GERMANY 1890-1945 QUICK REVISION CARDS

The following Q and A cards form a basic revision aid for the topic. They are divided up into the three regimes:

Green - Wilhelmine Germany 1890-1918

Red – Weimar Germany 1919-1933

Blue - Nazi Germany 1933-1945

TIP: Use these cards with someone else testing you. Keep doing this until you have memorised them all. You can create more cards to build up your knowledge e.g. on the Nazi 'economic miracle'.

Q. When was Germany unified as a nation? A. 1871.	Q. What does Kaiser mean? A. Emperor.	Q. Who was Kaiser of Germany from 1890? A. Wilhelm II.
Q. What new political idea saw a dramatic growth in Germany in the early twentieth century? A. Socialism.	Q. Why did socialism grow in Germany in the early twentieth Century? A. Industrialisation, worker discontent with low wages and poor working conditions.	Q. What new socialist party became popular amongst workers? A. The Social Democratic Party (SPD).
Q. Why was the Kaiser worried about socialism? A. Socialists disagreed with power and privileged positions. Extreme socialists wanted revolution.	Q.What were the Navy Laws 1898-1912? A. To increase size of German navy. Huge amounts of money spent.	Q. Why were the Navy Laws passed? A. To help Germany develop and protect its empire
Q. How were the Navy Laws financed? A. Taxation and borrowing. Taxes were opposed by socialists.	Q. What was Weltpolitik? A. The Kaiser's 'world policy' to become a global power. Have empire to rival Britain's.	Q. Why did Germany run low on food and supplies in WWI? A. British naval blockade.
Q. What problems emerged inside Germany as the war dragged on through 1915 to 1917? A. Demonstrations and strikes	Q. What epidemic killed thousands of Germans during the winter 1917-18? A. Flu.	Q. What did General Ludendorff advise the Kaiser to do in October 1918? A. Make the country more democratic so Allies would treat Germany fairly.
Q. How did the Kaiser make Germany more democratic? A. He allowed the main parties to form a government.	Q. Why did revolution break out in October 1918? A. Germans not satisfied with small steps to democracy. Mutiny in Kiel spread around Germany.	Q. When did the Kaiser abdicate? A. 9 November 1918.

Q. When was the Kiel mutiny? A. October 1918.	Q. Where was the new republic declared? A. Weimar in Germany.	Q. Who became President of the Weimar Republic in 1919? A. Freidrich Ebert.
Q. What was the Reichstag? A. German Parliament.	Q. Which article of the Constitution gave Emergency Powers to the President? A. Article 48.	Q. Who led the Spartacist revolt in 1919? A. Rosa Luxemburg & Karl Leibknecht.
Q. Where did a Communist 'People's Government' come to power in 1919? A. Bavaria.	Q. Who led a Freikorps brigade to rebel in March 1920? A. Dr Wolfgang Kapp.	Q. Where did the French invade in January 1923? A. The Ruhr.
Q. What was 'hyperinflation'? A. Runaway rising prices.	Q. What caused hyperinflation? A. It was caused by the government printing money to pay striking workers who had gone on strike to oppose the French invasion of the Ruhr.	Q. Who were the thugs of the Nazi Party who terrorised opponents? A. The Stormtroopers (SA) - Sturmabteilung.
Q. What is a Republic? A. A country not ruled by a monarch.	Q. What guaranteed the German people freedom and equality? A. A Bill of Rights.	Q. At what age could men and women vote? A. 20.
Q. What was proportional representation? A. A system that allocated party seats in the Reichstag based on the proportion of votes the party receives.	Q. What was the problem with proportional representation? A. No party had enough members to get its laws passed. No party had a majority.	Q. When was the Weimar Republic founded? A. February 1919.

Q. Who were the November Criminals? A. Government ministers who signed the armistice.	Q. What was the name of the bands of soldiers who refused to disband and formed private right-wing armies? A. Freikorps.	Q. What was the name given to the communists who rebelled in 1919? A. Spartacists.
Q. Why did the Kapp Putsch succeed at first? A. The army refused to attack him.	Q. What started the crisis of 1923? A. Germany missed a reparations payment.	Q. Which part of Germany did the French invade? A. Ruhr.
Q. Why did the French invade Germany in 1923? A. To take what they were owed (take payment in kind).	Q. What was the price of a loaf of bread in November 1923? A. 200,000 million marks.	Q. When did the German government call off the general strike? A. September 1923
Q. What was the Nazi Party first called? A. German Workers Party.	Q. What was the book in which Hitler outlined his political ideas after the failure of the Munich Putsch? A. Mein Kampf.	Q. What name did Hitler use for the single leader with complete power whom he said should control the German state? A. Fuhrer.
Q. What was the name for the theory that said that Germany should be self-sufficient? A. Autarky.	Q. How many members did the Nazi Party have in 1923? A. 55,000.	Q. Who were the two nationalist politicians who plotted a rebellion in 1923 with Hitler? A. Kahr and Loslow.
Q. When did Hitler begin the Munich Putsch? A. 9 November 1923.	Q. What alternative name for the Munich Putsch reveals where Hitler began the rebellion? A. Beer-Hall Putsch.	Q. How many Nazis were killed in the Munich Putsch? A. 16.

