

Why did Hitler become Chancellor in January 1933?

Task - You have a week to complete an essay on the above title. Word limit is 2000 words. Consider including the following points:

- How Hitler became undisputed leader of the Nazi Party
- The Effects of the Great Depression of Germany after 1929
- Why the Nazis became the largest parliamentary party after 1929
- The failure of Weimar governments 1929-32
- Why the elite looked for a more authoritarian alternative to parliamentary democracy
- Hindenburg's reluctant appointment of Hitler
- Conclusion - There are 3 main theories as to why Hitler became Chancellor. Consider each before making a final judgement: 1.) The Strengths of the Nazi Party itself; 2.) The Weaknesses and Mistakes of the Weimar Republic; 3.) International Factors such as the effect of WW1, Treaty of Versailles & Wall Street Crash on Weimar Democracy.

Formatting - Please use double line spacing, text size 14 maximum, and try to observe standard essay conventions, i.e. title, introduction, paragraphs, conclusion and bibliography. Use a sensible (!) font like Arial, Times New Roman or Calibri.

Referencing - Harvard APA referencing system is to be followed for all in-text references, quotes, paraphrasing and bibliography. For more information, please visit download the referencing guide from www.mrbuddhistory.com/essay-writing-help.html

L1	<p>No real understanding or knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands of question not understood; • Knowledge is irrelevant or absent; • Structure is incoherent (e.g. a list of bullet points) 	0-3
L2	<p>Little understanding; little knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands or the question are vaguely understood; • Knowledge is vague and poorly applied; • Structure is lacking in coherence (e.g. no paragraphs) 	4-5
L3	<p>Limited understanding; limited knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands of the question are only partially understood • Knowledge is accurate, but limited in relevance and scope; • Structure is basic (e.g. paragraphs in no obvious order) 	6-7
L4	<p>Narrative with bolt-on analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands of the question are generally understood; • Knowledge is accurate and relevant, but limited in scope; • Structure is narrative, with analysis 'bolted-on' to the facts 	8-10
L5	<p>Analytical but lacking in breadth and/or depth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands of the question are understood but not fully addressed; • Knowledge is accurate, relevant, and adequate in scope; • Structure is analytical, with narrative backing up the arguments 	11-13
L6	<p>Analytical, with breadth and depth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands of the question are understood and fully addressed; • Knowledge is accurate, relevant and comprehensive in scope; • Structure is consistently analytical 	14-16
L7	<p>As above, with a good use of historiography and/or a challenge to the assumptions of the question</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historiography = views of different schools of historians • Assumptions of the question = Points of view within the question that could be challenged (e.g. 'Was terror the main reason why Hitler successfully controlled the German people?' - assumes that he was successful, which a L7 candidate might challenge - at least in the concluding paragraph) 	17-20

Key Points

- **Understanding:** Read the question!
- **Knowledge:** know your stuff!
- **Structure:** Narrative + Analysis:
 - **Narrative** answers tell stories. Each paragraph will mainly be details, information and knowledge. **Depth** of narrative depends on the level of knowledge.
 - **Analytical** answers make arguments. Each paragraph will start with a **point**, which will then be explained with **evidence** (PEE). **Breadth** of analysis depends on the level of understanding.

Practical Advice

Introduction

- **Demonstrate understanding of the question.** Clarify any key concepts that are mentioned ('Marxist', 'Propaganda' etc); outline which events and time period you will consider and why.
- **Signpost the reader through your essay.** In other words, give a very brief overview of how you plan to tackle the question.

Main Body

- **Start each paragraph with an argument** (analysis). If you read the first sentence of each paragraph when you have finished, you should find that you have a summary of your case.
- **Proceed to explain this point using evidence** (including quotes from historians). The more specific this evidence is, the better.
- **This will ensure that your essay is driven by analysis, not narrative.**

Conclusion

- **Answer the question** by such things as:
 - Showing how your factors link together
 - Showing how it depends on where/when/at whom you are.
- **Challenge the question** by tackling any assumptions within it:
 - E.g. 'Why did the League of Nations only last 20 years?' suggests that this is a dismal record; you could make the point that the surprising thing is that it lasted so long as this given all the overwhelming problems it faced.