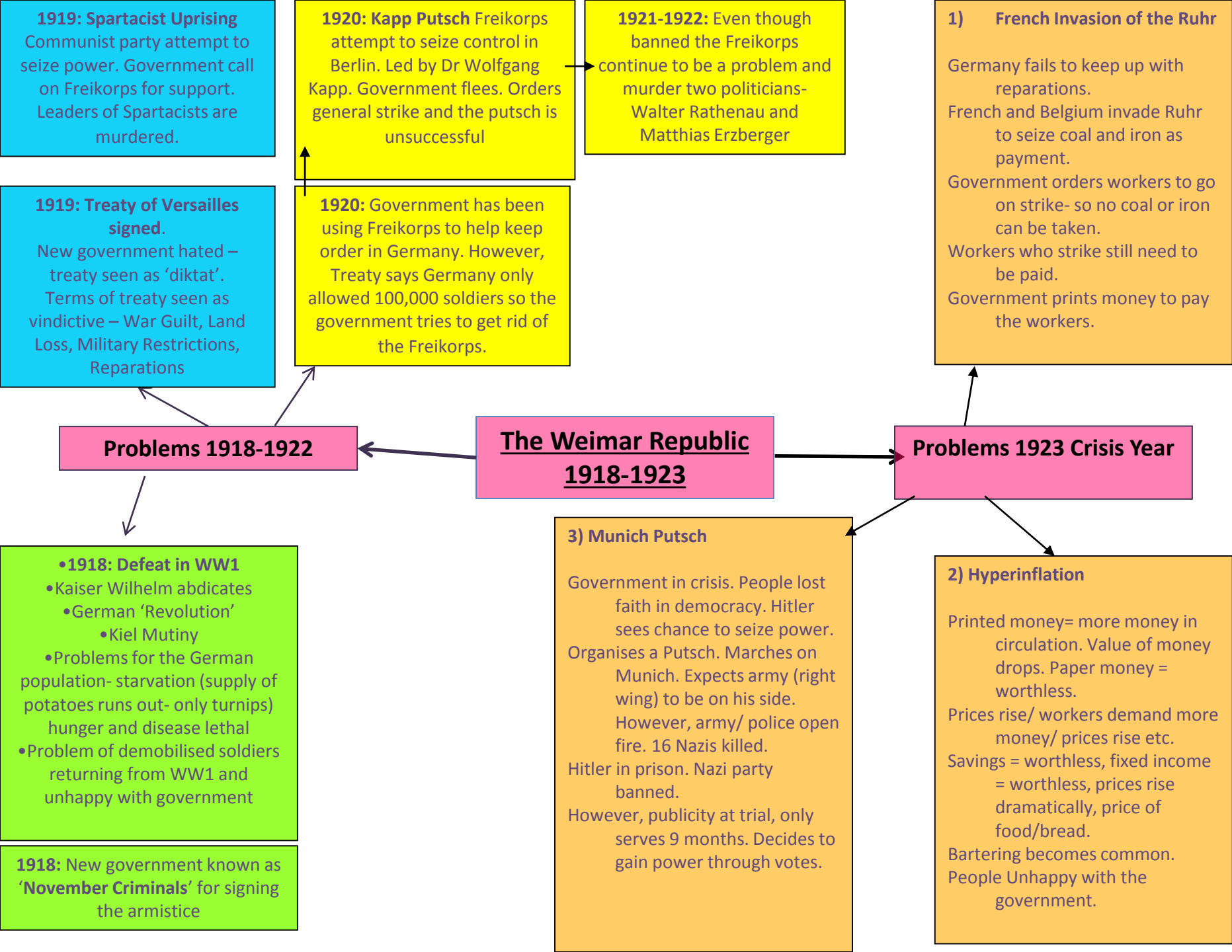


GCSE History

Paper 1: Germany Depth Study

Revision Mind Maps

Q1: Was the Weimar Republic
doomed from the start?



