

**THE AIMS OF
GERMAN
UNIFICATION,
1871**

- *Creating a German 'fatherland', consisting of all Germans*
- *Regaining the 'ancient glory' of the German people*
- *Protecting the 'rights' of the German empire*
- *Maintaining the united strength of the German people*
- *Security against French aggression*
- *Ensure national prosperity, liberty and morality*

What would Wilhelm II have to do to prove that he had achieved this aim?	What did Wilhelm II do to ensure this?

Describe the German Naval League.

What were the Naval Laws of 1898?

How would this have helped to make Germany powerful?

The League had the support of 600,000 members of the public. What does this tell you about German attitudes in the early twentieth century?

German Naval Rearmament

In the late 1890s Germany began a massive programme of naval building, and clearly announced its intention to create a fleet “of such strength that a war against the mightiest power would involve risks threatening the supremacy of that power.”

The development of a navy to rival that of England became a prime focus of German policy around the turn of the century. The driving force behind the German naval program was Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz. Tirpitz was able to convince not only the Parliament of the need for a new navy, but the German middle class as well. In 1898 the German Navy League was founded with substantial amounts of money from the Krupp business group. Krupp were heavily involved in producing steel and weaponry. By 1900 it had over 600,000 members.

In 1900, the League's Hamburg chapter called for the construction of a fleet “strong enough to protect Germany's growing overseas trade and its fledgling colonies with force and might, and at all times watch over the honour of the Empire in distant seas.”

The Navy Law of 1898 was the first important step in the construction of the new German Navy. It provided for a fleet of 19 battleships, 12 large cruisers, 30 small cruisers, and assorted smaller ships. Two years later, the Navy Law of 1900 authorized the further expansion of the Imperial Navy, to be organized around two flagships and four squadrons of 8 battleships.

***How successful was
Kaiser Wilhelm's
Germany?***

***Use the see-saw from
last lesson and what
we've seen today to
explain your answer.***



Deutsche,
denkt daran!



“Deutsche,
denkt daran!”

“Germans,
remember!”

“Germany was ‘stabbed in the back’ at the end of the Great War. The war effort was undermined from within.”

What kinds of things would we need to know to see if this statement is accurate?

The Blockade

- 1) In what ways did the naval blockade damage Germany?***
- 2) How did it bring about the end of the war?***



"With the rebellion of the sailors and workers on 3 November 1918 in Kiel the November revolution starts."

What do you think might have led to a rebellion amongst German sailors?

The Kiel Mutiny

- 1) What was the Kiel Mutiny? Describe what happened.***
- 2) How would this bring about the end of the war?***



Denmark

Sweden

Kiel

Netherlands

Poland

Germany

Belgium

Czech Rep.

France

Slovakia

Austria

Switzerland

Italy

wafungary

***“Germany was
brought down from
within at the end of
1918.”***

For?

Against?

The Generals

- 1) How did the Generals respond to the military situation towards the end of the war?***
- 2) How did they help bring about the end of the war?***



**Rosa
Luxemburg,
leader of the
revolutionary
group 'The
Spartacists'**

How might political unrest have led to the end of the war?

THE GERMAN REICH

1871-1918



- FHZ = Fürstentum Hohenzollern (zu Preußen)
- LD = Fürstentum Lippe
- OLD = zu Großherzogtum Oldenburg
- RÄL = Fürstentum Reuß ältere Linie
- RJL = Fürstentum Reuß jüngere Linie
- SA = Herzogtum Sachsen-Altenburg
- SCG = Herzogtum Sachsen-Coburg und Gotha
- SL = Fürstentum Schaumburg-Lippe
- SMG = Herzogtum Sachsen-Meiningen
- SR = Fürstentum Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt
- SWE = Großherzogtum Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach
- W = Fürstentum Waldeck und Pyrmont (Landesteil Pyrmont)

Socialists and Trade Unions

- 1) Why was there increasing industrial unrest towards the end of the war?***
- 2) Who were the SPD (and the more extreme USPD), and why were they important?***
- 3) What do you think was the impact of the Russian revolution upon the events in Germany?***

Pulling factors together

Write a short explanation (1-2 sentences) identifying why each of these factors was important:

- The naval blockade***
- The behaviour of the generals and the admirals***
- The behaviour of the Kaiser***
- The behaviour of trade unions***
- The behaviour of civilians, particularly in Berlin***
- The behaviour of disgruntled sailors in Kiel***
- The politicians in the Reichstag***



***Was Germany 'stabbed
in the back'?***

***What is your
interpretation?***

Creating an interpretation

1. Explain why each factor was significant:

- *Role of the Generals*
- *Role of political movements*
- *Role of the blockade*
- *Role of the Kiel Mutiny*

