Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Wednesday 24 May 2023

Morning (Time: 2 hours 15 minutes)

Paper reference **9HI0/1G**

History

Advanced

PAPER 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1G: Germany and West Germany, 1918–89

Extracts Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From Ian Kershaw, *Hitler 1936–1945: Nemesis,* published 2001.

On 1 September 1939, Chamberlain told the House of Commons that responsibility for the coming war belonged to one man, Hitler. Such a personalised view left out the sins of others. The British government and its French allies had assisted Hitler in creating a unique power base in Europe.

Internationally, Hitler's combination of bullying and blackmail could not have worked but for the fragility of the post-war European settlement. The Treaty of Versailles was central to Hitler's blackmailing strategy. Not least, the Versailles Treaty had left an uneasy guilt complex in the West, especially in Britain. Now Hitler's actions could determine the fate of Europe.

The western governments, although Britain more than France, did everything possible to avoid a new war. Their diplomats were no match for the techniques of lying and threatening used by Hitler. They went out of their way to appease him, but he simply increased his demands, as blackmailers do. By the time the western powers realised what they were up against, they were no longer in any position to bring Hitler, the 'mad dog', under their control.

Extract 2: From Klaus Fischer, *Nazi Germany,* published 1996.

Hitler's foreign policy was based on rigid racial and expansionist ideas. This is why Hitler chose to use war and ruthless terror as his means to extend Germany's dominance in Europe. He wanted the subjugation and domination of 'inferior races', and the conquest of 'living space'. He believed that the Aryan race had evolved to the top of the biological and cultural order, and was destined to conquer the world under German leadership.

In Hitler's mind, the concept of race was intimately linked to that of 'living space'. This concept required the availability of land. He warned that the German people were doomed to be perpetually dominated if they limited themselves to the national borders of 1914. It is perfectly legitimate to speak of a basic continuity in German foreign policy between 1890 and 1933, but Hitler ended it. For Hitler war was not a last resort of foreign policy; it was a preferred means of achieving Germany's aims. Reliance on war meant Hitler's opponents were expected to give in completely.

Acknowledgements

Extract 1 from: Ian Kershaw, *Hitler 1936-1945: Nemesis,* Penguin, 2001

Extract 2 from Klaus Fischer, *Nazi Germany,* Bloomsbury, 1996