

Understand the chronology

Place the events between March 1932 and January 1933 listed below in the correct chronological sequence in the timeline.

Date	Event
March 1932	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	
January 1933	

EVENTS

- A Hitler demanded the post of Chancellor. Hindenburg refused to appoint him
- B Von Papen arranged for another election for the Reichstag, hoping to win more support
- C Hindenburg appointed von Schleicher, an army leader, as Chancellor
- Von Papen became Chancellor
- E The Nazis' seats fell to 196
- F The Nazis won 230 seats, becoming the largest party in the Reichstag
- G Hitler became Chancellor of Germany
- H Chancellor Brüning was forced to resign
- I Hindenburg invited Hitler to become Chancellor
- Von Papen and Hitler agreed that Hitler should become Chancellor and von Papen Vice-Chancellor



Utility

Below are a utility question and an answer focusing on the utility of the contents of the source. On a separate piece of paper complete the answer by explaining the utility of the nature, origins and purpose of the source. You could look at page 42 for guidance on how to answer the utility question to help you.

How useful is Source A for an enquiry into the political developments in Germany, 1932–33, which led to Hitler being appointed Chancellor? Explain your answer, using Source A and your knowledge of the historical context.

SOURCE A

A cartoon from the British magazine Punch, January 1933.

'The Temporary Triangle.

Von Hindenburg and Von Papen (together): "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow, For He's a Jolly Good Fellow,"

(aside: "Confound him!") "And So Say Both of Us"."



Source A is useful because it suggests that Hitler became Chancellor because of the actions of Hindenburg and von Papen. This is shown in the cartoon with Hitler being carried by the two men who are singing 'for he's a jolly good fellow'. This is supported by my knowledge of the events which brought Hitler to power. Von Papen and Hindenburg did work together to make Hitler Chancellor. Von Papen met Hitler in early January 1933 where they agreed that Hitler should lead a government with von Papen as the Vice-Chancellor. Von Papen then convinced President Hindenburg that a coalition government with Hitler as Chancellor would save Germany and bring stability. Von Papen said that he would be able to control Hitler – he would 'make Hitler squeak'.

Key topic 3 Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933–39

From January 1933 to August 1934, the Nazis secured control of all aspects of the German state. Hitler then consolidated his dictatorship through setting up a police state and using propaganda and censorship.

1 The creation of a dictatorship, 1933-34

REVISED

1.1 Setting up the dictatorship

From January 1933 to August 1934, Hitler secured control of the German state, removing all opposition.

The Reichstag Fire, February 1933

- On 27 February 1933, the Reichstag building was burned down. A Dutch Communist, Marius van der Lubbe, was put on trial and found guilty of starting the fire. Hitler blamed the Communist Party for the fire.
- Hitler persuaded Hindenburg to pass an emergency decree the 'Decree for the Protection of the People and the State' – giving the police powers to detain people without trial.

The Enabling Act, March 1933

The 'Enabling Act' gave Hitler the power to make laws without the Reichstag's consent. Using these powers, Hitler:

- Removed further opposition to the Nazi government, including banning all trade unions. The unions were merged into a 'German Labour Front'.
- Banned all other political parties. By July 1933, Germany was a one-party state.

1.2 The Night of the Long Knives, 30 June 1934

The SA (see page 18) led by Röhm was a threat to Hitler's power. He removed this threat by purging the SA in the **Night of the Long Knives**.

Reasons for the purge

- The SA were increasingly out of control at a time when Hitler was trying to establish a dictatorship through legal methods.
- Röhm wanted a social revolution: to bring about greater equality in society.
- Leading Nazis such as Himmler were concerned about Röhm's growing influence. Himmler wanted to replace the SA with his own SS.

Events of the Night of the Long Knives

- Hitler arranged a meeting with Röhm and 100 other SA leaders. They were arrested by the SS, taken to Munich and shot.
- About 400 people were murdered in the purge.

