

Weimar and Nazi Germany topic 1: The Weimar Republic, 1918-29

Key topic 1: The Weimar Republic 1918–29	
1 The origins of the Republic, 1918–19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The legacy of the First World War. The abdication of the Kaiser, the armistice and revolution, 1918–19.• The setting up of the Weimar Republic. The strengths and weaknesses of the new Constitution.
2 The early challenges to the Weimar Republic, 1919–23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reasons for the early unpopularity of the Republic, including the 'stab in the back' theory and the key terms of the Treaty of Versailles.• Challenges to the Republic from Left and Right: Spartacists, Freikorps, the Kapp Putsch.• The challenges of 1923: hyperinflation; the reasons for, and effects of, the French occupation of the Ruhr.
3 The recovery of the Republic, 1924–29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reasons for economic recovery, including the work of Stresemann, the Rentenmark, the Dawes and Young Plans and American loans and investment.• The impact on domestic policies of Stresemann's achievements abroad: the Locarno Pact, joining the League of Nations and the Kellogg-Briand Pact.
4 Changes in society, 1924–29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes in the standard of living, including wages, housing, unemployment insurance.• Changes in the position of women in work, politics and leisure.• Cultural changes: developments in architecture, art and the cinema.