Q. Who was Germany's leading politician after 1923? A. Gustav Stresemann	Q. What did the Dawes Plan do? (Give one example) A. Gave Germany longer to pay reparations; reformed the Reichsbank; have Germany 800 million marks in loans.	Q. What was the greatest weakness of the Weimar Republic in the years 1923- 1929? A. It was totally dependent on American money.
Q. What caused the world economic depression of the 1930s? A. The Wall Street Crash.	Q. Who financed Hitler during the Depression because they were frightened of Communism? A. Businessmen.	Q. Who decided they needed "strong" government because they were alarmed by the chaos and lawlessness during the depression? A. The middle classes.
Q. How many members of the SA were there by 1932? A. 400,000	Q. Which Chancellor offered to be Hitler's Vice Chancellor if Hitler would join the Government, because he thought he would be able to control him? A. Von Papen	Q. Who burned down the Reichstag in February 1933, according to the Nazis? A. Van der Lubbe.
Q. What was the law that gave Hitler the right to make his own laws called? A. The Enabling Act.	Q. What did Hitler set up in place of the trade unions? A. The German Labour Front.	Q. What did the Law against the Formation of New Parties (14 July 1933) state? A. Only the Nazi Party was allowed to exist.
Q. What happened on the Night of the Long Knives? A. Hitler assassinated his opponents in the SA.	Q. What was the name given of imposing Nazi values on every area of German life? A. Nazification.	Q. Who controlled Nazi Propaganda? A. Josef Goebbels.
Q. What do the letters BDM stand for? (English translation) A. League of German Maidens.	Q. Why did the BDM keep themselves healthy? A. To have babies.	Q. How did the Law for the Encouragement of Marriage encourage marriage? A. A loan of 1,000 marks.

Q. How many marks was a couple allowed to keep for each baby they had? A. 250 marks.	Q. How did the 'Swing' groups oppose the Nazis? A. By drinking alcohol and listening to Jazz.	Q. What is anti-Jewish racism known as? A. Anti-semitisim.
Q. What were the SA? A. Stormtroopers or Brownshirts. They used violence to break up opponents' meetings.	Q. Why were the Nazis generally unsuccessful between 1924 and 1930? A. Germany was doing better economically.	Q. Give one reason why so many Germans hated the Weimer Republic by 1932. A. Signing the Treaty of Versailles; Hyperinflation; weak coalition governments.
Q. What was Goebbels in charge of in the early 1930s? A. Propaganda.	Q. which German politician persuaded Hindenburg to appoint Hitler as Chancellor? A. Von Papen.	Q. When did Hitler finally become Chancellor of Germany? A. January 1933.
Q. How was Goering, who was in charge of the police, able to help the Nazis in the run-up to the March 1933 elections? A. Ordered the arrests of opponents and used violence against opponents.	Q. What were the '3Ks' of Nazi propaganda about the role of women? A. Kinder, Kuche, Kirche. Children, Cooking, Church.	Q. Why were many women teachers and all women doctors sacked after 1933? A. Unemployed men could have their jobs. Women could concentrate on childcare.
Q. What happened on Kristallnacht in November 1935? A. Jewish homes, shops, Synagogues were attacked. Many Jews were killed or put into concentration camps.	Q. What was the 'Final Solution' decided by leading Nazis in July 1941 at the Wannsee Conference? A. The policy to kill all Jews in Europe.	Q. Name two groups of people, in addition to Jewish people, which Nazi racism saw as being inferior. A. Slavs, black people, gypsies.
Q. What was the 'White Rose' group? A. An anti-Nazi group of students.	Q. Who were the leaders of the 'White Rose'? A. Hans and Sophie Scholl.	Q. What were the 'Swing' groups and the 'Edelweiss Pirates'? A. Youth groups who rejected Nazi culture and involvement with the Hitler Youth movements.