

Timeline

The colours represent different types of event as follows:

- **Black:** international events (including foreign policy)
- **Blue:** economic events
- **Red:** political events
- **Yellow:** social events
- **Green:** religious events

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| <p>1918 ● Nov – Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicates and new republic established</p> <p>● Nov – New German government signs armistice</p> <p>1919 ● Jan – Communist (Spartacist) uprising in Berlin, suppressed by army and Freikorps</p> <p>● June – Germany forced to accept Treaty of Versailles</p> <p>● July – Constitution of the new German Republic approved by Reichstag</p> <p>1920 ● Kapp Putsch in Berlin</p> <p>1923 ● German economy hit by hyperinflation</p> <p>● Jan – French and Belgian troops occupy the Ruhr industrial area</p> <p>● Nov – Hitler and Nazis attempt to seize power in Beer Hall Putsch in Munich</p> <p>1924 ● April – Dawes Plan introduced to ease reparations payments</p> <p>1926 ● Germany accepted into League of Nations</p> <p>1929 ● June – Young Plan</p> <p>● Oct – Wall Street Crash leads to mass unemployment</p> <p>1930 ● March – Collapse of coalition government led by Müller; replaced by Brüning who needs to rule by presidential decree</p> <p>● Sept – NSDAP gain support in Reichstag election</p> <p>1932 ● July – NSDAP becomes largest party in Reichstag after election</p> <p>1933 ● Jan – Hindenburg appoints Hitler Chancellor, in coalition with other parties</p> <p>● Feb – Reichstag fire leads to Decree for Protection of the People and the State</p> <p>● March – Enabling Act gives Hitler dictatorial power</p> <p>● April – Law for the Re-establishment of a Professional Civil Service</p> <p>● May – Trade unions banned and replaced with German Labour Front</p> | <p>1934 ● Protestant Confessional Church established</p> <p>● June – SA purged in Night of Long Knives</p> <p>● Aug – Death of Hindenburg. Hitler becomes President and Chancellor with title of Führer</p> <p>1935 ● Sept The Nuremberg Laws</p> <p>1936 ● Olympic Games held in Berlin</p> <p>● Four Year Plan introduced led by Goering</p> <p>1937 ● Encyclical letter from the Pope criticises repression of Catholic Church in Germany</p> <p>1938 ● Feb – Hitler purges army leadership</p> <p>● March – Austrian <i>Anschluss</i></p> <p>● Nov Jewish property and synagogues attacked on Reichsbürgerfest</p> <p>1939 ● Aug – Nazi-Soviet Pact agreed to divide Poland between the two powers</p> <p>● Aug – Rationing of some key foodstuffs</p> <p>● Sept – German forces invade Poland, leading to start of Second World War</p> <p>● Start of ghettoisation in Poland</p> <p>● Oct – Euthanasia programme approved</p> <p>● Jan – First euthanasia of mentally ill by gas</p> <p>1940 ● June – German forces invade the USSR</p> <p>● <i>Einsatzgruppen</i> deployed behind Eastern Front</p> <p>● Aug – Euthanasia programme halted</p> <p>1941 ● Jan – Wannsee Conference</p> <p>● Germany adopts 'Total War' measures</p> <p>1942 ● Jan – Defeat of German army at Stalingrad marks the decisive turning point in the war</p> <p>● Sustained bombing against German cities by British and Americans</p> <p>● July – Attempt to assassinate Hitler by army officers in Bomb Plot fails</p> <p>1944 ● July – Attempt to assassinate Hitler by army officers in Bomb Plot fails</p> <p>1945 ● Liberation of Auschwitz and other camps</p> |
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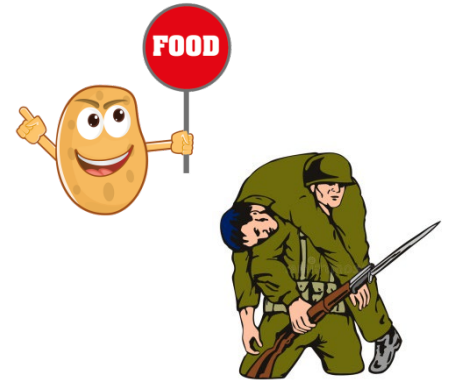
Knowledge Organiser: End of WW1 and its Impact - 1918-1919

