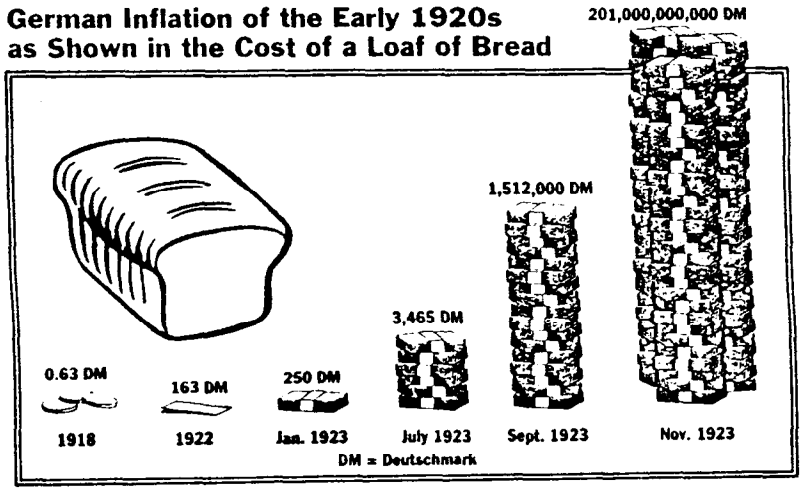
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Why Did Nazism Appeal to German People?

Document #1



How much did a loaf of bread cost in 1918 (DM =Deutsche Mark= German Dollar)? _____

How much more did a loaf of bread cost in November 1923? _____

What effect would the November 1923 prices have on German people? _____
_____

German Voting Data 1928-1932

Year	Number of Unemployed Germans	Number of votes received by the Nazi Party	Percentage of the total votes cast (100%)
1928	650, 000	800,000	2.5%
1930	8,000,000	6,500,000	20%
1932	12,000,000	13,700,000	42%

1. What year did the Nazis receive the highest number of votes? _____
2. What year did the Nazis receive the lowest percentage of votes? _____
3. What is the relationship between German unemployment and votes for Nazis? _____
   _____
   _____
4. Did a majority of Germans ever support the Nazi Party?_____Why? _____
   _____



Document #3

This campaign poster was created by the Nazi Party. It translates to "Work and Bread. The People Arise!!! Why would this poster appeal to Germans in 1932? _____

_____

_____

Document #4



This campaign poster translates into **"Germany Awake!** !!" What values or ideas does the eagle stand for (symbolize)?

_____

_____

Why would this appeal to German people after World War I (Hint: Think about the Treaty of Versailles!) _____

_____

Document #5

"As Germany headed for complete and total economic collapse in 1932, the streets of most major cities were filled with running street battles, complete with gunfire, between members of the Nazi Party and the German Communist Party. Cleverly realizing that German people wanted order rather than freedom and democracy (both of which had been denied to them by previous governments), Hitler promised the people that only by voting for the Nazis could the Communist be defeated and order restored to Germany."

Why would many Germans vote for the Nazi Party in 1932? _____

_____

_____

_____

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THE RISE OF THE NAZIS IN GERMANY

Vocabulary: republic, inflation, unemployment, disappeared.

Read the questions and answers below about the rise of Adolph Hitler and the Nazis in Germany. Then answer the questions at the end of the reading.

Q. What was the Weimar **REPUBLIC?**

A. Near the end of World War I, the German people overthrew the Raiser and set up a democratic government. That government was called the Weimar Republic.

Q. Why did the Weimar Republic have problems?

A. The Weimar Republic had many problems. First, most German people were upset with it because it signed the hated Treaty of Versailles which ended World War I. Second, the Weimar Republic could not solve many of the economic problems facing the country. Two of the most important problems were **INFLATION and UNEMPLOYMENT.**

Q. Why did many people in Germany fear that it might become a communist country in the 1930's?

A. Since there were so many economic problems, the German communist party was growing larger. Communists started to get important jobs in the government.