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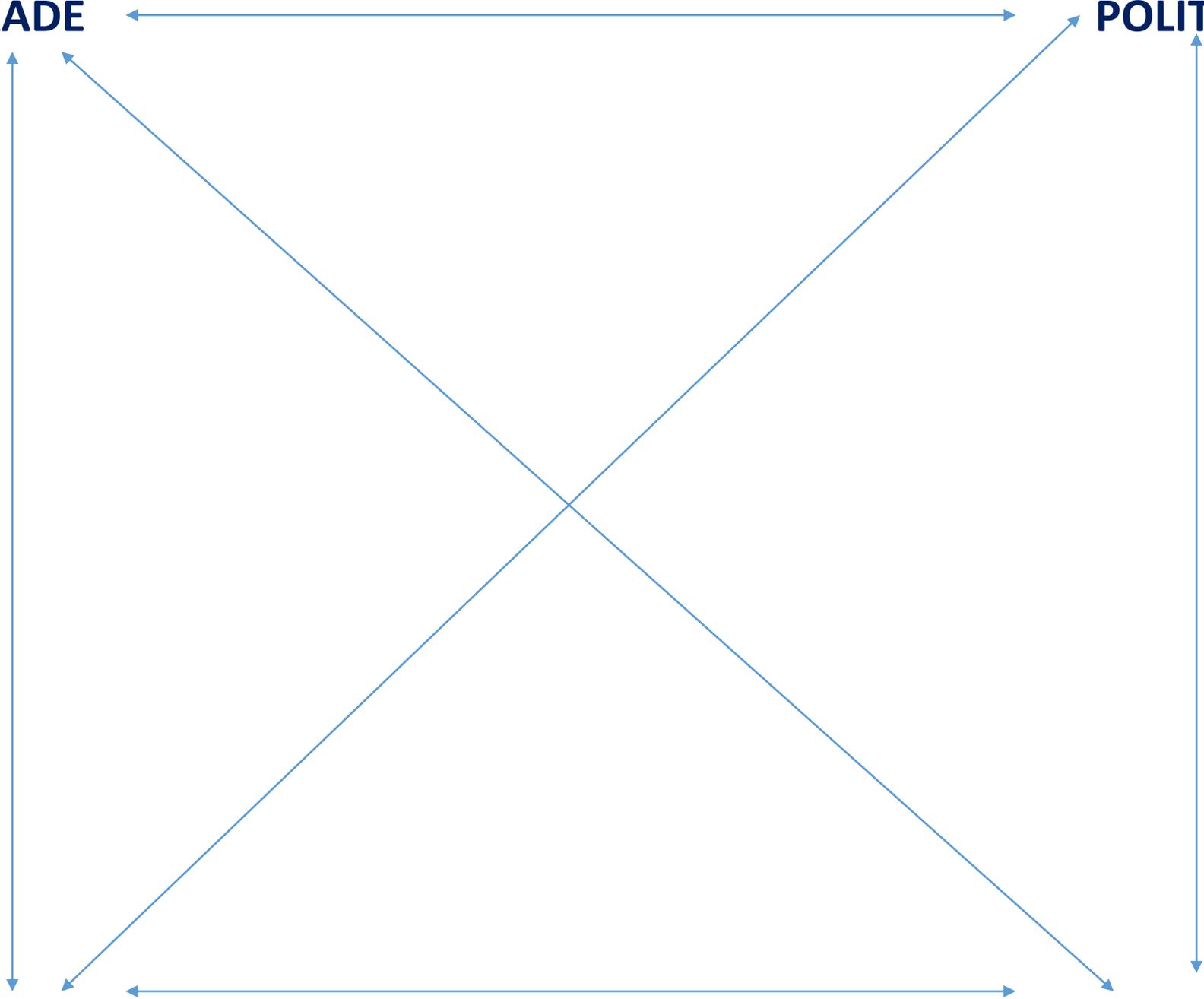
2. Explain how the factors interacted to help bring the war to a close

BLOCKADE

POLITICS

GENERALS

MUTINY



“Germany was ‘stabbed in the back’ at the end of the Great War. The war effort was undermined from within.” How far do you agree?

The Blockade and the Economy	Actions of German soldiers and sailors	Actions of the Generals and Admirals	Actions of socialists and the trade unions	<i>What is your interpretation?</i>

"Great masses of workers...answered the call to struggle. Their favourite slogan 'Down, down, down' (with the government) resounded once more...Many marchers were armed. Several trucks with machine guns stood at the Siegessaule... If the crowds had had determined, conscious leaders, instead of windbags, by noon that day Berlin would have been in their hands."

*Gustav Noske, SPD Defence Minister of Germany 1919-20,
describing the events of January 1st 1919*

What circumstances would there have to be to allow a revolution to be successful?