'The allied blockade policy against Germany... increased population loss and spread death and disease, as famine encroached upon the civilian populations of Central Europe. Its prolongation by the Allies after the cease-fire was intended as a strategy to prevent the resurgence of German military power.'

N.P Howard - The Social and Political Consequences of the Allied Food Blockade of Germany 1918-1919

Key Effects of WW1 on Germany:

- 750,000 civilians dead
- 2 million soldiers dead/4 million wounded. 55% casualties
- 150bn mark debt
- 298k deaths from starvation and influenza - 1918
- Meat consumption falls 12%: Turnip Winter 1916-1917
- Severe food shortages, rising food prices
- Value of the mark falls 75%
- The number of child deaths increased 50%



September 1918	General High command including Ludendorff concluded that to avoid humiliation Germany should surrender.
October 1918	October Reforms: Major Constitutional Reforms - Made after Ludendorff's conclusion. Reforms to remove the power of the Kaiser - Prince Max of Baden - Chancellor - 1 st October Chancellor was responsible to the Reichstag - 28 th October Armed forces under the control of the Civil Government - Revolution from above
3 rd October 1918	Peace Note - sent by Max of Baden to Woodrow Wilson (USA) appealing to the 14 points. Wilson said no: demanded Germany to evacuate territory, end sub warfare and democratise its political system. Massive morale blow to the people.

22nd October - Kaiser is seen as an obstacle in the way of peace. Strike breaks out - workers shout 'the Kaiser is a scoundrel'.

3rd November - Mutiny spreads to naval base at Kiel. Sailors took control of the base.

Government tried to meet demands of the councils but the revolt spread to other towns and cities

9th November - SPD called a general strike and threatened to withdraw support from Baden. Baden proclaimed the Kaiser had abdicated.

9th November - Kaiser had no choice but to abdicate, but he didn't sign it until after it was announced.

28th October - Navy high command ordered a last offensive against the British. 2 cruisers refuse. Mutiny begins.

4th November - Revolt spread to the cities and workers and soldiers councils were established.

8th November - Bavaria proclaims a Republic and its Monarchy was deposed.

9th November - Max resigned in favour of Ebert (SPD). A republic was declared. Groener told the Kaiser the army would no longer fight for him.



9th November: Ebert Chancellor of Germany, but his government lacked legitimacy and faced lots of problems:

Socio Economic	Left Wing	Right Wing	Military
1. Inflation - wages were falling behind prices 2. Shortages - food and fuel 3. Flu - Spanish flu epidemic	1. Strikes from 1918 increased 2. German communists wanted to replicate USSR. 3. Workers and soldiers councils and wanted changed to the army.	1. Freikorps forming paramilitary units. 2. Army was conservative but bitter due to defeat 3. Nationalists were against Kaiser's abdication and did not support the Republic.	1. Demobilisation 1.5m soldiers returned home 2. Blockade was maintained causing shortages until 1919. 3. Peace terms, armistice stopped the fighting but fear over the terms and effects.

Fear of the left was a massive concern for Ebert - needs to maintain support from the army.

Keyword: Constituent Assembly: An elected body with the specific task of drawing up a new constitution, usually in the aftermath of a revolution.

