Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

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 A. J. P. Taylor, *The Origins of the Second World War*, published 1961.

The vital question as to the outbreak of war concerns Britain and France. They were the victors of the First World War and had all the advantages. It was perfectly obvious that Germany would seek to become a world power again; and after Hitler came to power his policies were likely to be barbaric. It was not merely that the victors did not resist Hitler. In 1938 it was the British who took the lead in taking the Sudetenland from the Czechs, not Hitler.

Hitler did not so much aim at war as expect it to happen, unless he could evade it by some ingenious trick. Hitler certainly instructed his generals to prepare for war. But so did the British, and for that matter every other government. It is the job of general staffs to prepare for war. All Britain's military preparations from 1935 onwards were directed at Germany, whereas all of Hitler's preparations were aimed at making Germany stronger. Therefore, if we were to judge who was the guilty party from studying their military plans, we would conclude that the British were set on war against Germany, not the other way round.

Extract 2: From Karl Dietrich Bracher, *The German Dictatorship*, published 1971.

The foreign policy of National Socialism had two major themes. Firstly, the National Socialists were the most determined opponents of the Versailles settlement. Secondly, in its ideology, they aspired to a future Germanic empire that would have Aryan cultural and racial superiority at its core. The personality and ideas of Hitler were important in uniting these two themes.

Hitler, from the very outset, fixed his sights on one unchanging goal: to create a Reich far beyond the 'racial core' of Germany. The thrust of his attack would be directed against the racially 'inferior' Slavs in the east, and the Jews, 'world enemy number one'. He cleverly fooled politicians in the west by pretending his foreign policy was only concerned with the revision of the Treaty of Versailles.

Hitler's expansionist drive for a one thousand year Reich went far beyond the ambitions of previous German leaders. His racial ideas made German expansion into eastern Europe and war inevitable.

Acknowledgements

Extract 1 from: 'The Origins of the Second World War', AJP Taylor, Penguin Books 1964

Extract 2 from: 'The German Dictatorship', Karl Dietrich BRACHER , Weidenfeld & Nicholson (1971)