Results

- Hitler got rid of would-be opponents.
- The SA now had a minor role.
- After Hindenburg died in August 1934, the army leaders swore an oath of allegiance to Hitler, giving him unconditional obedience.

1.3 Hitler becomes Führer

After Hindenburg's death, Hitler declared himself 'Führer', combining the post of Chancellor and President. He called a referendum and more than 90 per cent of the voters (38 million) agreed with his action.

Key terms

Führer German title meaning leader

Night of the Long Knives 30 June 1934, when Hitler purged Röhm and the SA

Oath of allegiance
A promise made by the
German armed forces to
be loyal to Hitler

Reichstag German state parliament

SS Schultzstaffel or 'protection squad'.
Originally Hitler's bodyguards, they became the most powerful troops in the Third Reich, and wore distinctive black uniforms

Trade unions

Organisations set up to protect and improve the rights of workers

Revision task

Draw a timeline for the creation of a dictatorship from January 1933 to August 1934. On the timeline include the key events which helped Hitler to create a Nazi dictatorship.

Exam tip

Ensure you thoroughly revise the sequence of events in 1933, beginning with when Hitler became Chancellor until the death of Hindenburg.



Identify the view

Read the interpretation and identify the view that is offered about the Reichstag fire of February 1933.

INTERPRETATION 1

From Germany 1866–1945 by S. Eddy and T. Lancaster, published in 2002.

The popular view, especially among foreign journalists, was that since the Nazis had most to gain that they set fire to the Reichstag. It has been argued, for example, that the fire was too big to have been the work of one man, van der Lubbe, and that the timing of the fire, six days before the election, was simply too convenient for the Nazis

- What view is offered by the interpretation about the Reichstag fire?
- a) Now use your knowledge to agree with or contradict the view given in the interpretation. To plan an answer to this question, make a copy of and complete the following table.

View given in interpretation	
Knowledge which supports this view	
Knowledge which contradicts this view	

b) Write a paragraph supporting and challenging this view.



RAG: Rate the timeline

Below are an exam-style question and a timeline. Read the question, study the timeline and, using three coloured pens, put a red, amber or green star next to the events to show:

Red:

events and policies that have no relevance

to the question

Amber:

events and policies that have some

relevance to the question

Green:

events and policies that have direct

relevance to the question.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Reichstag fire (1933)
- The Night of the Long Knives (1934)

You must also use information of your own.

Explain why Hitler was able to establish a dictatorship of the Nazi Party in the years 1933-34.

1932 May Von Papen became Chancellor

1932 July The Nazis became the largest

party in the Reichstag

1932 November Von Schleicher became Chancellor

1934 June The Night of the Long Knives 1934 August Hindenburg died

1934 August Hitler combined the posts of Chancellor and Führer

1934 Local councils banned Jews from public places

1932

1933

1934

1935

1933 January Hitler appointed Chancellor

1933 February The Reichstag fire

1933 March The Enabling Act

1933 April The boycott of Jewish shops

1933 May Trade unions banned

1933 July The Nazis became the only legal party in Germany

1935 The Nuremberg Laws were passed, denying the Jews citizenship of Germany

2 The police state

REVISED

2.1 The Gestapo, SS, SD and concentration camps

The Nazis created a police state through the use of these different agencies – establishing a climate of fear.

The SS (protection squad)

- Led by Himmler, the SS were responsible for the removal of all opposition and became the main means of intimidating Germans into obedience.
- By 1934, the SS had more than 50,000 members, growing to 250,000 by 1939.

The Gestapo (secret police)

- Set up in 1933 by Goering, in 1936 the **Gestapo** came under the control of Himmler and the SS.
- It could arrest and imprison without trial those suspected of opposing the state.
- Only it had the power to send political opponents to concentration camps.

The SD

- Set up in 1931, the SD was the intelligence agency of the Nazi Party under the command of Himmler, and organised by Heydrich.
- Its main aim was to find actual and potential enemies of the Nazi Party and ensure that they were removed.