Weak government

Access to weaponry

Good leadership

Public support

A sense of shared purpose

Specific goals to achieve

Resources / wealth

**Was post-war
Germany
ripe for a
revolution?**



The Spartacist Uprising, January 1919



**The Kapp *Putsch*,
March 1920**

In 1919 and 1920, there were a number of uprisings in Germany. The two most significant were the Spartacist uprising in January 1919 and the Kapp *Putsch* of March 1920.

Read through the information presented. For each of the uprisings, we will assess the extent to which the two movements had the potential to be successful, and why they failed.

The Spartacist Uprising, January 1919	
Factor	Explain using specific evidence and details
Who were their leaders? What were their aims?	
Which groups / important individuals chose to support this uprising?	
Why did their attempted revolution fail? Why was this important?	

The Kapp Putsch, March 1920

Factor	Explain using specific evidence and details
Who were their leaders? What were their aims?	
Which groups / important individuals chose to support this uprising?	
Why did their attempted revolution fail? Why was this important?	

Which of these two attempted revolutions was a greater threat to the German government in 1919-1920:

- The Spartacist Uprising**
- The Kapp Putsch?**

These questions require you to identify the key aspects of the historical issue in question before reaching a conclusion.

Divide your paper into two columns. List all of the ways that the Spartacists were a threat to Germany and in the other all the ways that the Kapp Putsch was a threat to Germany.

**Who were the
Freikorps?**

**Was Ebert
right to use
them to put
down the
Spartacists?**



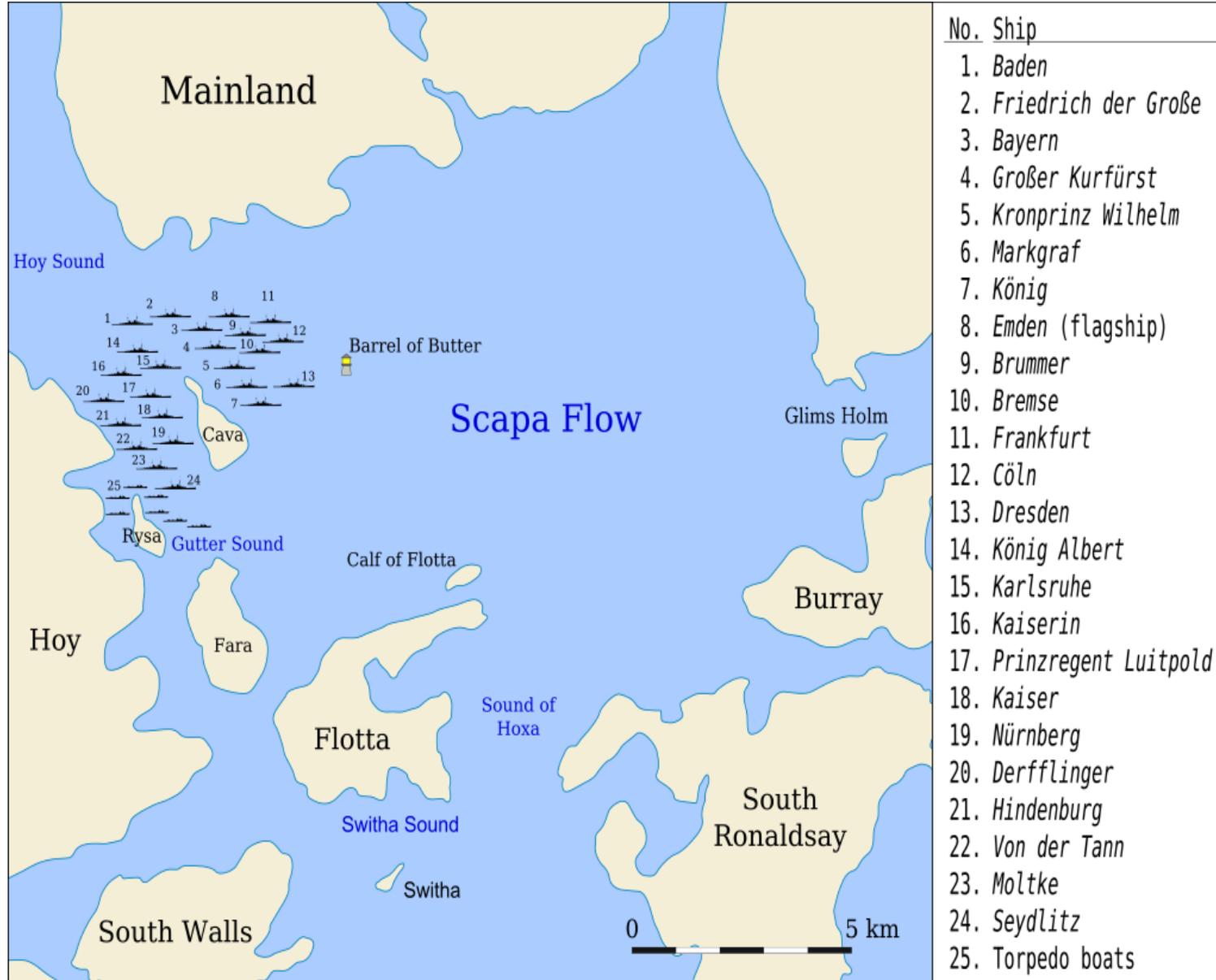
Which of these two attempted revolutions was a greater threat to Germany in 1919-1920:

- **The Spartacist Uprising**
- **The Kapp Putsch?**

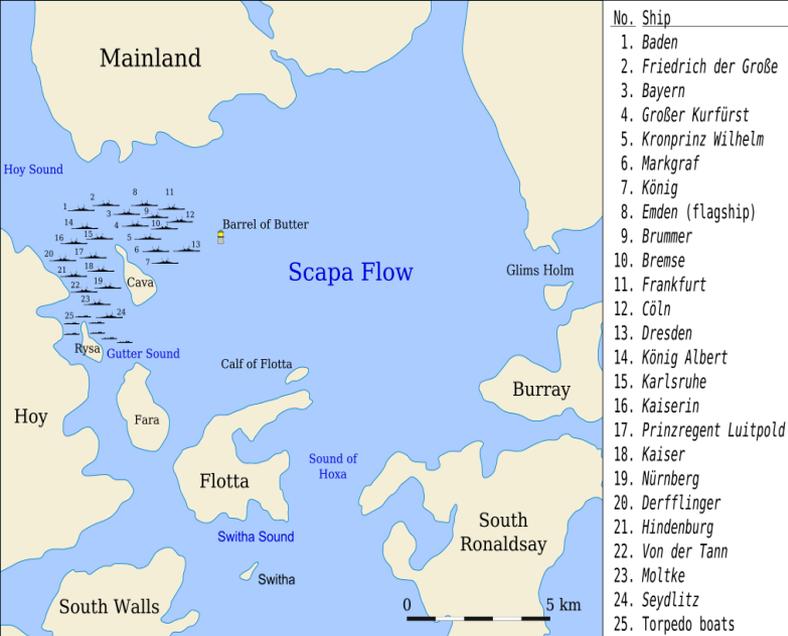
Write your conclusion to the above question.

For level three, you have to explain clearly why one of these factors was a greater threat.

For level four, you have to explain how the factors interacted in order to make one a greater threat.

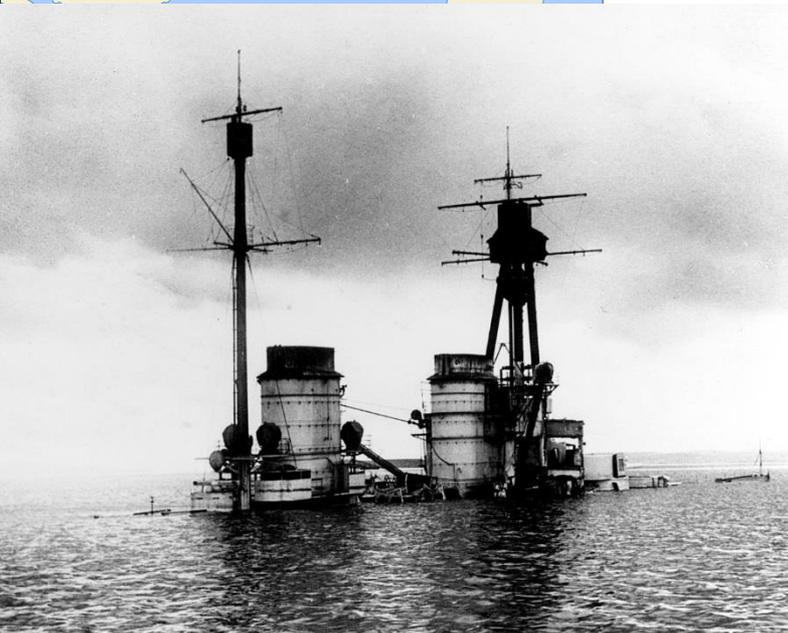


Above is a map of Scapa Flow, in the waters around Scotland. The ships marked on the map mark where different German naval vessels sank.
How do you think they got there?



These ships were sunk on the 21st June 1919, days before the Treaty of Versailles ending the war was signed (28th June). Admiral von Reuter ordered the scuttling of the fleet to prevent the ships being absorbed into the British, French and Italian navies. He was not ordered to do this by Ebert's government. The British essentially held the sailors prisoner on board the ships, refusing to allow them on dry land.

The sailors left manning the ships had been slowly sent back to Germany, particularly after Communist political groups had begun to form on the boats. The sailors spent most of their spare time drinking, fishing and catching seagulls.