10th November: Ebert-Groener

Pact

Groener phones Ebert to assure him that the army

Would support him if Ebert resists

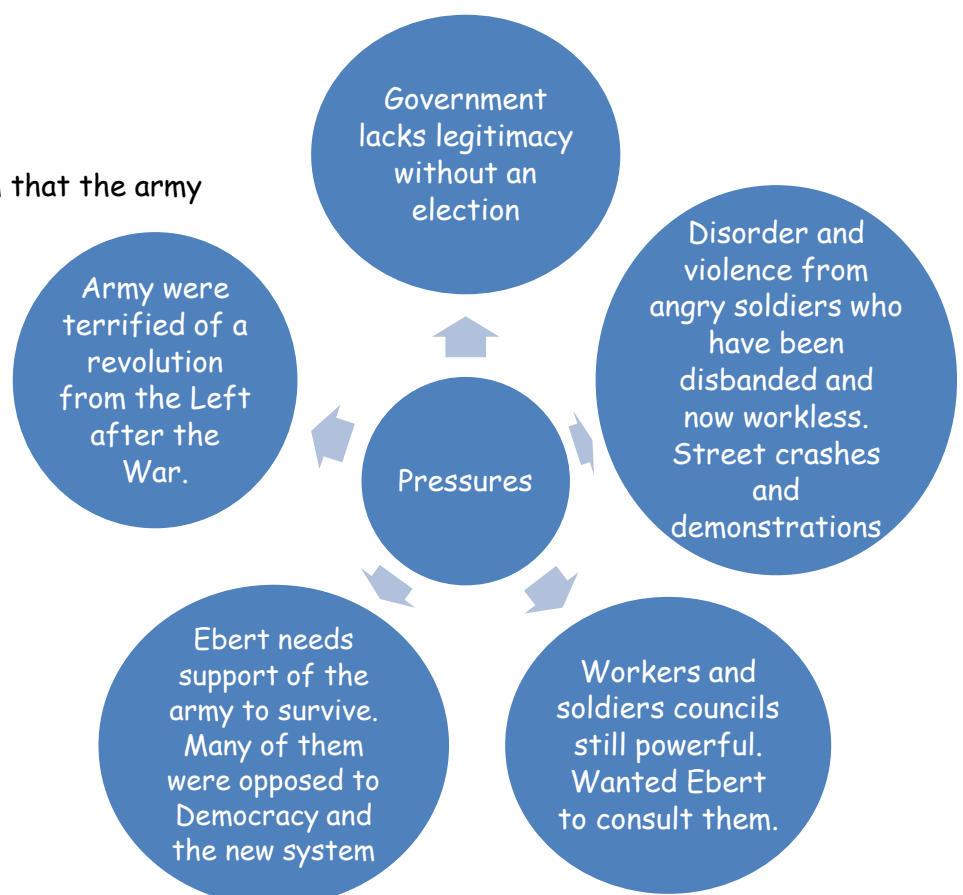
The demands of the soldiers

Councils and defend Germany

Against communism.