Concentration camps

- In 1933, the Nazis established concentration camps to detain political prisoners. These were run by the SS and SD.
- Prisoners were classified into different categories, each denoted by wearing a different coloured triangle. For example, black triangles were for vagrants and red triangles were for political prisoners.
- By 1939, there were more than 150,000 people under arrest for political offences.

2.2 Nazi control of the legal system

Hitler wanted to ensure that all laws were interpreted in a Nazi fashion:

- All judges had to become members of the National Socialist League for the Maintenance of Law. This meant Nazi views were upheld in the courts.
- In 1934, the People's Court was established to try cases of treason. The judges were loyal Nazis.
- In October 1933, the German Lawyers Front was established. Lawyers had to swear that they would 'follow the course of the Führer'. There were more than 10,000 members by the end of the year.

2.3 Nazi policies towards the Churches

In Germany, about two-thirds of the people were Protestant and one-third was Roman Catholic.

The Catholic Church

Hitler was determined to reduce the influence of the Catholic Church:

- Catholics owed their first allegiance to the Pope, not Hitler. They had divided loyalties. Hitler said a person was either a Christian or a German but not both.
- There were Catholic schools and youth organisations whose message to the young was at odds with that of the Nazi Party.

Key terms

Concentration camps
Prisons for political
prisoners and enemies of
the state

Concordat An agreement between the Pope and a government concerning the legal status of the Catholic Church

Gestapo

Geheimestaatspolizei: the secret police of the Nazi regime

Reich Church Official Protestant Church of the Nazi regime

SD Sicherheitsdienst: the intelligence agency of the Nazis

Revision task

What part was played by the following in the establishment of the Nazi police state?

- the Gestapo
- the SS
- concentration camps
- the legal system.

Exam tip

Make sure you know the precise details about the various organisations used by the Nazis.

In 1933, Hitler signed a Concordat agreeing not to interfere with the Catholic Church. In return, the Catholic Church agreed to stay out of politics. Within a year, Hitler began to break the agreement and attack the Catholic Church:

- Catholic schools were made to remove Christian symbols and were eventually abolished.
- Priests were harassed and arrested. Many criticised the Nazis and ended up in concentration camps.
- Catholic youth movements were closed down.

The Protestant Church

In 1933, Protestant groups which supported the Nazis united to form the 'Reich Church'. Its leader, Ludwig Müller, became the first Reich Bishop in September 1933.

Many Protestants opposed Nazism, which they believed conflicted with their Christian beliefs. They were led by Pastor Niemöller (see page 28). In December 1933, they set up the Pastors' Emergency League for those who opposed Hitler.



Inference

An inference is a message that you can get from a source by reading between the lines. Below are an exam-style inference question, the source and a series of statements. Decide which of the statements:

- make(s) inferences from the source (I)
- summarise(s) the source (S)
- cannot be justified from the source (X).

Give **two** things you can infer from Source A about the Nazi police state.

SOURCE A

An incident reported in the Rhineland, July 1938.

In a café, a 64-year-old woman remarked to her companion at the table: 'Mussolini [the leader of Italy] has more political sense in one of his boots than Hitler has in his brain.' The remark was overheard and five minutes later the woman was arrested by the Gestapo who had been alerted by telephone.

Statements	1	S	X
People were frightened of the Gestapo			VIII-DAD
A woman suggested that Mussolini had more sense than Hitler			
The Nazis made use of informers and spies			
Many people were arrested by the Gestapo			
You were not allowed to criticise Hitler and the Nazis			
A woman was arrested because she criticised Hitler			



Spot the mistakes

Below is a paragraph about the Churches in the police state. However, it has factual mistakes. Identify the mistakes and rewrite the paragraph.

In Germany, most of the population was Roman Catholic. At first Hitler decided to cooperate with the Catholic Church. In 1935, he signed an agreement known as a Concordat. In 1933, those Protestant groups that supported the Nazis agreed to unite to form the 'Reich Church'. Their leader, Pastor Niemöller, became the first Reich Bishop in September 1933. Many Protestants opposed Nazism, which they believed conflicted greatly with their own Christian beliefs. They were led by Ludwig Müller and, in December 1934, they set up the Reich League for those who opposed Hitler.

