward the enabling law which destroyed the Weimar Republic.

* to form an alliance against the SPD \Rightarrow they had a shared enemy.

2. Why are the Locarno Treaties characteristic for the Weimar Republic's second phase? 4pts / 3

During the second phase of the Weimar Republic ~~it had~~ a relatively stable economy and life was good for ~~people~~ wealthy people. However the economy was so stable because it was kept that stable by huge loans from the US which means that the economic success wasn't based entirely on the own economic so the whole stability and wealth was somehow based on a "lie". This can also be applied for the Locarno Treaties. Stresemann tricked the League of Nations (mostly France) into the thinking that Germany was going to change massively and also he relied on them to lower the reparation costs to relieve the burden of the huge reparation costs. This helped Germany get out of a crisis.

* They lived off of ~~the~~ American peoples success.

Borders: East vs. West

3. The Enabling Act: Answer in catchwords

6pts/ 3.5

| | |
|---|---|
| When (year) did it become effective? (1) | <u>March</u> <u>1934</u> |
| What is the exact content of the act? (2) | The Enabling Act made it possible that the President and Chancellor could introduce any new new law or change an existing one without the approval from the Reichstag, which dissolved itself. <u>all power to leader</u> |
| How exactly was the act approved? (1) | The Act was presented to Hindenburg. Hitler convinced Hindenburg that the enabling act was necessary to maintain the national security. So a election was held in a opera (which was the alternative to the Reichstag) which was however surrounded by the SA and therefore the Reichstag was made to <u>vote for the enabling act</u> <u>exp 5/6 1/2</u> which was burnt down |
| What consequences did the act have for the Weimar Republic? (2) | the Enabling act meant that the Weimar Republic destroyed itself. After the act was approved the President has the full power over everything. The Reichstag and the Parties dissolved themselves and the democracy was turned into a totalitarian state. |

4. In retrospect we know that there were several occasions when Hitler could have been stop. Name three different groups, people or institutions and give detailed explanations. 6pts / 6

1. Hindenburg & Papen & DNVP & Reichswehr

All of the listed above believed that involvement would sort Hitler out. Papen believed if Hitler was integrated into the Government they could control him and his actions. This was a fatal mistake, because Hitler gained more power than he already had.

2. The electorats:

The whole Nation made a mistake by not realising the huge threat from the NSDAP. They could have prevented the NSDAP and Hitler from gaining this much of influence.

3. The Lawyers which sentenced Hitler after the Beerhall-Putsch.

The Lawyers should have sentenced him for longer than they did. This was fatal because Hitler was released in times of huge economical problems, which helped Hitler and the NSDAP massively to attract new voters.

5. Describe the relationship between schools and the Weimar Republic: name reasons and consequences of this relationship. 3pts / 2

The Weimar Republic and the schools at that time weren't exactly friends. The schools were not particularly happy about the Weimar Republic because they lost a lot of influence. During the Kaiserreich the schools had a lot of influence which disappeared. Also the Republic wanted the schools to educate them more about the democracy which the schools weren't used to. They used to educate about the great Kaiserreich. The consequences were that some schools intentionally didn't educate the student about what they should have.

6. Adolf Hitler wrote in "Mein Kampf":

"Der Staat muss Sorge tragen, dass nur, wer gesund ist, Kinder zeugen darf. Umgekehrt aber muss es als verwerflich gelten, gesunde Kinder dem Staat vorzuenthalten."

Link this quote to Hitler's ideas of race and discrimination. 2pts / 1

Hitler's perfect race was the aryan German family. He wanted to maintain the racial purity by ~~either~~ either castrating or sterilizing people ~~from~~ from other races or people with disabilities.

He also wanted to take the healthy aryan children into his system with the Hitler Jugend. He wanted to keep them in his system till they die. -servant of the state

7. Read the following quote and put it into context: 2pts / 1

"No true German woman wears trousers"

This quote shows the ideology of the perfect German woman. A perfect German woman should be aryan, have at least 3 children and work at home. This also was continued by fixing dresscodes or norms women had to follow. This involved that a true German woman ~~has~~ to ~~wear~~ wear a skirt or a dress.