

Candidate Style Answers

GCSE History B (Modern World)

OCR GCSE in History: J417

Unit: A971/11

These candidate style answers are designed to accompany the OCR GCSE History B specification for teaching from September 2009.

GCSE History B

A971/11 Germany Depth Study

OCR has produced these candidate style answers to support teachers in interpreting the assessment criteria for the new GCSE specifications and to bridge the gap between new specification release and availability of exemplar candidate work.

This content has been produced by senior OCR examiners, with the support of the Qualification Manager, to illustrate how the sample assessment questions might be answered and provide some commentary on what factors contribute to an overall grading. The candidate style answers are not written in a way that is intended to replicate student work but to demonstrate what a “good” or “excellent” response might include, supported by examiner commentary and conclusions.

As these responses have not been through full moderation and do not replicate student work, they have not been graded and are instead, banded “medium” or “high” to give an indication of the level of each response.

Please note that this resource is provided for advice and guidance only and does not in any way constitute an indication of grade boundaries or endorsed answers.

7a) Study Source C.	
How far does this source suggest that the Munich Putsch was a disaster for Hitler and the Nazi Party? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner’s commentary</i>
<p><i>The Munich Putsch was an attempted revolution by the Nazi Party. It ended in the imprisonment of Adolf Hitler. The Munich Putsch was an attempt to put the Nazi Party into power by force. After the events many people ended up voting for different parties because the Nazi Party had simply shown its violent nature. It also showed that the Weimar Republic wasn’t as weak as Hitler thought it was which shows that the only way he could get into power was to take it legally. He says “Any lawful process is slow” meaning that precious more years were lost trying to get him into power. The Munich Putsch and the trial gave Hitler a lot of publicity and he became a household name. At the trial he made rousing, perhaps awe inspiring, speeches</i></p>	<p>High level response In order to achieve the higher levels more able students will approach the question by measuring up the source against their own knowledge. They will explain the content of the source to support one side of the argument. This candidate has done this stating that the Munich Putsch was a disaster because it reduced Nazi support in its aftermath and that it was not a disaster because Hitler used it to gain publicity during the trial. Additionally, to gain a higher level, candidates will have to explain the opposing view, again from their knowledge, as to why it was not a disaster.</p>

which told everyone his aims which people agreed with. Whilst in prison it also let him write his book 'Mein Kampf' which sold hundreds of thousands of copies. The Putsch made Germany sit up and take notice of Hitler.

7a) Study Source C.

How far does this source suggest that the Munich Putsch was a disaster for Hitler and the Nazi Party? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]

<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>
<p><i>In Source C we can see that this is Hitler writing in prison. We can see that the Munich Putsch must have been a failure as he is now looking for a new way to get into power. We can see that he says "if out-voting them takes longer than out shooting them, at least the results will go in our favour". This is suggesting that the Munich Putsch was such disaster.</i></p> <p><i>Also, I know that the Munich Putsch did give him a lot of media attention and advertisement which will eventually work in his favour so it was not a major disaster. He wrote 'Mein Kampf' whilst he was in prison which helped to spread his ideas around.</i></p>	<p>Medium level response</p> <p>A medium level response to this source question normally only uses contextual knowledge to explain one side of the argument. This candidate has explained that the Putsch helped Hitler to gain media attention and gave him the time to write his book which spread his ideas, and as such therefore was not a disaster.</p> <p>Whilst the candidate does try to deal with the other side of the argument in the first paragraph, this is limited as there is only support from the source and not contextual knowledge.</p>

<p>7b) Study Source D. Why was this poster published in Germany in 1932? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]</p>	
<p><i>Candidate style answer</i></p>	<p><i>Examiner's commentary</i></p>
<p><i>Source D shows a poster produced by the Social Democrats in 1932. It shows what they think life will be like for the "worker in the empire of the swastika". In 1932, there were a new set of elections. At the time of these elections popularity was rising for the Nazi's and they became the largest party. They still did not have a majority in the Reichstag. The Social Democrats produced this poster to suggest what life would be like for workers under the Nazis and therefore get people to vote for the Social Democrats. It shows a man weak, tied up to the swastika. The aim of this would have been to scare the German public into thinking that the Nazis would have complete control over them and that they would be worked extremely hard.</i></p>	<p>High level response Candidates who aim to score the higher marks in this question must always deal with the exact parameters of the question. In this case it is why the poster was published in 1932 rather than the more general question of why it was published at all. This candidate has supported purpose by direct reference to the source itself and additionally by the use of contextual knowledge of the 1932 elections, dealing clearly with the purpose of the source at the time of those elections.</p>