3 Controlling and influencing attitudes

REVISED

3.1 Goebbels and the Ministry of Propaganda

Censorship and propaganda were used to ensure that people accepted and conformed to Nazi thinking. In 1933, Goebbels was appointed as Minister of Public Propaganda and Enlightenment.

Censorship

- No book could be published without Goebbels' permission.
- Newspapers that opposed Nazi views were closed down. Editors were told what could be printed.
- The radio was controlled.

Propaganda

- Posters were used to put across the Nazi message.
- Goebbels ordered the mass production of cheap radios. By 1939, 70 per cent of German homes had a radio. It was important that the Nazi message was heard.
- Mass rallies and marches projected the image of power and terror. Every year a
 party rally was held at Nuremberg.
- Success in sport was important to promote the Nazi regime.

The Berlin Olympics of 1936

- A major sporting showcase, the Olympics was designed to impress the outside world and was a public relations success.
- Hitler's plans to highlight the superiority of the Aryan race were sabotaged by the success of the black athletes in the US Olympic team, especially Jesse Owens, who won the 100 metres, 200 metres, long jump and 4 × 100 metres relay.

3.2 Nazi control of culture and the arts

The Nazis used culture and arts to promote their ideals. Artists were encouraged to use 'Aryan themes' such as the family, national community and heroism.

Music

Hitler hated modern music. Jazz, which was 'black' music, was seen as racially inferior and was banned. Instead, the Nazis promoted traditional German folk music and the classical music of Brahms, Beethoven and especially Richard Wagner.

Films

The Nazis also controlled the cinema. All films were accompanied by a 45-minute official newsreel which glorified Hitler and Germany.

Art

Hitler hated modern art, which he believed was backward, unpatriotic and Jewish. Such art was called 'degenerate', and banned. Art highlighting Germany's past greatness and the strength and power of the **Third Reich** was encouraged.

Theatre

Theatre concentrated on German history and political drama. Cheap theatre tickets were available to encourage people to see plays which often had a Nazi political or racial theme.

Key terms

Aryan Nazi term for someone of supposedly 'pure' German stock

Censorship Controlling what is produced and suppressing anything considered against the state

Third Reich Nazi name for Germany. Means 'Third Empire'

Revision task

How were the following used by the Nazis to maintain their dictatorship?

- the radio
- cinema
- sport.

Exam tips

- Do not confuse Goebbels' propaganda methods before and after Hitler came to power.
- Remember that Nazi control was based on fear, through the police state, and persuasion, through censorship and propaganda.

Architecture

Hitler encouraged the 'monumental style' for public buildings. These large stone buildings were often copies from ancient Greece or Rome and showed the power of the Third Reich. Hitler admired the Greek and Roman style of building because he said the Jews had not 'contaminated' it.

Literature

All books, plays and poems were carefully censored and controlled to put across the Nazi message. Encouraged by Goebbels, students in Berlin burned 20,000 books written by Jews, Communists and anti-Nazi university professors in a massive bonfire in Berlin in May 1933.



How important

Complete the table below.

- Briefly summarise why each factor enabled Hitler to establish his dictatorship in the years 1933–39.
- Make a decision about the importance of each factor in achieving and maintaining Hitler's dictatorship. Give a brief explanation for each choice.

Factor	Key features	Decisive/important/quite important
Reichstag fire		
The Enabling Act		
The SA		
The Night of the Long Knives		
Law courts		
SS and Gestapo		
Concentration camps		
Churches		
Censorship		
Propaganda		

Causation

Below is an exam-style question.

Explain why the Nazi Party was able to establish a dictatorship in Germany in the years 1933–39.

To answer the question above, you need to explain three causes. It is sensible to make use of the two

rou may use the rottov	ving in your answer:
■ The SS	Censorship
You must also use info	ormation of your own.

given points. However, you will need to explain a third cause. You could select one of these from the table in the 'How important' activity above. Write down your choice and the reasons behind it.

