



EDX.WN7 Formation of the Nazi Party and Hitler's Rise to Leadership, 1919-1921

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · Calculators not allowed · about 70 minutes

Total Marks

--

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Answer ALL questions. Write in full sentences for Questions 18. You are advised to spend about 70 minutes on this pack.

- 1** Give the year in which the German Workers' Party, the DAP, was founded in Munich.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

- 2** Name the city where the DAP was founded and where Hitler first encountered the party.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

- 3** Give the name of the small party that in 1920 changed its name to the NSDAP.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

- 4** State two roles Hitler held or was described as holding in the party during 1919-21.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

- 5** Give the German title adopted by Hitler when he became leader of the party.

(Total for Question 5 is 1 mark)

6 Name one organisational change the DAP/NSDAP made in 1920 to broaden its appeal to voters.

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)

7 Name the Munich beer-hall where early DAP meetings and Hitler's early speeches took place.

(Total for Question 7 is 1 mark)

8 State one personal quality of Hitler that historians commonly cite as important for his rapid rise between 1919 and 1921.

(Total for Question 8 is 2 marks)

9 Give the number of points in the party programme published by the NSDAP in 1920.

(Total for Question 9 is 1 mark)

10 Name one rival within the party or associated groups whom Hitler outmanoeuvred in this early period.

(Total for Question 10 is 1 mark)

11 State two ways in which Hitler's posting as an army informant helped his later political career within the DAP.

(Total for Question 11 is 2 marks)

- 12** Give one reason why the 1920 name change to National Socialist German Workers' Party was significant for the party's image.

(Total for Question 12 is 2 marks)

- 13** Give two things you can infer from Source A about the role Hitler played in DAP meetings in 1919-20. Write each inference and the specific detail from the source that supports it.

(Infer) Write an inference and the words from Source A that support it. (2)

1)

(Infer) Write a second inference and the words from Source A that support it. (2)

2)

(Total for Question 13 is 4 marks)

14 Explain why Adolf Hitler rose to become the leader of the DAP/NSDAP between 1919 and 1921.

You may use the following in your answer:

- his oratory and public speaking
- the party's reorganisation and renaming in 1920

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 14 is 12 marks)

- 15** How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into whether Hitler's oratory was the main reason for his rapid advancement in the party by 1921?

Source B: Extract from a Munich local newspaper, February 1920, reporting on a NSDAP rally. "Hitler spoke for nearly an hour. The audience, initially sceptical, were soon on their feet; cheers and shouts followed each violent paragraph. Those present said his words stirred them more than any before. Observers noted men pressed forward to greet him after the meeting."

Source C: Army memo, January 1920, from the officer responsible for monitoring political groups in Bavaria: "The corporal who observed the DAP has proved useful. He draws crowds, organises meetings and commands attention. Recommend we keep contact while he gains influence; he may be useful as a controlled intermediary."

(Total for Question 15 is 8 marks)

- 16** Study Interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the reasons for Hitler's rise to leadership in the early party. What is the main difference between these views?

Interpretation 1: From a modern historian's book. 'Interpretation by Klaus Reiner, The Making of a Leader, 2017: Adolf Hitler, a gifted speaker and performer, transformed a tiny Munich group into a mass movement. His exceptional capacity to move audiences and to dominate meetings made him the natural leader. Without his oratory and showmanship the party would have remained marginal.'

Interpretation 2: From another modern historian. 'Interpretation by Marta Vogel, Party, Programme and Timing, 2019: The DAP became the NSDAP through careful reorganisation and a clearer programme in 1920, creating the conditions for rapid growth. These structural changes and the chaotic political environment gave an ambitious organiser the chance to take control; the person who filled that role could have been someone other than Hitler.'

(Total for Question 16 is 4 marks)

- 17** Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the causes of Hitler's rise to leadership.

(Total for Question 17 is 4 marks)

- 18** 'Interpretation 1 is correct: Hitler's personal qualities were the main reason for his takeover of the party by 1921.' How far do you agree with this interpretation? Explain your answer. (4 marks are available for spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology.)