7b) Study Source D. Why was this poster published in Germany in 1932? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>
<p><i>Source D was released because the Social Democrats wanted to gain votes from the Nazi Party. The Social Democrats were one of the Nazis rivals and this poster would have been released to try and stop votes for the Nazis. The propaganda would have been to get the German public to question the Nazi Party.</i></p> <p><i>The poster is suggesting that working for the Nazis or "Swastika", the Nazi symbol, would have been painful. Many Germans would not have known what the Nazis were going to do. The Social Democrats were trying to say how workers would suffer under Nazi rule.</i></p>	<p>Medium level response</p> <p>Most medium level responses will confine themselves to the contents of the source given in the question paper.</p> <p>This candidate uses the source well to explain the purpose of the poster. The purpose of the source is inferred in the first paragraph. In the second paragraph this inference is supported by detail from the source.</p> <p>Contextual knowledge is not deployed to explain purpose or used to place the poster within the date confines of the question.</p>

7c) Study Source E. How useful is this source to an historian studying Hitler's rise to power? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [6]	
Candidate style answer	Examiner's commentary
<p><i>Source E is useful to an historian studying Hitler's rise to power because it shows thousands of people listening to Hitler speaking in Berlin, the capital. You can also see that they are saluting Hitler and holding Nazi flags which shows the influence on the public and the devotion of the Nazis by the public. The Nazis held these mass gatherings and speeches to influence Germany and to try and win the vote. 1932 was when the general election was to take place and it is in Berlin which shows Hitler has come a long way. This was when Hitler was reaching his peak.</i></p> <p><i>However, the source is not useful for telling us how Hitler rose to power it is only a photograph of one meeting. It does not tell us anything about the policies that had appealed to such a large number of people such as promising to get rid of the Treaty of Versailles or promising people jobs which got lots of support.</i></p>	<p>High level response</p> <p>Higher level answers to utility questions should always define the area for which a source is useful or of limited value. This avoids falling into the trap of all sources are useful/not useful by means of provenance.</p> <p>This candidate deals with both sides of the use of this source. Firstly, by showing how the photograph shows the widespread appeal of Hitler at his peak and secondly giving both the limitations of the source in defining or explaining the appeal of Hitler's policies. However, the candidate could have gone further in explanation, particularly in the limitations of the source which could have benefitted from more explanation of the reference to the Treaty of Versailles and the promise of employment.</p>

7c) Study Source E.

How useful is this source to an historian studying Hitler's rise to power? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [6]

Candidate style answer

This source is very useful to an Historian studying Hitler's rise to power. The source shows Hitler speaking in Berlin in 1932 in front of a large crowd. The source shows us how Hitler had gained popularity in 1932. He was an excellent public speaker and crowds of thousands came to listen to him.

In the crowd, there are a number of different people of all ages. It shows that Hitler was not just popular with some but popular with everyone. He showed that the Nazis were strong when the German government was weak.

Hitler said that he would unite all Germans, create "Lebensraum" and get rid of the Treaty of Versailles. This made him popular and Germans felt a sense of unity under him. We can see this as they are all saying "Heil Hitler" and making the sign.

Examiner's commentary

Medium level response

This candidate has only dealt with one side of the argument with regard to this photograph and posed by the question. The candidate uses contextual knowledge to support reasons for the usefulness of the source by outlining the nature of support for Hitler and the success of his particular policies. However, the limitations of the source in relation to Hitler's rise to power are not dealt with which leaves the answer unbalanced and unable to access the higher levels.

8a) Describe the Kapp Putsch of 1920.		[4]
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>	
<p><i>The Kapp Putsch was led by a man called Wolfgang Kapp who was an extreme nationalist. Kapp marched into Berlin with the Freikorps and tried to take control. They were upset by the signing of the Treaty of Versailles and so tried to overthrow the government. The army refused to stop the Freikorps and Ebert and the government had to leave the capital but called for a general strike. The people would rather give Ebert a chance rather than let Kapp rule, so the Putsch failed.</i></p>	<p>High level response</p> <p>The candidate has supplied multiple relevant aspects of the Kapp Putsch and supported this with detail. It is not necessary in these particular (a) questions to write at great length on the subject.</p>	

8a) Describe the Kapp Putsch of 1920.		[4]
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>	
<i>In 1920 there was an attempt to seize control of Berlin. This action was not successful as the people went on strike.</i>	<p>Medium level response</p> <p>This candidate has identified a limited number of relevant aspects of the Putsch. The answer is characterised by the lack of recalled specific detail. An alternative development to gain credit would have been for the candidate to develop the points made with more detail.</p>	