Results of the First Election

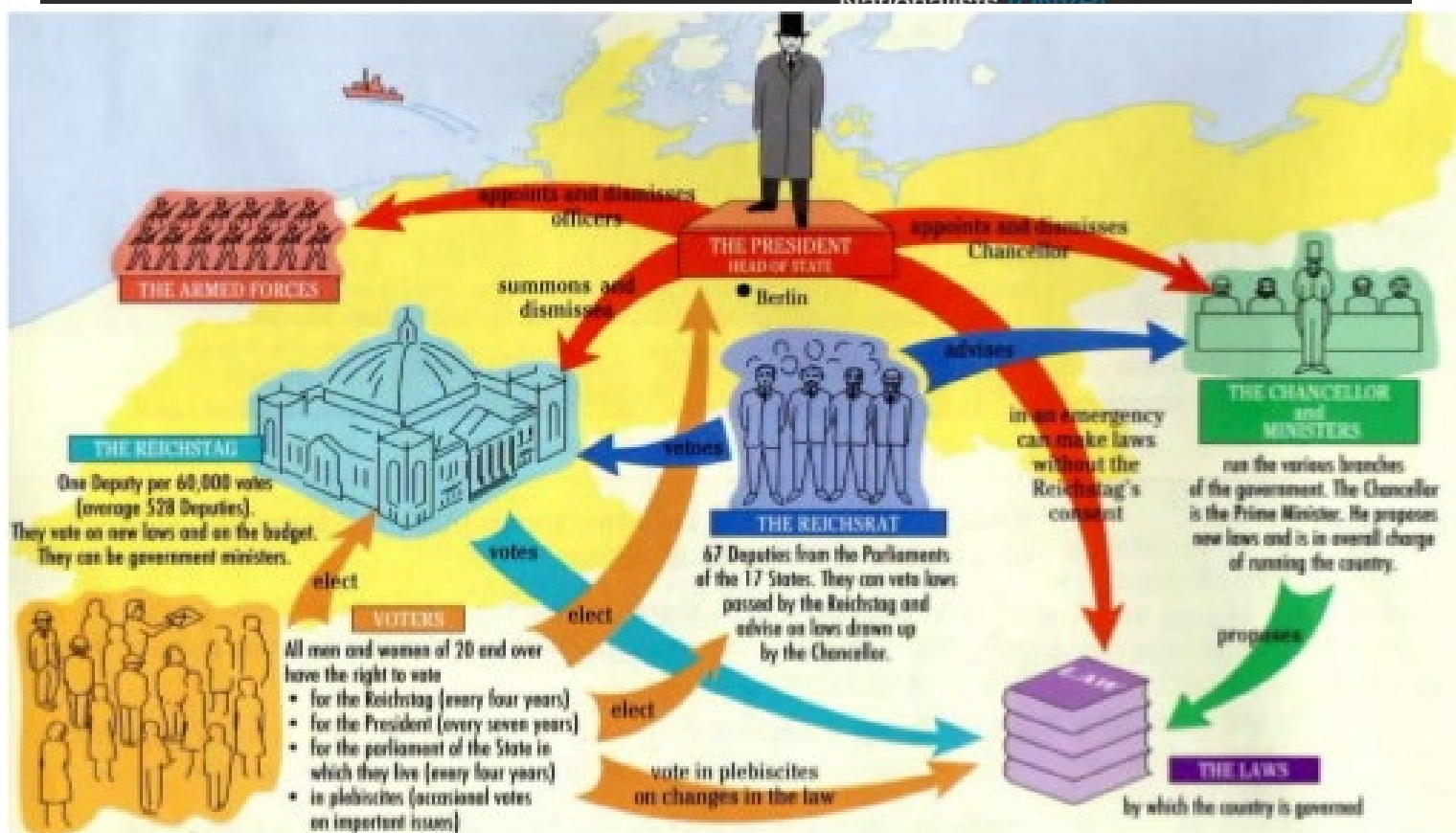
Party	Seats
SPD	163
USPD	22
Z	91
DDP	75
DNVP	44
DVP	19



83% turn out, 76.1% voted pro democratic.

SPD, DDP and ZP formed the Weimar Coalition

Ebert: President and **Scheidemann: Chancellor** - Government broke with the Workers and Soldiers Councils and began with the new declaration: 'Political authority derives from the people'



The Weimar Constitution

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Most democratic of any other country</p> <p>Universal suffrage - 20+</p> <p>Proportional Representation</p> <p>Rights of the individual</p>	<p>Proportional Representation - allowed small parties to exploit system to gain publicity</p> <p>Fractioned parliament</p> <p>Coalition Governments</p>

Referendums could be called by the President.

Article 48

The Army, Judiciary and Civil Service did not fit in to the new Democratic system, no attempt to reform.

The Army	The Civil Service	The Judiciary
Hans Von Seeckt - Commander in Chief - 1920 did believe that the army was tied to the Republic. Wanted to preserve its independence Far from politically neutral Used against left wing revolts	Had freedom of political opinion as long they remained loyal Many were anti-democratic Mainly recruited from German aristocracy	Article 54 - Guaranteed their independence Judges from the 2 nd Reich remained in their posts Very monarchist and this affected their judgement Punished left wing conspirators harshly More lenient on right wing conspirators

The Weimar constitution was not democratic nor did it provide the basis for stable Government.