What does this information suggest about the attitudes of:

- The German sailors?***
- The German admirals?***
- The British government?***

SS Hindenburg, the final ship to be scuttled, sinking on 21st June 1919.

The Key Terms of the Treaty of Versailles, 28 th June 1919		
Factor	What do you think the intention of the Allies was in this area? Prove this with evidence from the treaty's terms.	How do you think the people of Germany would react to this? Why?
Territorial		
Military		
Financial		
General		

The Treaty of Versailles

Having seen the terms last lesson, how fair do you consider the Treaty of Versailles to have been?

Interpretations

How would the Germans view the Treaty of Versailles?

Why would the British think differently about the Treaty of Versailles to the Germans?



SOURCE A:
'Clemenceau the Vampire,' a cartoon from the German newspaper ***Kladderadatsch*** (July 1919).

The figure lying on the bed represents Germany.

Clemenceau was Prime Minister of France in 1919. He is shown here as the figure on the left.



SOURCE B:
A British cartoon from Punch magazine entitled 'Giving Him Rope?', published in July 1919. The German criminal is saying to the Allied policemen, "Here, I say, stop! You're hurting me!" As an aside, he also says, "If I only whine enough I may be able to wriggle out of this yet."

Germany ends World War One reparations after 92 years with £59m final payment

By [ALLAN HALL FOR MAILONLINE](#)

UPDATED: 01:19, 29 September 2010

Germany will finally clear its First World War debt by repaying nearly £60million this weekend. The £22billion reparations were set by the Allied victors – mostly Britain, France and America – as compensation and punishment for the 1914-18 war.

The reparations were set at the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, by the Allied victors - mostly Britain, France and America.

Most of the money was intended to go to Belgium and France, whose land, towns and villages were devastated by the war, and to pay the Allies some of the costs of waging it.

The initial sum agreed upon for war damages in 1919 was 226billion Reichsmarks, a sum later reduced to 132billion. In sterling at the time this was the equivalent of some £22billion.

The German Federal Budget for 2010 shows the remaining portion of the debt that will be cleared on Sunday, October 3.

What does this information suggest about the reparation payments decided at the Treaty of Versailles?

The Treaty of Versailles

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

Explain your answer using **Interpretations A** and **B** and your contextual knowledge.
[4 marks]

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

Explain your answer using **Interpretations A** and **B** and your contextual knowledge.
[4 marks]

Which interpretation do you find more convincing about the Treaty of Versailles?

Explain your answer using **Interpretations A** and **B** and your contextual knowledge.

[8 marks]



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The Treaty of Versailles

How does **Interpretation B** differ from **interpretation A** about the Treaty of Versailles? Explain your answer based on the content of **Interpretations A** and **B**.

[4 marks]

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

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[4 marks]

Answer the question in your assessment books. You have 6 minutes to do so.

What do you think would be the main factors that would inform the behaviour of the victorious powers after the war ended?

Read through the information provided about the position that the main combatants in the First World War found themselves in at the end of 1918. Use this information to complete the knowledge grid, describing what each of the terms meant / why it was important.

The Negotiations at the Versailles Conference, 1919

"Squeeze them 'til the pips squeak"	Brest-Litovsk	'Lost Generation'	Verdun
David Lloyd-George	Alsace and Lorraine	League of Nations	Friedrich Ebert
Self-determination	Falkenhayn	Woodrow Wilson	Homes for Heroes
'Bleed the French red white'	Georges Clemenceau	Blockade of Germany	Kiel Mutiny
Fourteen Points	Kaiser Wilhelm's abdication	Armistice	Reparations
Hall of Mirrors	The Big Three	Bolsheviks	War Indemnity
'Hang The Kaiser'	Revenge	War Guilt	Idealist

Britain: No actual fighting had taken place in Britain, but she had made a major contribution to the war effort on every front, especially the Western Front in France and Belgium. Britain had lost 750,000 men in the war, and a further 1.5 million had been wounded, many crippled for life. Because so many men had volunteered in the first few months of the war, many towns and villages lost a huge number of young men- the so-called 'Lost Generation'. This had not been helped by the government's policy of allowing men to sign up in Pals Battalions- groups of men from the same workplace, towns or even football teams.

Massive social changes had taken place in Britain, with many women playing a public role for the first time, and government power had increased massively as a result of the war. Britain was still immensely proud of its navy and Empire, and was even more driven to see these two things safeguarded. The country remained pretty much unchanged politically: the Liberal party was still in power in 1918 (it had been in 1914 too), though it had become more democratic with a greater proportion of the population able to vote following the granting of women's suffrage at the end of the 1918. As the war came nearer to a clear end, following the United States of America's decision to join the fight against the Central Powers in 1917, thoughts turned to elections after the war. Politicians promised 'Homes for Heroes', and the public made calls to 'Hang The Kaiser'. In order to ensure that Germany could not reinitiate the war, the Royal Navy maintained the naval blockade of Germany until a peace treaty had been signed.