(Total for Question 18 is 20 marks)

Mark scheme · EDX.WN7 Formation of the Nazi Party and Hitler's Rise to Leadership, 1919-1921

Question 1

- **B1** 1919
- **Answer:** 1919

Question 2

- **B1** Munich
- **Answer:** Munich

Question 3

- **B1** German Workers' Party (DAP)
- **Answer:** The German Workers' Party (DAP)

Question 4

- **B1** army informant sent to observe the DAP
- **B1** public speaker and party organiser who became its leader (Führer) by 1921
- **Answer:** He served as an army informant sent to observe the DAP, and then as its public speaker and organiser, becoming leader by 1921.

Question 5

- **B1** Führer
- **Answer:** Führer

Question 6

- **B1** adopting the name National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP)
- **B1** producing a party programme (25-point programme) to set out policies publicly
- **Answer:** They renamed themselves NSDAP and issued a public party programme, the 25-point programme.

Question 7

- **B1** the Hofbrauhaus (or a beer-hall)
- **Answer:** The Hofbrauhaus (a Munich beer-hall)

Question 8

- **B1** identifies a quality, e.g. persuasive oratory skills
- **B1** supporting detail, e.g. ability to command attention and move audiences in public meetings
- **Answer:** His persuasive oratory, which let him command attention and win support at public meetings.

Question 9

- **B1** 25 points
- **Answer:** 25 points

Question 10

- **B1** Anton Drexler (or another named early DAP figure)
- **Answer:** Anton Drexler

Question 11

- **B1** it put him in contact with the DAP and introduced him to party members
- **B1** it gave him a public role to speak at meetings, displaying his oratorical talent
- **Answer:** As an informant he was introduced to the DAP and its members, and he was given opportunities to speak at meetings where his oratory became evident.

Question 12

- **B1** it linked nationalism and socialism in the name, broadening appeal to different social groups
- **B1** supporting detail, e.g. made the party sound both patriotic and concerned with workers' issues
- **Answer: It combined nationalism and socialism in the name, making the party appear both patriotic and concerned with workers' interests, thus broadening its appeal.**

Question 13

- (Inference 1) **B1** an inference about Hitler's role, e.g. that he attracted significant attention as a speaker
- (Inference 1) **B1** quotation or detail from the source that supports it, e.g. 'the crowd fell silent as he began' or similar wording from Source A
- (Inference 2) **B1** a second inference about his influence or the attention he gained, e.g. that he was given repeated speaking slots or control of meetings
- (Inference 2) **B1** quotation or detail from the source that supports it, e.g. 'he was asked to speak again' or similar wording from Source A

Question 14

- **Level 1** (1-3): Identifies one or two simple reasons, with little or no supporting detail.
- **Level 2** (4-6): Identifies and begins to explain reasons, with some relevant factual detail.
- **Level 3** (7-9): Explains several reasons clearly, supported by accurate and relevant detail, showing some links between factors.
- **Level 4** (10-12): Provides a well-developed, balanced explanation of why Hitler rose to leadership, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail and analysis of connections between factors.
- **Indicative content:**
 - Hitler's exceptional oratory, energy and drama as a speaker won him rapid popularity at DAP meetings and made him the obvious choice to give the party a public face.
 - As an army informant he had the chance to meet party members and to be noticed by leaders who could give him speaking opportunities, helping his early rise.
 - The party's renaming to NSDAP and adoption of the 25-point programme in 1920 aimed to broaden appeal; Hitler seized this moment to present himself as the party's leader and organiser.
 - Hitler's willingness to outmanoeuvre rivals, sideline founders such as Anton Drexler and centralise control helped him take decisive positions inside the party leadership.
 - His sense of timing, using public meetings and mass rallies in Munich's beer-halls, and the use of propaganda, badges and organised membership drives, turned popularity into organisational control.
 - Structural factors, such as the small size of the party in 1919-20 and the flexibility of its organisation, made it possible for a forceful individual to gain dominance quickly; detail and examples should be used.