Assess the validity of this view.

Key Points Versailles Settlement: *'The public adulation the President (Woodrow Wilson) experienced in Paris...reaffirmed his conviction that he alone carried the hopes of the world's masses for peaceful and progressive world order. The vision was glorious, the realities, less so.'* **Norman A Graebner and Edward M. Bennett, The Versailles Treaty and its Legacy: The Failure of Wilsonian Vision**

- Armistice signed 11th November 1918 - an agreement to stop fighting
- January 1919 at Versailles, Paris
- 75% of the worlds powers attended the meeting
- Four most influential leaders attended: UK - David Lloyd George, USA - Woodrow Wilson, France - Georges Clemenceau, Italy - Vittorio Orlando
- Germany was not invited and didn't see it until May 7th.
- German Government suggested changes to the treaty
- Allies refused and gave Germany 7 days to accept the Treaty
- Treaty provoked Scheidemann to resign his post - refused to sign, new coalition formed under Bauer (SPD)
- 28th June - Treaty signed and was harsher than anticipated
- TOV known as the Diktat - dictated peace

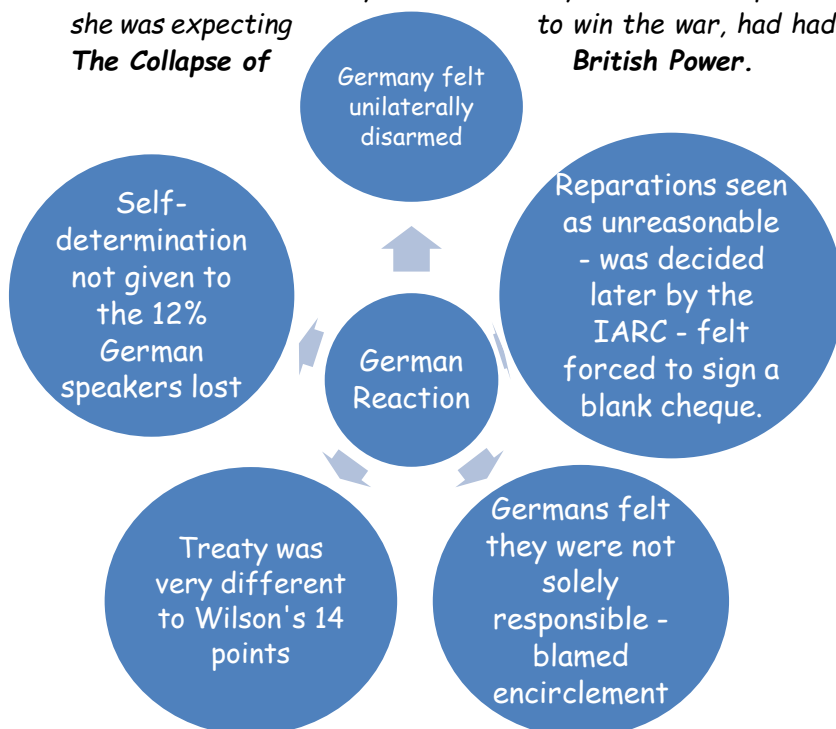


Woodrow Wilson (USA)	Georges Clemenceau (France)	David Lloyd George (UK)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Religious- Opposed USA entry into War- Drew up the 14 points - wanted a more just world- Reduce armaments- Self-determination- League of nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nationalist- Motivated by revenge- Financial compensation- Make the Rhineland a buffer state- Disarmament of Germany- Heavy reparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pragmatist- Uphold British interests- Needed to restrain Clemenceau- Guarantee British military security - naval supremacy- Stop communism- Limit French demands- Wanted Germany to remain able to trade- Germany was UK's biggest trading partner