France: France was left particularly bitter by the end of the war. Much of the fighting had taken place on her soil, and this had a terrible effect on her economy as it meant that vast sums of money had been spent on driving the Germans out. France lost far more men than Britain (1.4 million killed and 2.5 million wounded) and 2 million people had been forced to flee from their homes. Furthermore, the good farmland in the North-East had been churned into useless mud by 4 years of shell bombardment and fighting. For the French, the war had literally been a fight for survival: at the Battle of Verdun, the German tactic was deliberately aimed at killing as many French soldiers as possible, rather than gaining territory- or, as German General Falkenhayn described it, “bleeding the French red white.” France was still a democracy, but Prime Minister Georges Clemenceau was bitterly anti-German: he wanted a policy of vicious revenge (known as revanchism) and he wanted to make sure Germany was never again in a position to invade France.

Germany: Very little fighting had taken place on German soil, but Germany was in a state of distress by 1918. 2 million soldiers had been killed in the war and the British blockade of their ports was slowly starving the country out. Shockingly high numbers of people were also dying from malnutrition because they simply couldn't get enough of the right types of food. As 1918 dragged on starvation and famine became serious problems. In October 1918 a group of sailors had mutinied at the port of Kiel and this set in motion a revolution that would end in the overthrow of the Kaiser. He was forced to flee to the Netherlands and a semi-democratic system was set up instead, led by Friedrich Ebert and the Socialist Party. The new government thought that by getting rid of the old system it had done all that was necessary to get rid of its responsibility and guilt for starting the war. There were, however, some in Germany who felt that, as Germany had not been conquered, they had not actually lost the war and could have kept on fighting. Other countries felt differently, though, and the new government still faced the problems of negotiating an end to the fighting and getting enough food to feed their people.

The Key Terms of the Treaty of Versailles, 28 th June 1919		
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Territorial		
Military		
Financial		
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HOMework

Complete the knowledge grid for next lesson. Research any terms that you are unfamiliar with or are not mentioned in the grid.

Due:

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The Greatest Moment in History

Exclusive Photographs by HELEN JOHNS KIRTLAND and LUCIAN SWIFT KIRTLAND, *Leslie's Staff Correspondents*



The signing of the Peace Treaty at Versailles on June 28th formally ended the greatest war in the history of the world, and as the German delegates attached their signatures the thoughts of many turned back to the days of 1871 when Bismarck imposed his stern conditions on the French delegates in the same hall.



The Treaty of Versailles

Having seen the terms last lesson, how fair do you consider the Treaty of Versailles to have been?

Interpretations

Why did the British think differently about the Treaty of Versailles to the Germans?

The Treaty of Versailles

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The Treaty of Versailles

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[4 marks]

Answer the question in your assessment books. You have 6 minutes to do so.

“A peace which cannot be defended before the world as a peace of justice will always invite new resistance. No one could sign it with a clear conscience, for it could not be carried out. No one could venture to guarantee its execution, though this obligation is required by the signing of the treaty.”

Rewrite the sentences in your own words.

What does this source suggest was the attitude of the German government towards the Treaty of Versailles?

The German foreign minister, Ulrich von Brockdorff-Rantzau, speaking at Versailles before the signing of the Treaty.

- ***Germans suffered as a result of the peace***
- ***There was widespread resistance to the Treaty***
- ***The Terms of the Treaty could not be delivered***

We are going to try and use specific evidence to support these different views.