Question 15

- **Level 1** (1-2): Makes a simple judgement about the usefulness of one or both sources, with little supporting reasoning.
- **Level 2** (3-5): Begins to assess usefulness, addressing content and provenance of the sources with some relevant contextual knowledge.
- **Level 3** (6-8): Provides a balanced, well-supported judgement about the relative usefulness of both sources for the enquiry, analysing content, provenance and context in detail.
- **Indicative content:**
 - Source B is a contemporaneous Munich newspaper report of a 1920 rally describing the crowd's response to Hitler's speech; it provides direct evidence of the immediate effect of his oratory on audiences, which is useful for assessing public impact.
 - However, a newspaper may be partisan or aimed at a particular readership; its report may exaggerate or downplay effect depending on political leanings, so provenance must be considered.
 - Source C is an internal army memo from Hitler's time as an informant, noting that he was effective at gaining attention and organising meetings; as official correspondence it is useful for showing how army and party insiders perceived him.
 - But the army memo may focus on political reliability or security concerns rather than purely on oratory, so its usefulness for proving oratory was the main reason has limits; it may instead point to organisational competence or connections.
 - A balanced answer weighs the direct, eyewitness content of B against the official, possibly detached view of C and uses

Question 16

- **Level 1** (1-2): Identifies a basic difference between the interpretations with limited supporting detail.
- **Level 2** (3-4): Clearly explains the main difference between the two interpretations, using accurate reference to both texts.
- **Indicative content:**
 - Interpretation 1 stresses Hitler's personal qualities, especially oratory and charisma, as the decisive reason for his rise.
 - Interpretation 2 emphasises structural and organisational changes within the party and broader political opportunity, downplaying individual charisma as the main cause.
 - A full answer will state that the main difference is emphasis on individual agency versus emphasis on organisation and context.

Question 17

- **Level 1** (1-2): Gives a simple plausible reason with little explanation.
- **Level 2** (3-4): Offers a clearly explained reason why the interpretations differ, supported by appropriate reference to differences in emphasis or source use.
- **Indicative content:**
 - They may use different sources: one may rely on eyewitness accounts and contemporary press describing speeches, while the other uses party records and internal memos showing organisational change.
 - They may emphasise different second-order concepts: one focuses on significance of individual agency, the other on structure and contingency.
 - They may have different historiographical aims, one writing a biography-style account, the other a study of party development and institutions.

Question 18

- **Level 1** (1-4): Shows limited relevant knowledge, and offers only a basic judgement about the interpretation.
- **Level 2** (5-8): Uses some relevant knowledge to support a judgement, but analysis is limited or one-sided.
- **Level 3** (9-12): Shows good knowledge and analysis, weighing the interpretation against other valid factors and reaching a supported judgement.
- **Level 4** (13-16): Shows precise, well-selected knowledge and argument, evaluates Interpretation 1 in a balanced way against alternative explanations, and reaches a sustained, well-supported judgement about how far the interpretation is accurate.
- **Indicative content:**
 - Arguments supporting Interpretation 1: Hitler's speaking style, dramatic gestures and rhetoric rapidly attracted attention at meetings; eyewitness reports record audiences responding strongly to his speeches, which helped him gain a public profile inside the party and among Munich nationalists.
 - Evidence that personal qualities mattered includes contemporaries noting his charisma and the accounts of party members who sought him out after meetings; his single-minded ruthlessness in manoeuvring rivals also demonstrates personal agency.
 - Arguments against the interpretation: organisational changes such as the renaming to NSDAP, the publication of a 25-point programme, and membership drives created a context where someone could rapidly convert popularity into control; structural factors mattered.
 - The army's decision to keep contact with Hitler, and the small, flexible nature of the early party, meant that organisational opportunity and external backing played a major role alongside personal qualities.
 - A balanced judgement draws on both sets of factors: personal qualities were crucial in making Hitler the focal point, but without the party's reorganisation, opportunities to become leader and a permissive environment for a forceful organiser, those qualities might not have translated into leadership so quickly.
 - Students can conclude that Interpretation 1 is partly correct but incomplete, because it underplays structural and contextual factors that also explain Hitler's takeover by 1921.