- **Economic:** Recovery after 1923 Hyperinflation.
- Gustav Stresemann restores economy. New currency= Rentenmark.
- 1924- Dawes Plan. USA agrees to loan Germany 800 million marks to help recovery.
- German industrial production- 3rd largest in world.
- Employment.
- Prosperity.

- **Political:** No major threats to the Republic. Political stability.
- Prosperity means people are happy with the government.

- **Political:** Weaknesses in the constitution.
- Proportional Representation- means % of votes = % of seats. However, no majority = coalitions.
- Weak government cannot make decisions at time of crisis e.g. Wall Street Crash and Depression.
- Article 48 – lets president rule without the Reichstag. O.k. when president supports democracy however, President Hindenburg was right wing and against democracy.

- **Economic:** Stresemann claims economic success is like 'dancing on a volcano'. Stresemann dies in 1929. Wall Street Crash. American loans are recalled and Germany's economy collapses. Factories closed, lost jobs. People start to become angry with the government again.

Success/ Recovery

The Weimar Republic 1924-1929

Failure to recover

- **Foreign Policy:**
- 1924 Dawes Plan- loans from USA to help German economy
- 1925- Locarno Pact- promises to keep to border decisions of the Treaty of Versailles with France.
- 1926- Germany allowed to join League of Nations
- 1928- Kellogg-Briand Pact. Germany one of 60 countries sign peace pact. No war.
- 1929- Young Plan extends time to pay reparations.

- **Culture:**
- Freedom of Speech/ Freedom of expression.
- Seen in art (George Grosz), architecture (Bauhaus), film (Marlene Dietrich), cabaret (Josephine Baker), literature (All Quiet on the Western Front).
- Berlin pleasure capital of Europe.
- Democratic and forward thinking.

- **Culture:**
- Many Germans felt new/ modern influences went against German tradition. Also a Nazi view- people start to support.
- Berlin nightlife and art seen as sleazy and corrupt.

- **Foreign Policy:**
- Even though Germany was allowed back into the international community – still felt inferior. Hatred for the Treaty of Versailles continues- German people do not agree that Germany should co-operate with other countries.
- Reparations- still owed to Allies and Germany felt never would be seen as equal until these were paid.

Example Questions on the Weimar Republic

- Use your mind map to help you plan an answer to these questions.
 - a) Describe the problems faced by Germany in 1919. (4 marks)
 - b) Explain why 1923 was a difficult year for the Weimar Republic. (6 marks)
 - c) How far had the Weimar Republic recovered from its problems by 1928? (10 marks)

Q2: How was Hitler able to dominate Germany by 1934?

Factors that help Hitler become Chancellor

1. Hitler's leadership/ Nazi party tactics and propaganda

Exploits governments problems- offers solutions to people's problems.

Propaganda- Hitler public speaking, Rallies, posters, photographs, idea of Hitler as superman, tours of country by plane to get support. 'Work and Bread'.

Storm troopers- used to help disrupt political opponents.

2. Impact of the Depression

1929- Wall Street Crash. Economic Crisis again for the Republic. Unemployment. USA loans withdrawn. Industry grinds to a halt. People blame weak government. Look for extremist solutions.

3. Weakness of Constitution

Coalition government cannot deal with the crisis- cannot agree. Chancellor (Muller) resigns. Replaced by Brüning who relies on Hindenburg to use Article 48 to pass laws. Reichstag meets less and less. Hindenburg= President becoming more powerful.

4. Rivalry between Von Papen and Von Schleicher

Von Papen was Chancellor but he was overthrown by Von Schleicher. Von Papen plots revenge. Von Papen asks President Hindenburg to replace Von Schleicher with Adolf Hitler. Hindenburg agrees as they both think Hitler is a man whom they can control.

How Hitler dominates Germany by 1934

1. The Reichstag Fire, February 1933

2. Government building set on fire. Dutch Communist- Marinus Van Der Lubbe found in the building with fire lighters. Nazi party make the most of this event.

Nazis claim that the fire was part of a Communist revolt. Hindenburg is persuaded to pass a decree that allows Nazis to arrest Communists and ban their political meetings.

