

Q1. **How** does Interpretation B differ from Interpretation A about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Q2. **Why** might the authors of Interpretations A and B have a different interpretation about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Q3. Which interpretation do you find the **most convincing** about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

From Adolf Hitler (1925) *Mein Kampf*. In *Mein Kampf* Hitler recorded his thoughts on the Treaty of Versailles.

Interpretation A

Each point of the treaty could have been engraved on the minds of the German people and burned into them until sixty million men and women would find their souls aflame of rage and shame

Adapted from Sally Marks (1976) *The Illusion of Peace: International Relations in Europe 1918-1926*.

Interpretation B

The Treaty of Versailles is severe, but it is amazing that it is not more so. Thanks to Wilson's insistence, Germany lost remarkably little territory, considering how thoroughly it had lost the war. True, the colonies were gone, but the European losses were relatively few. The real difficulty was not that the treaty was exceptionally severe, but that the Germans thought it was, and in time persuaded others it was.

Q1. **How** does Interpretation B differ from Interpretation A about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Mark	Time	What is the question testing?	What do I need to do?	Structure
4	5	Your ability to Infer in detail.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Paraphrase (Infer) the overall message of the interpretation. Pick out a specific detail that allowed you to make your inference 	P1: I + Dev P2: I + Dev

Interpretation A views the Treaty of Versailles negatively. It states that the Treaty resulted in anger amongst the entire German population and was memorable due to its harsh nature.

Whereas Interpretation B looks on it more positively. It argues that it was relatively lenient and could have been much harsher given that Germany had lost the war, but that the issue with the Treaty was that the German people viewed it as harsher than it was in reality.

Q2. **Why** might the authors of Interpretations A and B have a different interpretation about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Mark	Time	What is the question testing?	What do I need to do?	Structure
4	5	Your understanding of provenance and knowledge.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> State the provenance (who the author was/ when it was written/ what it is) Use knowledge to explain the importance of the provenance. 	P1: P + K P2: P + K

Interpretation A is written by Adolf Hitler in 1925. Hitler is bound to have his opinion because he believed in the Dolchstoss myth and saw the Treaty of Versailles as a diktat and betrayal of the German people by 'November Criminals'. In addition, the NSDAP campaigned on the idea that they would rebuild Germany as a great power so is bound to view the Treaty as a shameful document that should anger Germans.

Interpretation B is written by Marks in 1976. Marks is likely to have her opinion because she has full knowledge that Germany did rebuild and cause the Second World War. She is therefore likely to believe that if the Treaty of Versailles were harsher, like France under Clemenceau had wanted, further war could have been avoided.

Q3. Which interpretation do you find the most convincing about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

Mark	Time	What is the question testing?	What do I need to do?	Structure
8	10	Your knowledge of the content in each interpretation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paraphrase the Interpretation 2. Explain using knowledge why each interpretation is convincing. 3. Judge which is the most convincing. <p>AVOID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using provenance as your main way of explaining- you can use provenance but sparingly. • Saying why they are <i>not</i> convincing until your judgement in the conclusion. 	<p>P1: I + K + Ex</p> <p>P2: I + K + Ex</p> <p>C: J</p>

1 Interpretation A is somewhat convincing as it highlights that much of Germany were ashamed and angered by the Treaty of Versailles. For
 2 example, the requirement to limit the military by having a maximum of 100,000 soldiers, no air force and only 6 warships, was seen as a direct
 3 attack on Germany's long tradition of proud militarism that many took as shameful and insulting. In addition, the loss of 13% of its total
 4 territory, and key places like Alsace- Lorraine, was a point of anger amongst many Germans, including amongst those who now lived in other
 5 countries. This can be seen by the fact that many ethnic Germans in Czechoslovakia and Poland welcome the invasions in 1938-1939.
 6 Interpretation A therefore convincingly highlights that many Germans were angered by the Treaty, as emphasised by the fact that the NSDAP
 7 gained support by campaigning to abolish the Treaty and rebuild the country.