8b) Explain why 1923 was a year of crisis for the Weimar Republic.		[6]
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>	
<p><i>In 1923 Germany couldn't pay an instalment of the reparations money so France and Belgium invaded the Ruhr to take it for themselves and the workers went on strike as a result. This led to hyperinflation as Germany was losing money as hardly any raw materials were being produced. To overcome the problem the Weimar Government printed more money but this only added to the problems. German money became worthless and prices soared (600 million for a loaf of bread).</i></p> <p><i>In late 1923 Hitler and fellow Nazis began the Munich Putsch demanding power which resulted in fighting in the streets with 12 Nazis being killed. Hitler was arrested and sent to the Landsberg Prison. The Putsch was a challenge to the Weimar Government when they already had huge problems.</i></p>	<p>High level response</p> <p>The candidate has explained multiple reasons why the year 1923 was such a crisis year. A higher level response will always give a range of related reasons within the answer. These will be accompanied by valid contextual detail which will help to explain the reasons given. The reasons will often combine to create a web of explanation that interlinks the reasons given, such as the first paragraph that clearly links the Ruhr to hyperinflation and its impact.</p>	

8b) Explain why 1923 was a year of crisis for the Weimar Republic.		[6]
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>	
<i>France invaded the Ruhr to take what was owed to them. The government made the workers give passive resistance to the French and Belgian troops and production stopped. This caused a he crisis for the government.a huge crisis for the government.</i>	<p>Medium level response</p> <p>Medium level responses often give one explanation for the question given, in this case the invasion of the Ruhr. Answers will stand alone and not be linked with other valid reasons. There will be contextual knowledge to back up the explanation but this can often be narrative rather than integrated into the explanation.</p>	

8c) How successful was the Weimar Republic in dealing with Germany's problems? Explain your answer. [10]

<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>
<p><i>The Weimar Government being successful is debatable. In 1919, the Communist or 'Spartacist' uprising led by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg began. The Government asked the Freikorps for help (they were right wing soldiers) and 500 people were killed during the fighting in Berlin. However, in the Kapp Putsch the Government were successful calling on the citizens to go on strike. Dr Kapp fled and peace was restored. The Government had had to ask rival political groups to stop each other, they could not manage to deal with the problems without doing this.</i></p> <p><i>The Government failed to deal with the financial crisis caused by the invasion of the Ruhr by the French and Belgian troops in 1923. The government printed more money so the currency became worthless and hyperinflation happened which led to mass unemployment and poverty.</i></p> <p><i>A major success of the Government was the work of Gustav Stresemann who worked very hard at rebuilding Germany. His work on foreign affairs was brilliant. The Dawes Plan, with the USA, brought Germany 800 billion marks to start industry going again. The Locarno Pact ended the aggression between Germany and France. He also got Germany admitted to the League of Nations in 1927 showing they were acceptable once again.</i></p> <p><i>In conclusion, the Weimar Government between 1919 and 1923 was weak, as they needed other groups e.g. Freikorps, to solve their problems but they were clever as they set political oppositions against each other. When Stresemann came to power he began to rebuild Germany and make Germany successful again.</i></p>	<p>High level response</p> <p>Candidates who reach the higher levels for this question will deal with both success and failure of the Weimar Republic. These explanations will be sustained and developed. Whilst the failure of the Putsch is dealt with securely the reference to the success of government actions is rather weak. However, the section on Stresemann is strong enough to secure the development of both success and failure.</p> <p>The candidate achieved high marks for this answer because of the consideration given to both sides of the argument. The demonstration of 'how successful' is not strong. There is a hint at evaluation, with regard to the relative success in handling of the Putsch, in the first paragraph. Other explanations do not have an evaluative element. The final paragraph is more of a summary than an evaluation.</p>

8c) How successful was the Weimar Republic in dealing with Germany's problems? Explain your answer. [10]	
Candidate style answer	Examiner's commentary
<p><i>The Weimar Republic was successful in dealing with Germany's problems. Gustav Stresemann had replaced the German currency from the Mark to the Rentenmark to resolve hyperinflation. This meant that people began to have faith in the government's ability to look after their money.</i></p> <p><i>It also meant that countries like the USA were prepared to lend money to the Germans. The Dawes Plan was introduced to help make reparations more manageable. This was a loan from the Americans to revive industry and restore the cycle of prosperity. A more open approach to the arts followed with Germany showing its success.</i></p>	<p>Medium level response</p> <p>This candidate has given two explanations for the success of the Weimar Government one from domestic impact of Stresemann's actions, the other from how this led to American loans.</p> <p>In order to access the higher levels of the mark scheme the candidate would need to have shown the negative side of the Weimar Republic, e.g. its political fragility or the early revolts against it. A further development would have been a judgement on the relative success of the Republic.</p>