Cause:			
days dates weeken	Softs of table sections of a first text of the section of the		
Why I have chosen this cause:	dumi'ne as		
A Secretary of the Control of the Co	Brank (27) som Sylland S., in the 2012 of 20		
Details to support this cause:			

4 Opposition, resistance and conformity

RFVISFI

Between 1933 and 1939, about 1.3 million people were sent to concentration camps, seeming to indicate quite widespread opposition to the regime. It has also been estimated that about 300,000 people left Germany. However, although there was some opposition it was never co-ordinated or enough to threaten the regime in the years 1933–39.

4.1 The extent of support for the Nazi regime

Many Germans gained much from Hitler's successes after 1933 and consequently supported him:

- There were economic successes which began to erase the Depression (see page 18).
- Germany's international standing grew, seeming to remove the shame of the Treaty of Versailles. The Saar was returned in 1935, the army was built up after 1935 and in 1936 the Rhineland was remilitarised.
- Some Germans were happy to see the Communists, Socialists and SA leaders removed.

4.2 Opposition from the Churches

- Many Catholic priests opposed Nazi policies and were arrested. At least 400 were sent to Dachau concentration camp. In many respects this had the opposite effect to what the Nazis wanted. Priests who were sent to concentration camps were seen as martyrs. Catholic Churches were packed every Sunday.
- Many Protestant pastors opposed Hitler and the Reich Church. They were led
 by Pastor Niemöller, who set up the 'Confessional Church'. Niemöller and
 many other pastors were arrested and sent to concentration camps. Nazi
 repression did not destroy Protestant opposition. Instead it created martyrs.

4.3 Opposition from the young

Although many young people joined the **Hitler Youth**, it was not popular with some of its members. Not all young people accepted the Nazi ideas and some set up other groups.

The Edelweiss Pirates

The Edelweiss Pirates were not a unified group but a loose band across many cities, first emerging in 1934. In Cologne they were called the Navajos, and Essen had the Roving Dudes.

- They listened to forbidden swing music and daubed walls with anti-Nazi graffiti.
- They could be recognised by their badges, for example the edelweiss or skull and crossbones.
- They wore clothes which were considered outlandish by the Nazis checked shirts, dark short trousers and white socks.
- By 1939 they had a membership of 2000.
- They created no-go areas for Hitler Youth in their cities.

The Swing Youth

Swing Youth tended to come from the middle classes. They loved swing music, which was hated by the Nazis who classed it as non-German, developed by 'Negros' and Jews. They rebelled against the order and discipline of the Nazis and took part in activities which were frowned upon.

Key terms

Confessional Church
Protestant Church set up
by Pastor Niemöller in
opposition to the Reich
Church

Edelweiss Pirates
A loosely organised
youth group who rebelled
against Nazi ideas

Hitler Youth Organisation set up for the young to convert them to Nazi ideals

Martyr A person who is persecuted and/or killed because of their religious or other beliefs

Swing Youth Young people who loved swing music and challenged Nazi views about the young

Key individual

Martin Niemöller Served in the German navy as a U-boat commander during the First World War. In 1929 became a pastor in the Protestant Church and a supporter of Hitler. Began to criticise Hitler when, from 1937, members of the Protestant Church were arrested. Survived seven years in a concentration camp before being released in 1945

Revision task

Give two reasons why there was little opposition to the Nazi regime.



Eliminate irrelevance

Below is an exam-style question and part of an answer. Some parts of the answer are not relevant to the question. Identify these and draw a line through the information that is irrelevant, justifying your deletions in the margin.

Explain why there was opposition to the Nazi regime in the years 1933-39.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Catholic Church
- The Edelweiss Pirates

You must also use information of your own.