8 Interpretation B is also somewhat convincing as it highlights that the terms of the Treaty could have been harsher. When negotiating the
 9 Treaty France wanted to cripple Germany so severely that they could not pose a threat to France in the future. For example, Clemenceau
 10 wanted to push the German border permanently back to the Rhine. This was avoided however, as President Wilson of the USA wanted to
 11 allow Germany to rebuild so it could be a part of a prosperous Europe, so instead the Saar was loaned to France for 15 years. Indeed,
 12 although Germany did lose 13% of its population and 10% of its land, this was far smaller than France ideally wanted them to lose. Likewise,
 13 although Germany's military was limited, it was allowed to keep an army and navy and demilitarisation only occurred in the Rhineland. B is
 14 convincing also as it highlights that Germany viewed the terms harshly, even though it could have been worse. Many in Germany viewed the
 15 Treaty of a diktat which aimed to destroy Germany forever, rather than focussing on the fact that Germany could have been forced into total
 16 unconditional surrender if the allies had chosen to invade, instead of agreeing to armistice and peace negotiations. The fact that the Treaty
 17 could have been harsher is highlighted by the fact that the German government agreed to in 1925 when they signed the Locarno Pact.

18 Overall, A and B both convincingly point to the fact that the issue with the Treaty was the way it was viewed by the German people. B is
 19 however more convincing, as it highlights that the treaty could have been far more severe, especially if France had got what it wished. A, on
 20 the other hand, only focusses on a narrow perspective, probably as it suited Hitler's political interests to paint the treaty so negatively, and to
 21 convince the German people that he should be elected so it can be reversed.

Q4. DESCRIBE TWO PROBLEMS...

KEY QUESTION 1: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Mark	Time	What is the question testing?	What do I need to do?	Structure
4	5	Your ability to explain problems faced by the government/ people. Knowledge of events.	ID + K + Ex State why it was a problem for X. Give a fact Explain why it's a problem.	P1: ID + K + Ex P2: ID + K + Ex

Sentence Starters

One problem for... was... This was a problem because...

Another problem for... was... This was a problem because...

KEY QUESTION 2: WHAT DOES A MODEL ANSWER LOOK LIKE?

DESCRIBE TWO PROBLEMS FACED BY THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT AS A RESULT OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES

One problem for the German government was reparations. The Treaty demanded that Germany pay £6.6bn to the allies. This was a problem because it restricted German economic growth after the war and allowed allied powers to take reparation payments by force, as they did when France and Belgium occupied the Ruhr in 1923.

Another problem was the Clause 231, which demanded Germany take blame for the war. This was a problem as the German people did not feel they were responsible for the war, so were angered that they government seemed to agree with the allies that it was there fault. This contributed to the Dolchstoss myth and the idea that the government were 'November Criminals'.

KEY QUESTION 1: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Mark	Time	What is the question testing?	What do I need to do?	Structure
8	10	Your ability to Explain how life changed for people/ how an event changed Germany.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State (IDentify) a change- try to group these into categories (e.g. economic, social, political) but this is NOT compulsory, and will not help to get L3 2. Use Knowledge to Explain the change 3. Conclude with a Judgement about which was the biggest change 	P1: ID + K + Ex P2: ID + K + Ex C: J

KEY QUESTION 2: WHAT DOES A MODEL ANSWER LOOK LIKE?

IN WHAT WAYS WERE THE LIVES OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES?

1 One way the lives of German people were affected by the Treaty of Versailles was economically. Before the First World War, the German
2 economy was one of the strongest in the world, with industrial production beating Britain in key areas. The created a general prosperity in
3 Germany, with a relatively advanced social welfare system as a result. The Treaty of Versailles changed this because the £6.6bn reparation
4 bill put economic pressure on Germany. Eventually this led to a missed reparation payment, the occupation of the R uhr an the
5 hyperinflation crisis. This impacted the German people because hyperinflation wiped out savings, pauperising the population and causing
6 social chaos. The Treaty of Versailles therefore impacted the people by removing the relative economic security they had before the war.

