5.12 Hitler's Trial, Imprisonment and Mein Kampf, 1924: 10-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Spend about 10 minutes on this pack.

1 Give one group explicitly targeted by the anti-Semitic arguments in Mein Kampf.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Give the formal charge for which Hitler was tried in 1924.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 Give the legal outcome, other than imprisonment, that many contemporaries noted as unusually lenient in Hitler's sentence.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

4 Source A: Extract from a courtroom address reportedly given by Adolf Hitler during his trial at Munich, February 1924. "I stand not as a criminal but as a defender of Germany. I speak for those who feel their nation humiliated and desire a rebirth. Let it be known that our movement seeks to restore Germany's strength, to cleanse its politics of corrupt influences, and to demand land where Germans can live and prosper. I accept the consequences of my actions, but history will vindicate our purpose."

5 Interpretation 1: From J. Bauer, The Shadow of the Putsch, 1990. "Hitler's trial and the publicity surrounding it were the decisive moments in making him a national figure. The court room became a stage in which he performed the role of national saviour. Mein Kampf, begun in prison, was above all a vehicle for that performance: a mix of autobiography and headline slogans designed to reach readers and build a following. Its concrete policy proposals were secondary to the book's success in publicising Hitler's name and stirring popular resentment."

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6 State two ways in which Hitler used his trial to benefit the Nazi movement.

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)

7 Study Interpretations 1 and 2 below. They give different views about the significance of Hitler's time in prison and the writing of Mein Kampf for the Nazi movement. What is the main difference between these two views?

(Total for Question 7 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 5.12 Hitler's Trial, Imprisonment and Mein Kampf, 1924: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

Jews **B1**

Answer: Jews

Question 2

treason **B1**

Answer: Treason

Question 3

a lenient sentence and early release despite conviction for treason **B1**

Answer: That he received a lenient sentence and was released early despite a treason conviction.

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

he used courtroom speeches to present Nazi ideas to a national audience **B1**

newspaper coverage of the trial gave him publicity and helped to spread his name beyond Bavaria **B1**

Answer: He used courtroom speeches to present Nazi ideas to a broad audience, and press coverage gave him national publicity.

Question 7

Level 1 Identifies a simple difference between the interpretations with little explanation. **1-2**

Level 2 Explains clearly the main difference between the interpretations, supported by reference to their content. **3-4**

Indicative content:

- Interpretation 1 emphasises the publicity and propaganda value of the trial and prison period, arguing Mein Kampf primarily functioned to make Hitler a national figure and to attract attention to the movement.
- Interpretation 2 stresses the intellectual and organisational consolidation that took place in prison, arguing Mein Kampf was a substantive ideological blueprint that clarified goals such as lebensraum and racial policy and so fundamentally shaped later Nazi actions.
- The main difference is that Interpretation 1 sees the period mainly as providing public exposure and propaganda advantage, while Interpretation 2 sees it as producing the core ideological programme that guided future policy.

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