Key Points: Terms of the Treaty

Land	Army
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed 13% of land - Alsace- Lorraine given to France - Schleswig-Holstein given to Denmark - Danzig became a free state - West Prussia given to Poland along with Posen creating the Polish Corridor - Upper Silesia split between Germany and Poland - Annexation with Austria - banned - All major rivers open for all nations - Saar land under LON for 15 years - Rhineland - demilitarised - IMCC placed here - German colonies distributed as mandates - supervised by LON. E.g. Britain took responsibility of German East Africa - Lost 75% of iron ore, 68% of zinc ore, 26% coal and 15% arable land - 12% of their population lost to other countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abolish conscription - Army reduced to 100,000 - No tanks or large calibre gun - Rhineland demilitarised - No military aircraft - Navy limited to 15,000 men - Limited to 6 battleships - 6 cruisers - 12 destroyers - 12 torpedo boats - No submarines - German fleet surrendered to Britain in 1918 but sank its own ships in the Orkney Islands June 1919.
Money	Blame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sum later fixed by the Inter-allied reparations commission (IARC) - 1921 sum fixed at £6.6 billion - Substantial payment to be made in coal and other natural materials - All coal production in the Saar given to France 	<p>Article 231 - Germany forced to accept full blame for the war and therefore liable to reparations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hand over its merchant shipping fleet - Hand over railway locomotives - Rolling stock, patents and overseas investment

'The terms of the treaty were extremely lenient in comparison with the peace terms that Germany herself, when she was expecting to win the war, had had in mind to impose on the allies.' **Correlli Barnett, The Collapse of British Power.**



How justified were they to be angry?

- Wilson's 14 points stated that A/L would be given to France
- 14 points stated an independent Poland
- Not as severe as it could have been due to restraints on Clemenceau
- Germany was kept strong enough to stop threat of Communism
- Germans not punished as harshly as they punished Russia in Treaty of Brest-Litvosk in which land was taken
- Germany would have confiscated land/reparations if they had won
- Reparations bill was lower than demanded by France - they could pay

Year 13 History 20 Revision Booklet

Part 1- The Establishment and early years of the Weimar Republic

Impact of War, the political crises of October to November 1918, and the establishment of the Weimar Constitution.

Chapter 1- Content

STARTER; Number the following events of 1918 in the correct order. Add dates where you can.

Order	Date	Event
		The Kaiser appointed Prince Max of Baden Chancellor, and he formed a government.
		Prince Max said the Kaiser had abdicated. He reigned and made Friedrich Ebert the new leader of Germany.
		The armistice was signed
		General Groener informed the Kaiser that the army no longer supported him so Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicated.
		Mutiny in the navy spread to main base in Kiel.
		General Ludendorff suggested the Kaiser made political reforms and requested an armistice.
		Bavaria declared a republic.

1. Below are some features of the Weimar Constitution. Decide if the feature was a strength or a weakness (some can be both). Explain your decision.

Feature	Strength	Weakness	Reason
All men and women over 20 had the vote			
Proportional representation meant coalition governments were highly likely.			
The armed forces, civil service and judiciary remained unchanged			
Electorate could decide important issues through referendums			
No state was allowed to dominate the Reichsrat			
Some human rights were written into the constitution			
President had emergency powers to rule by decree in emergencies			
Chancellor and all ministers were responsible to the Reichstag			

2. The Weimar Government was the biggest loser in the hyperinflation of 1923-24?

Complete this table on the winners and the losers of hyperinflation. For each loser from the table, give it a rating from 1 to 10 depending on how much people lost. Try to include as many as possible DEPPS in your explanation.

Group	Winner/loser/both?	Explanation
The Weimar Government		
Students		

Mortgage holders		
Farmers		
Entrepreneurs		
Workers		
Black marketers		
Big businesses		
Pensioners/ widows		