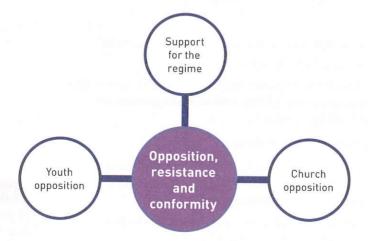
One reason for opposition to the Nazi policies was the Catholic Church. Hitler decided to cooperate with the Catholic Church. In 1933, Hitler signed an agreement known as a Concordat. Hitler promised not to interfere with the Catholic Church. In return, the Catholic Church agreed to stay out of politics. Many Catholic priests criticised Nazi policies and were arrested and sent to Dachau concentration camp. In many respects this had the opposite effect to what the Nazis wanted. Priests who were sent to concentration camps were seen as martyrs and encouraged even more opposition to the Nazis.

There was also opposition to the Nazi regime from young people. The Nazis set up the Hitler Youth. There were four separate organisations that were developed which recruited girls and boys from the ages of 10–18 under the control of Baldur von Shirach, Youth Leader of the Reich. One group that opposed the Nazis was the Edelweiss Pirates. Its members rebelled against Nazi ideas by listening to forbidden swing music and daubed walls with anti-Nazi graffiti. They could be recognised by their badges, for example the *edelweiss* or skull and crossbones. They wore clothes which were considered outlandish by the Nazis – check shirts, dark short trousers and white socks.



Memory map

Use the information on page 28 to add details to the diagram below about opposition, resistance and conformity.



Key topic 4 Life in Nazi Germany, 1933-39

This topic examines how the lives of German citizens were changed by Nazi policies. It considers the Nazis' racial policies and their persecution of Jews and other minority groups.

1 Nazi policies towards women

REVISE

The Nazis had a traditional view of the role of women. Their policies reflected this.

1.1 Nazi views on women and the family

The Nazis wanted to reverse the developments of the 1920s (see page 10). They thought women should be homemakers and childbearers, and not go out to work. Their slogan 'Kinder, Kirche, Küche' summed up their view:

- They wanted to increase the birth rate and strengthen the Third Reich.
- Women had a central role in producing the genetically pure Aryan race, ensuring the future of a strong Nazi state.

1.2 Nazi policies towards women

Nazi policies brought about changes in women's employment, domestic roles and appearance.

- Employment: women were encouraged to give up their jobs, get married and
 have large families. Women doctors, civil servants and teachers were forced to
 leave their professions. Girls were discouraged from higher education and
 gaining the qualifications needed for professional careers.
- Marriage and family: in 1933, the Law for the Encouragement of Marriage
 provided loans to help young couples marry, as long as the wife left her job.
 Couples kept one-quarter of the loan for each child born, up to four children.
 Maternity benefits were also increased. On Hitler's mother's birthday
 (12 August) medals were awarded to women with large families.
- Appearance: the ideal Nazi woman was blonde, blue-eyed and sturdily built with broad hips for childbearing. She wore traditional clothes and did not smoke or drink. Women were discouraged from wearing trousers, high heels and makeup. Dyeing or styling hair was frowned on, as was slimming, which was seen as bad for childbearing.

1.3 Successes and failures of Nazi policies

There were successes:

- In the first few years the number of married women in employment fell.
- The number of marriages and the birth rate increased.
- The German Women's Enterprise organised Mothers' Schools to train women in household skills, as well as courses, lectures and radio programmes on household topics. It had 6 million members.

However, there were limitations and even failures:

- The number of women in employment increased from 4.85 million in 1933 to 7.14 million in 1939. From 1936 there was a labour shortage and more workers were needed in heavy industry due to rearmament.
- Many employers preferred women workers because they were cheaper.
 Women's wages remained only two-thirds of men's.
- Some women resented the loss of more professional jobs such as doctors, lawyers and schoolteachers.

Key term

Kinder, Kirche, Küche Nazi slogan meaning Children, Church and Cooking

Revision task

How do you explain the following? The Nazis believed that a woman's place was in the home and yet more women were in employment by 1939.

Exam tip

Remember that women had an important family and childbearing role in Nazi Germany.