Q. Why did the German people look to the Nazi Party to solve the problems in Germany?

A. The Nazis believed that a totalitarian fascist dictatorship should be set up in Germany in order to stop the communists. Nazis also believed that the Weimar Republic never should have signed the Treaty of Versailles. The leader of the Nazis, Adolph Hitler, promised to break the Treaty of Versailles when he became the leader of Germany.

Q. Why did Hitler and the Nazis hate the Jews?

A. Hitler needed a SCAPEGOAT. This means that he had to blame somebody for Germany's problems. He decided to blame everything on the Jews.

Q. How did Hitler get control of Germany?

A. Hitler and the Nazis used the democratic ideas in the Weimar Republic to get power. In the 1920's and the 1930's Nazis were elected to the Reichstag (the German legislature where laws were made). In 1932, The Nazis became the largest political party in Germany. They received 37% of the vote. This was enough for Hitler to become Chancellor (leader). As soon as he Hitler became the leader of Germany he arrested communists and everyone else who he did not like. By using his secret police, the GESTAPO, Hitler ended democracy in Germany and he became a totalitarian dictator.

Q. Why did the German people choose Hitler to be their leader?

A. Actually, they never did. You read that Hitler never received more than 37% of the vote. That means that 63% of the people voted against him. The Nazis were the largest party in Germany, but they were not the majority. After Hitler became Chancellor, all the people who opposed him **DISAPPEARED** or were murdered. In this way, Hitler became a dictator. The Nazi party became the only party allowed in Germany.

Questions:

1. Explain how Hitler came to power in Germany?

2. Why is it true to say the Hitler used democracy to destroy democracy?

3. List three (3) things Hitler, Stalin, and Mussolini did that were the same?





Why Didn't the German People Try to Stop Hitler?

Document # 1

"As the Nazi Party and Hitler began to take absolute control over Germany, a long series of laws were passed to help control the German people. One law made it mandatory for German youths to join Hitler Youth, a Nazi version of the Boy Scouts / Girl Scouts. Other laws made it mandatory for all high ranking officials, politicians, and businessmen to become members of the Nazi Party. The **Nuremberg Laws** were laws designed to persecute and eliminate the "Jewish problem of the German nation." These laws prevented Jews from going to German schools, from working in German companies, from owning land or businesses, from living in Germany, and finally from life itself."

How did life in Nazi Germany differ from life in a democracy? _____

_____

_____

_____

Background: It was the summer of 1938. Andre was twelve years old and lived with his parents in a small town in northern Germany. One evening he came home from his Hitler Youth meeting.

Andre : Daddy, we were told at the meeting that tomorrow we are supposed to throw stones at the Jewish shops in town. Should I take part?

Dad: What do you think?

Andre: I don't know. I have nothing against the Jews. I hardly know them, but everyone is going there to throw stones. So what should I do?

Dad: Well, I think you should examine the consequences of your actions. For instance, what will happen if you do not throw stones at the stores?

Andre: Everyone will say, 'Andre son of Mr. X did not take part, he refused to throw stones!' Then they will turn against me and then against you. The townspeople will refuse to buy goods at our store. We will lose everything that we have. Perhaps even the Gestapo (German secret police) will arrive and question us.

Dad: And what will happen if you do throw stones?

Andre: It will be a terrible hateful thing to do against people who have done me no wrong. I will feel like a bully and a coward.

Dad: And what does your conscience tell you to do?

Andre: I am trying not to listen to my conscience because if I do, then I will not throw stones. Then our family will be the ones to suffer.

Mom: Well, your father and I have discussed this already. We decided that if your decision is not to throw stones, then we will immediately leave Germany.

And that is what they did. The following day, Andre's family left Germany.

