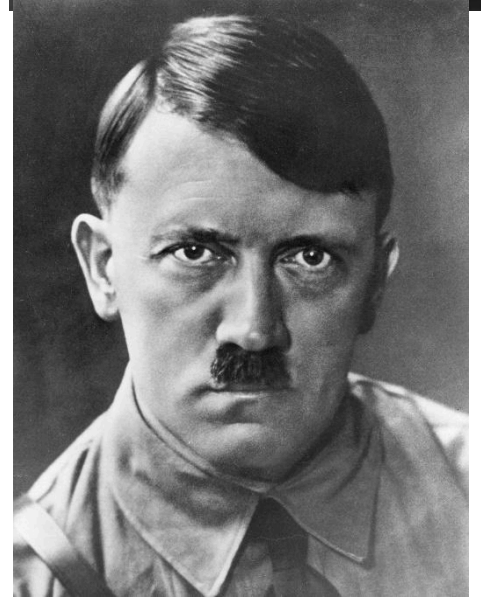


History transition pack

- This pack will help you develop key skills you will use in your exam questions in History this year.
- Complete all tasks and bring to your **SECOND** history lesson in September



Germany skills

Q1. How does Interpretation A differ from Interpretation B about the Kaiser's personality?

Interpretation A: From a letter to Philip Eulenburg, Wilhelm's closest friend, from von Bulow shortly after he became Chancellor in 1900.

I place my faith increasingly in the Emperor. He is so impressive! He is the most impressive Hohenzollern [family name] who has ever lived. In a manner which I have never seen before, he combines genius – the most genuine and original genius – with the clearest good sense.

Interpretation B: From *Kaiser Wilhelm II, New Interpretations* by J. G. C. Rohl, 1982.

There were periods when Wilhelm II became totally obsessed with one idea to such a degree that everything touching upon it even remotely produced in him a violent rage...It was at this stage, surely, with his utterly relentless pursuit of one goal and angry determination to brook no opposition, that Kaiser Wilhelm II's personality had the greatest impact on policy making.

Q2. Why are the two interpretations so different? (Look at who made them, who they are, what they say and why they have produced them)

Q3. Mrs Cherry wants to go running, which shoes are better and why. My stilettos or my trainers? Explain why.

Q4. Hitler was an excellent public speaker. How far would this help someone to rise to power? Explain

Italy skills

Q1. What reasons does source A give for why the Labour Party is getting rid of its promise to abolish university tuition fees in England?

Source A: From The Guardian Newspaper, an extract from Peter Walker Deputy political editor's article. 2nd May 2023

Labour to ditch its promise to abolish tuition fees in England

Keir Starmer has said Labour is set to ditch its longstanding commitment to abolish university tuition fees in England, arguing it was necessary to "move on" from the idea because of the economic situation.

Starmer said his party was "looking at options" for how to fund universities, but made it clear the existing promise to get rid of student-paid tuition fees, one of the pledges he made when standing to lead Labour in 2020, was being dropped.

"We are likely to move on from that commitment because we do find ourselves in a different financial situation," the Labour leader told BBC Radio 4's Today programme.....

Others within Labour, particularly on the left of the party..... have argued Starmer made a series of pledges intended to secure the votes of a party membership then still tilted towards the ideas of Corbyn.

The decision to drop the abolition of tuition fees is nonetheless not unexpected given the estimate £9bn-plus annual cost of removing them in England.

Q2. What reasons does source 1 give for why the Italian army was defeated at the Battle of Caporetto in October 1917?

Source 1: From a speech made by Georges Clemenceau on 5 November 1917. Clemenceau was appointed as French Prime Minister on 16 November 1917. France was Italy's ally in the First World War. Here Clemenceau is commenting on the Italian defeat at Caporetto in October 1917.

The principal error of the Italian high command was the faulty positioning of its armies. The Second Army was positioned facing northward on the high mountains without having reached the summits, which were possessed by the enemy. The Third Army had conquered the summits. It faced eastward. But the Austrians still held a whole sector which separated the Italian forces. 5

Military critics had already pointed out that both Italian armies might be thrown into confusion by the enemy if it decided to attack on both sides with sufficient forces. That is precisely what happened when the Germans transferred their troops from Russia to the Italian Alps. The second error: there were reserves ready in case of a surprise. But the Italian General Cadorna was unwilling to keep them near the front. So, when the need came, they could not intervene, and thus the destruction of the Second Army was followed by the retreat of the Third Army. 10

Q.3 Considering that France was Italy's ally during WWI and Clemenceau was the Prime Minister of France, would he have a good understanding of why Italy failed?