***Read through the cards that
I've put on your desk.***

***Cut them out and glue them
onto your sheet in
chronological order.***

<p>24.1.21 – 30.1.21 The amount of reparations to be paid is set at 226 thousand million gold marks</p>	<p>15.1.19 The Spartacist Uprising is put down with help from the Freikorps</p>	<p>31.3.23 Riots to stop French soldiers taking food in the Ruhr lead to 13 rioters' deaths</p>	<p>28.6.19 New Chancellor Gustav Bauer signs the Treaty of Versailles</p>	<p>11.1.23 60,000 French and Belgian troops occupy the Ruhr to force repayment of reparations</p>
<p>26.5.22 The Allies force Germany to create a state bank entirely independent of the government</p>	<p>8.3.21-30.9.21 Allied forces occupy the Rhineland to force Germany to begin paying reparations</p>	<p>7.4.19-2.5.19 Freikorps suppress a Communist uprising in Munich</p>	<p>27.4.21 The amount of reparations is reduced to 132 thousand million gold marks; Germany accepts two weeks later. They have to pay in either foreign currency or in goods</p>	<p>29.7.21 Adolf Hitler becomes leader of the NSDAP (National Socialist German Workers Party) better known as the Nazis</p>
<p>6.2.19 The government of Germany moves to Weimar to escape the instability in Berlin</p>	<p>3.4.20 The German government disbands the Freikorps, driving many of its members underground</p>	<p>20.6.19 Chancellor Scheidemann and Foreign Minister Brockdorff-Rantzau resign in protest at the terms of the Treaty of Versailles</p>	<p>26.12.22 Germany fails to make a delivery of timber to France, and thus cannot pay their reparations</p>	<p>15.8.23 The Reichstag tried to borrow 500 million gold marks to stop the collapsing value of the currency</p>
<p>13.7.20- 17.7.20 The Kapp Putsch attempts to overthrow the government, but fails</p>	<p>October 1923 The German currency has become completely worthless</p>	<p>14.7.19 The Allies lift the blockade of Germany</p>	<p>31.8.21 Germany pays one thousand million gold marks; the value of the paper currency falls by 1/3rd.</p>	<p>8.11.23 The Nazis launch an uprising in Munich, led by Hitler and Ludendorff. It was easily put down by police.</p>

Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4	Event 5
Event 6	Event 7	Event 8	Event 9	Event 10
Event 11	Event 12	Event 13	Event 14	Event 15
Event 16	Event 17	Event 18	Event 19	Event 20

- ***Germans suffered as a result of the peace***
- ***There was widespread resistance to the Treaty***
- ***The Terms of the Treaty could not be delivered***

Can we prove that these were the outcomes of the treaty for Germany?

Choose a colour for each of these things. Colour code the evidence that could be used to support the argument.

- 1. Why did the Germans feel obliged to sign a treaty that they despised?** *(Mention: continuing naval blockade and resignations from the German leadership in protest at the terms).*
- 2. Why were the Germans unable to guarantee that they could meet the terms of the Treaty?** *(Mention: the amount of reparations being set by the Treaty being far too high, the uprisings in Germany, the Allies forcing the state bank to be independent).*
- 3. Why did the Germans respond to the invasion of the Ruhr with passive resistance?** *(Mention: disbanding of the Freikorps, the inability to pay the reparations back, the inability of the German army to defend itself due to the terms of Versailles)*
- 4. Why did the German government allow their currency to become worthless?** *(Mention: the occupation of the Ruhr, the support for the striking workers, the inability to respond with military means)*

Using evidence from each of the themes, write an explanation for your notes about how the years 1919-1923 showed that:

- ***Germans suffered as a result of the peace***
- ***There was widespread resistance to the Treaty of Versailles***
- ***The Terms of the Treaty could not be delivered by Germany.***

Ensure that you use specific evidence / examples to support each of your points.

Why was Germany so unstable following the war?

Make a list of the potential themes/ broad reasons that could help to explain why Germany was in such turmoil by 1923.

Kladderadatsch

The front cover of German right wing magazine *Kladderadatsch*, 1923. The text reads, "Doing the right thing is dead- long live brutality!"

What is the interpretation of this cartoon?

How do you know?



„Le droit est mort, vive la brutalité!“

Kladderadatsch

The front cover of German right wing magazine *Kladderadatsch*, 1923. The text reads, "Doing the right thing is dead- long live brutality!"

Is this a fair interpretation of the occupation of the Ruhr?



„Le droit est mort, vive la brutalité!“



Read through the article about the occupation of the Ruhr.

- 1) *Why did it happen?*
- 2) *How did the German population of the Ruhr respond?*
- 3) *Which parts of the Treaty of Versailles made it harder for the government of Germany to respond?*

A German poster, encouraging passive resistance to the occupation. The text reads, "Hands off the Ruhr region!"







Umlauffähig im ganzen Regierungsbezirk
Aachen. Gültig bis zum 1. April 1924

Gutschein über
Fünfzig Billionen
M · a · r · k

Reihe A

DIESER GUTSCHEIN WIRD VON DEN STÄDTISCHEN KASSEN IN
ESCHWEILER u STOLBERG SOWIE VON DEN BANKEN DES ESCHWEILER
STOLBERGER INDUSTRIEG. IN ZAHLUNG GENOMMEN. ER VERLIERT
SEINE GÜLTIGKEIT VIER WOCHEN NACH AUFRUF DURCH D. ÖFFENTL. BLÄTTER.

ESCHWEILER u STOLBERG, DEN 17. NOV 1923
DIE BÜRGERMEISTER:

50



Elser^{IV} Döbelmann



№ 715041

REICHSBANKNOTE

HUNDERT
BILLIARDEN
MARK

ZAHLET DIE REICHSBANKHAUPTKASSE IN BERLIN
GEGEN DIESE BANKNOTE DEM EINLIEFERER
BERLIN DEN 15. FEBRUAR 1924

REICHSBANKDIREKTORIUM



Handwritten signatures and text, including 'Hauptkassier' and 'Kassier'.

