3 Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918-45

What students need to learn:

1 The establishment of the Weimar Republic and its early problems The Abdication of the Kaiser and the German Revolution of 1918–19. The strengths and weaknesses of the new Republic and its Constitution. Reactions to the Treaty of Versailles. Challenges from Right and Left, including the Kapp Putsch and the Spartacist uprising. French occupation of the Ruhr. Causes and effects of hyperinflation.

2 The recovery of Germany, 1924-29

The work of Stresemann. Rentenmark, Dawes and Young Plans, US loans and the recovery of the German economy. Successes abroad – League of Nations, Locarno Treaties and Kellogg-Briand Pact.

The rise of Hitler and the Nazis to January 1933

Hitler and the German Workers' Party. Changes to the party (1920–22). Causes, events and results of Munich Putsch, (1923). Reorganisation of the Party (1924–28). Impact of the Great Depression. Nazi methods to win support. The role of the SA. Events of 1932 to January 1933, including the role of von Papen, von Schleicher and von Hindenburg.

4 Nazi Germany 1933-39 Setting up the Nazi dictatorship through the Reichstag Fire, Enabling Act, Night of the Long Knives and Hitler as Führer. The methods of Nazi control and the extent to which they were successful, including the police state, censorship and propaganda. Nazi policies towards education, women, the young, the Churches and their impact. Nazi racial policies and increasing persecution of Jews. Policies to reduce unemployment and their impact. The Labour Service, the Labour Front and Strength Through Joy.

5 Germany and the occupied territories during the Second World War

Nazi policies towards the Jews, including ghettos, death squads and the Final Solution. The Home Front, including changing role of women, 'total war', rationing and the effects of allied bombing. The growth of opposition to Hitler, including the Edelweiss Pirates, the White Rose Group and the July Bomb Plot (1944). Hitler's death and the end of the Third Reich.

6 A world divided: superpower relations, 1943-72

What students need to learn:

1 Reasons for the Cold War

Long-term rivalry between the Soviet Union and the West and the ideological differences between Communism and Capitalism. Tensions and disagreements during the Second World War. Key features of the conferences at Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam. The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The attitudes of Truman and Stalin.

2 Early developments in the Cold War, 1945–49

Soviet expansion in Eastern Europe. Churchill and the 'iron curtain'. The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan. Cominform and Comecon. Disagreements over Germany including Bizonia. Causes, events and results of the Berlin Crisis (1948–49), including the setting up of NATO and the creation of two Germanys: the Federal Republic (FRG) and the Democratic Republic (GDR).

The Cold War in the 1950s

The impact of the Korean War and the formation of the Warsaw Pact. Khrushchev and peaceful co-existence. The impact of Soviet rule on Hungary, Rakosi, de-Stalinisation, Nagy and his demands. Reasons for the Soviet invasion of Hungary, its effects and the international reaction. The nuclear arms race and its impact on superpower relations.

4 Three crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia

The U2 incident (1960) and its effects on the Paris Summit Conference. Reasons for the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, including the refugee problem. The effects of the Berlin Wall on relations between East and West Germany and between the Superpowers. The Bay of Pigs invasion, the causes and key events of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the reasons for its outcome. The Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia – its causes, events and impact, including the Brezhnev Doctrine.

5 The Thaw and moves towards Détente, 1963–72

The thaw: 'Hotline', Test Ban Treaty, Outer Space Treaty and Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. Reasons for Détente. SALT talks and treaty. The extent of Détente in 1972.

A4 The Vietnam Conflict, 1945-75

What students need to learn:

The struggle against France for independence, 1945-54

The origins of the First Indochina War, especially the aims of the Vietminh. The tactics of General Giap; the search for a diplomatic solution; the French defeat at Dien Bien Phu and its immediate consequences.

2 US policy and intervention, 1954-64

The aims of the Geneva Conference (1954) and the US response, Eisenhower and the Domino Theory, the formation of South Vietnam. Life in North and South Vietnam under Ho Chi Minh and Ngo Dinh Diem. The impact of Ho's policies to unite Vietnam, the NLF, and the Ho Chi Minh Trail. The response of US, the Strategic Hamlet Programme, the fall of Diem (1963), the Gulf of Tonkin incident (1964).

3 Confrontation in the Vietnam War, escalation 1964-68

The nature of the Second Indochina War, the roles of Johnson, McNamara, Westmoreland and the jungle war (1965–68), Search and Destroy; the bombing campaign, Operation Rolling Thunder. A televised war; the siege of Khe Sanh to the Tet Offensive and the Battle of Hue (1968).

4 Nixon and Ford's policies – Vietnamisation, peace and Communist victory, 1969–75

Failure of peace talks; widening the war in Cambodia and Laos, 'secret bombing'. Relations with China and the roles of Kissinger and Le Duc Tho in the Paris peace talks (1972). Nixon's policy of Vietnamisation and withdrawal by 1973 and the renewed North Vietnamese offensive, the effects of Ford's diplomatic response, the final offensive (March–April 1975) and the fall of Saigon.

5 The impact of conflict on civilians in Vietnam and attitudes in the USA

The effects of the war on civilians in Vietnam. US response to guerrilla warfare, Hearts and Minds, My Lai, Phoenix Programme, defoliation, bombing. The effects of the war in the US, university protests; media coverage, opposition to war in USA; pro-war demonstrations. The Fulbright Hearings (1971).

B4 China: conflict, crisis and change, 1900-89

This unit comprises five key topics, each centred on crucial developments in the history of this period. The following themes run through the key topics:

- civil conflict order and disorder
- · external influences on China
- economic transformation
- social transformation
- the role of leadership.

These themes will be the focus of Paper 2, sub-question (c), which will normally draw on the content of two or more topics.

What students need to learn:

1 The fall of the Qing, Warlordism and chaos, 1900-34 The impact of the Boxer Uprising and late Qing reforms. The causes, events and results of the 1911 Revolution. China under the Warlords. The May the Fourth Movement. Sun Yat-sen, Chiang Kai-shek and the Guomindang. The emergence of the Chinese Communist Party, the United Front and the influence of the Soviet Union. The Northern Expedition and the Shanghai Massacres. The Extermination Campaigns.

The triumph of Mao and the CCP, 1934-49

The events and importance of the Long March 1934–35. War with Japan 1937–45 – the role of the CCP, especially the Red Army and the limitations of the Guomindang. Key features of the Civil War 1946–49. The Battle of Huai-Hai. Military, political, economic and social reasons for the success of Mao and the CCP in the Civil War.

3 Change under Mao, 1949-63

Changes in agriculture and industry, including the first Five-year Plan, attack on landlords, the Agrarian Reform Law, cooperatives and collectives. Changes in the role of women. Political changes, including the Thought Reform, the Three- and Five-anti Campaigns. The Hundred Flowers Campaign. The reasons for, key features and effects of the Great Leap Forward. The influence of the Soviet Union on developments in China.

4 The Cultural Revolution and its impact, 1965-76 Mao's motives for the Cultural Revolution. Key features of the Cultural Revolution. The Red Guards, education and the 'cult of Mao'. Impact of the Cultural Revolution on China and Mao's position. The effects of the Sino-Soviet split on the Chinese economy.

5 China, 1976-89

The rise and fall of the 'Gang of Four'. Changes under Deng in education, birth control, agriculture and industry. Deng's opposition to political reform. Emergence of privatisation and westernisation. Origins of Democracy Movement (1979). The 'Democracy Wall' movement and Wei Jingsheng, support of university students from 1986, features and aims. Reaction of Deng. Tiananmen Square (1989).