1. What did Andre's family lose by leaving Germany? _____

_____

_____

2. What did Andre's family gain by leaving Germany? _____

_____

_____

3. Why doesn't Andre's family protest to the government about this problem? _____
_____
_____
_____

4. "Running from a problem instead of fixing it is a sign of a coward" In the case of Andre and family, is this true?
_____
_____

5. If you were Andre, what decision would you have made? (BE HONEST!)
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Document #2

The following quote is from Father Niemoller, a German Lutheran Protestant priest who was sent to a concentration camp for publicly speaking out against the Nazis. He later died in the prison camp of Auschwitz.

When they came for the Gypsies, I did not speak up.
When they came for the homosexuals, I did not speak up.
When they came for the Jews, I did not speak up.
When they came for the Communists, I did not speak up.
When they came for the Catholics, I did not speak up.
When they finally came for me, there was no one left to speak up for me.

What is the moral of Father Niemoller's message ? _____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

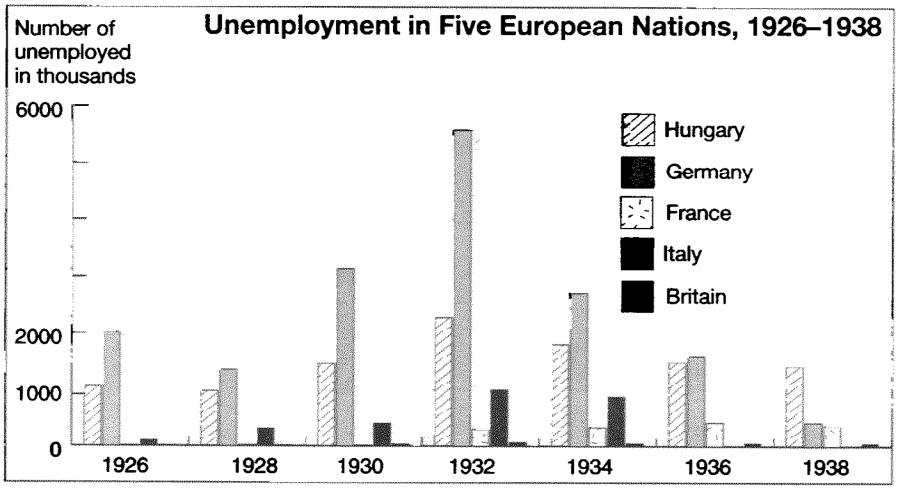




Entrance to Auschwitz Concentration Camp in Poland
Sign reads "Work Makes You Free"

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Economic Depression and its Consequences



After World War I, economic expansion continued in Japan. and the United States. By contrast, the economies of Germany and Italy, like those of Britain and France, were in ruins.

Italy had been on the winning side , but it seemed like a defeated nation. Its war veterans could find no work. There were food shortages and rising prices. Violent strikes spread through its industrial areas and peasants seized the land on large estates. The middle and upper classes expected a communist revolution. Benito Mussolini used these chaotic conditions to seize power.

As a defeated nation, Germany had the additional problem of paying a multi-billion dollar reparations bill. When Germany defaulted on its debt, France occupied the industrial Ruhr Valley and seized its income. The German government printed more and more money to pay its bills. This merely created stupendous inflation which wiped out many families' savings.
Germany's economy recovered during the late 1920's. But in 1929, the Great Depression began in the United States. Seeing their economy collapse, American investors hurriedly withdrew the capital they had invested in Europe. Germany was dependent on US. loans and was especially hard hit; unemployment skyrocketed. The Nazi party grew in size as Adolf Hitler promised German workers that he would restore prosperity and end unemployment.

The Depression also had a major impact on Japan. Millions of workers lost their jobs, revealing how sensitive Japan was to the world economy. This, in turn, enabled Japan's military leaders to gain approval for their plan to build a Pacific empire. This empire, they argued, would make Japan more self-sufficient. It would yield oil, metals, and grain while providing markets for Japanese manufactures and space for its growing population.

Which two nations shown in the graph had the most dramatic fall in unemployment between 1926 and 1938?

What did these nations have in common?