A·00000000

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100



▶ HYPERINFLATION

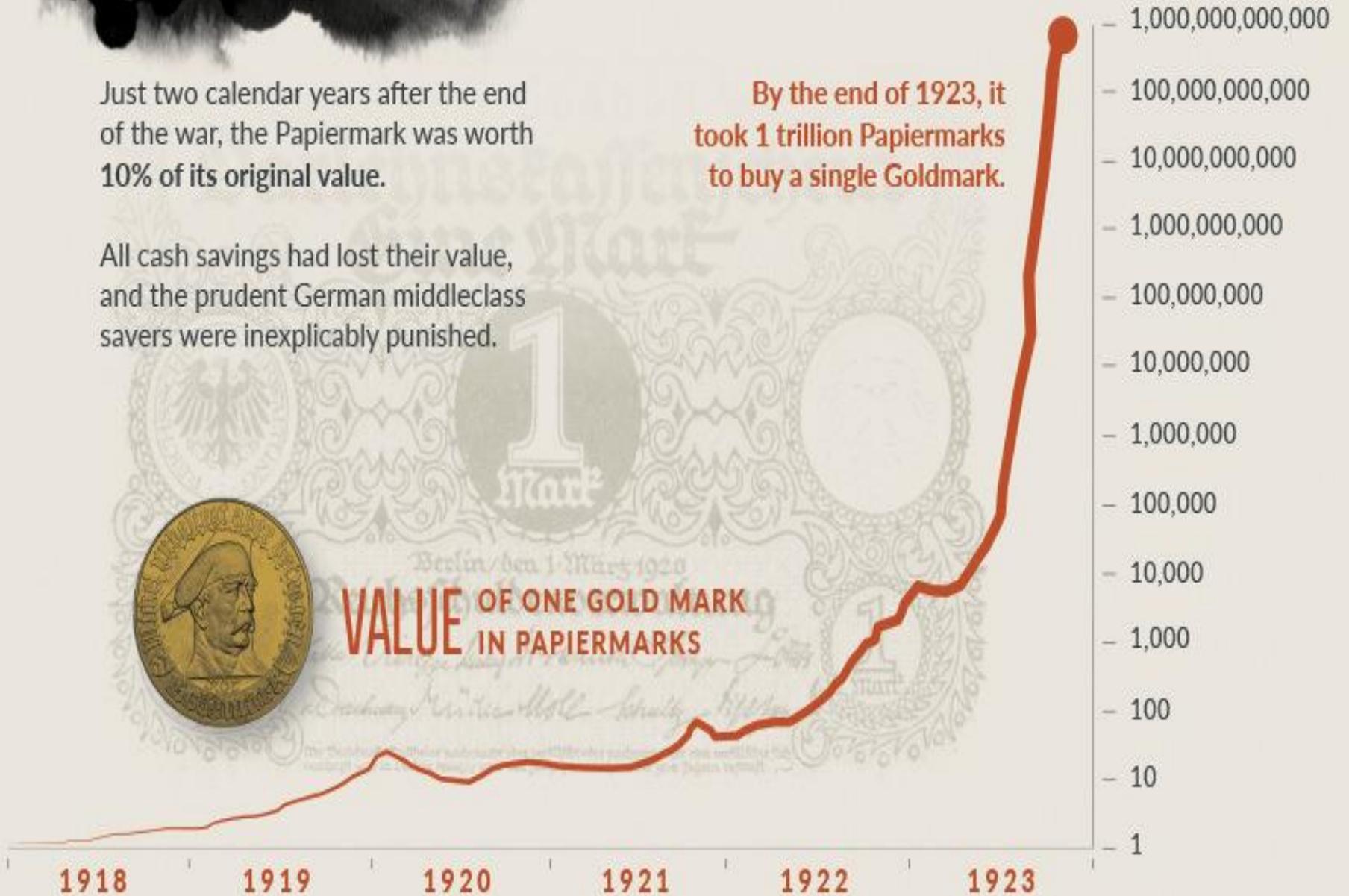
Just two calendar years after the end of the war, the Papiermark was worth 10% of its original value.

All cash savings had lost their value, and the prudent German middleclass savers were inexplicably punished.

By the end of 1923, it took 1 trillion Papiermarks to buy a single Goldmark.



VALUE OF ONE GOLD MARK
IN PAPIERMARKS



Read through the article about hyperinflation.

Using the information provided, answer to the following questions:

- ***What were the causes of the hyperinflation crisis?***
- ***Why didn't the Weimar government step in to stop the hyperinflation?***
- ***Who was badly affected and why?***

**To what extent were
the problems in
Germany a direct
consequence of the
Treaty of Versailles?**