7 Another way the German people were affected was by causing humiliation. Before the war, much of the German population were proud
8 that Germany was one of the most powerful countries in the world, with the biggest army in Europe, and colonies in Africa and Asia. This
9 changed as the Treaty of Versailles limited the army to 100,000 and took away all colonies, as well as parts of the German mainland. This
10 affected the people, as military and territorial strengths were important parts of the German identity, generating pride, with these gone,
11 many Germans felt humiliated and unfairly treated by the allied powers.

12 Overall, the economic impacts of the Treaty of Versailles had to greatest impact. By undermining the economic strength of Germany post-
13 WW1 the Treaty of Versailles set in motion a series of economic crises beginning with hyperinflation and ending in the Great Depression,
14 with 6million unemployed and the rise of the NSDAP. Whilst the destruction of important cultural ideas (like military and territorial
15 strength) matter, they were significantly less significant in the short and long term, than the economic chaos the Treaty brought.

Q6. Which of the following was the more important reason why...

Example: Which of the following was the more important reason why the Nazis were able to control Germany after 1933:

- Propaganda
- The use of Terror?

KEY QUESTION 1: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

1 Paragraph per bullet point + a conclusion to provide a clear answer to the question.

Do NOT write about anything beyond the bullet points.

L1 (1-3)	Provide accurate points or knowledge	ID + K
L2 (4-6)	Explain one bullet point	P1: ID + K + Ex
L3 (7-9)	Explain both bullet points	P1: ID + K + Ex P2: ID + K + Ex
L4 (10-12)	Judge which was the most important	P1: ID + K + Ex P2: ID + K + Ex C: J

Remember:

1. Always include specific and detailed knowledge (examples)- these might include dates, places, people, stats etc..
2. Use the language of the question to ensure you are answering it fully- in this example, look for the key phrase "The use of X helped the Nazis control Germany because..."

KEY QUESTION 2: WHAT DOES A MODEL ANSWER LOOK LIKE?

Propaganda was vital for Nazi control in Germany after 1933. Under the leadership of Joseph Goebbels, Nazi propaganda focussed on reinforcing simple messages that explained Germany's problems and celebrated Nazi success. To explain Germany's problems Goebbels focussed on reinforcing the idea that Germany was threatened by enemies (Jews, Communists, and other non-desirables), and ensured that any dissenting voices were censored. Goebbels also focussed on celebrating German greatness, both historic and modern; literature, theatre and music were all censored to ensure modern 'evils' like jazz were pushed aside in favour of true German art like Wagner and Goethe, whilst paintings focussed on celebrating the 'true German' characteristics like family and military. The use of propaganda helped the Nazis control Germany as it ensured that the German population were willing participants in the regime and encouraged them to see the Nazi government as a necessary part of a return to German greatness; in short, the effective use of propaganda, and in particular major events like the Olympics, made the German population want to be ruled by the Nazis, making control significantly easier.

Beyond propaganda, terror was also vital to control. The Nazis created an efficient and effective police state under the leadership of Himmler. The main organ of the police state was the SS which served as a protection force for Hitler helping to keep him safe, and organised the secret police and intelligence services, the Gestapo and SD respectively. The police state allowed the Nazis to set up a spy network that effectively arrested suspected 'enemies', who were then dealt with through rigged courts which provided a façade of legitimacy, before being sent to concentration camps. Beyond this, the police state was probably more effective due to the fact it spread fear amongst the population, which helped the Nazis control the population by preventing open rebellion ever occurring. Terror therefore was incredibly effective at providing a means to both physically and psychologically control the population, guaranteeing that those who might rebel against rule were dealt with swiftly, or too scared to do anything in the first place.

Overall, propaganda was the more effective method of maintaining control. Although terror was effective in handling the small amount of open opposition to Hitler and the Nazis, and fear was effective, it is clear that most Germans were actively compliant in the Nazi regime. The repetition of simple narratives helped to frame the Nazis as the saviours of Germany and most Germans bought into this message, providing support for the government, as evidenced by the lack of any substantial rebellion or mass protest during Nazi rule.