Result = **March 1933 election**. Nazis get a majority in the Reichstag.

Nazis get votes but to get majority Hitler bans all Communist deputies and persuades Centre Party to join the Nazis.

2. The Enabling Law, March 1933

This law enables Hitler to rule without the Reichstag for 4 years. He needed a 2/3 majority to get this. To ensure he got the result he wanted Hitler used intimidation. Votes were given in presence of storm troopers. The Enabling Law was passed 441 to 84. Reichstag voted itself out of existence.

3. Night of the Long Knives, June 1934

Now Hitler was in power he was worried about the storm troopers. They wanted jobs in government and to be rewarded for their loyalty. Hitler disliked Ernst Röhm (leader of the S.A.) and thought he may challenge for power.

Hitler wanted the support of the army but the army saw the storm troopers as a bunch of thugs.

Hitler orders the S.S. (bodyguard) to execute storm troopers and their leader. Hitler tells the public that the storm troopers were a threat to Germany. People believed the propaganda.

Army swears an oath of loyalty to Hitler. President dies and Hitler becomes the only leader= 'Führer' of Germany.

Three events that help Hitler get more powerful

Example Questions on how Hitler came to dominate Germany

- Use your mind map to help you plan an answer to these questions.
 - a) What happened during and immediately after the Reichstag Fire in 1932 (4 marks)
 - b) Explain why the Night of the Long Knives took place. (6 marks)
 - c) 'The only reason Hitler became Chancellor in 1933 was because of his leadership skills'. How far do you agree with this statement? (10 marks)

Q3a): How effectively did the Nazis control Germany?

Methods of Control

1. Propaganda Most widespread method of control. Propaganda and persuasion everywhere. Ministry for People's Enlightenment and Propaganda- 2 jobs. i) to spread Nazi message ii) to suppress =undesirable influences
Posters, photographs, speeches, films, book burning, Music- Wagner as desirable and Black- American music or jazz music as undesirable.
Hitler portrayed as strong, confident leader- celebrations days- Fuhrer's Birthday, Nuremberg Rallies.

2. Olympic Games 1936 Show world supremacy of Aryan Race. New stadium/ facilities to show German efficiency. Germany = 33 gold's. Overshadowed by Jesse Owens – 4 gold's.

3. S.S. – Hitler's Bodyguard

Himmler's leadership
3 sections- National Security
Waffen S. S. – specialist soldiers
Death's Head Units- run concentration camps.

4. Gestapo- Secret Police

Herman Goering created. Led by Reinhard Heydrich. Used web of informants including children of Hitler Youth/ neighbours etc. 'Discover enemies of state' – put in prison, sent to courts.

5. People's Courts

Judges were sworn Nazis. Number of political prisoners shot up. Executions / arrests

5. Concentration Camps

Where enemies of the state were sent. Poor food. Communists and trade unionists to start off with. Then undesirables e.g. Jews, Gypsies, Homosexuals etc. Later 'Final Solution' = Death Camps

How effectively did the Nazis control Germany

Opposition to the Nazis

1. Private Grumbling Many people moaned in private about Nazi rule but too scared to do anything about it. Therefore Nazi control effective.

2. Political Opposition After the Enabling Law all other political parties were banned so Communist, Socialists etc. went underground. Published anti-Nazi leaflets but little reached the people.

3. Artists/ Writers

Against restrictions on freedom of expression. However, either suffered in silence or emigrated e.g. Albert Einstein.

4. Church

1933 Concordat where Nazis and Church agreed to work together. However, Nazis started banning Church Youth groups etc. 1937- Pope denounces Nazism as anti-Christian. Hitler puts Nuns/ Priests in Labour Camps.

5. Army Generals

suspicious about Hitler. Did not like foreign policy. Hitler sacked many including Ludwig Beck.

6. Upper Class

Kreisau Circle against Hitler but anti-violence. Found out and executed. Beck-Goerdeler Group- July bomb plot to assassinate Hitler- Operation Valkyrie. Plot failed and they were caught and executed.

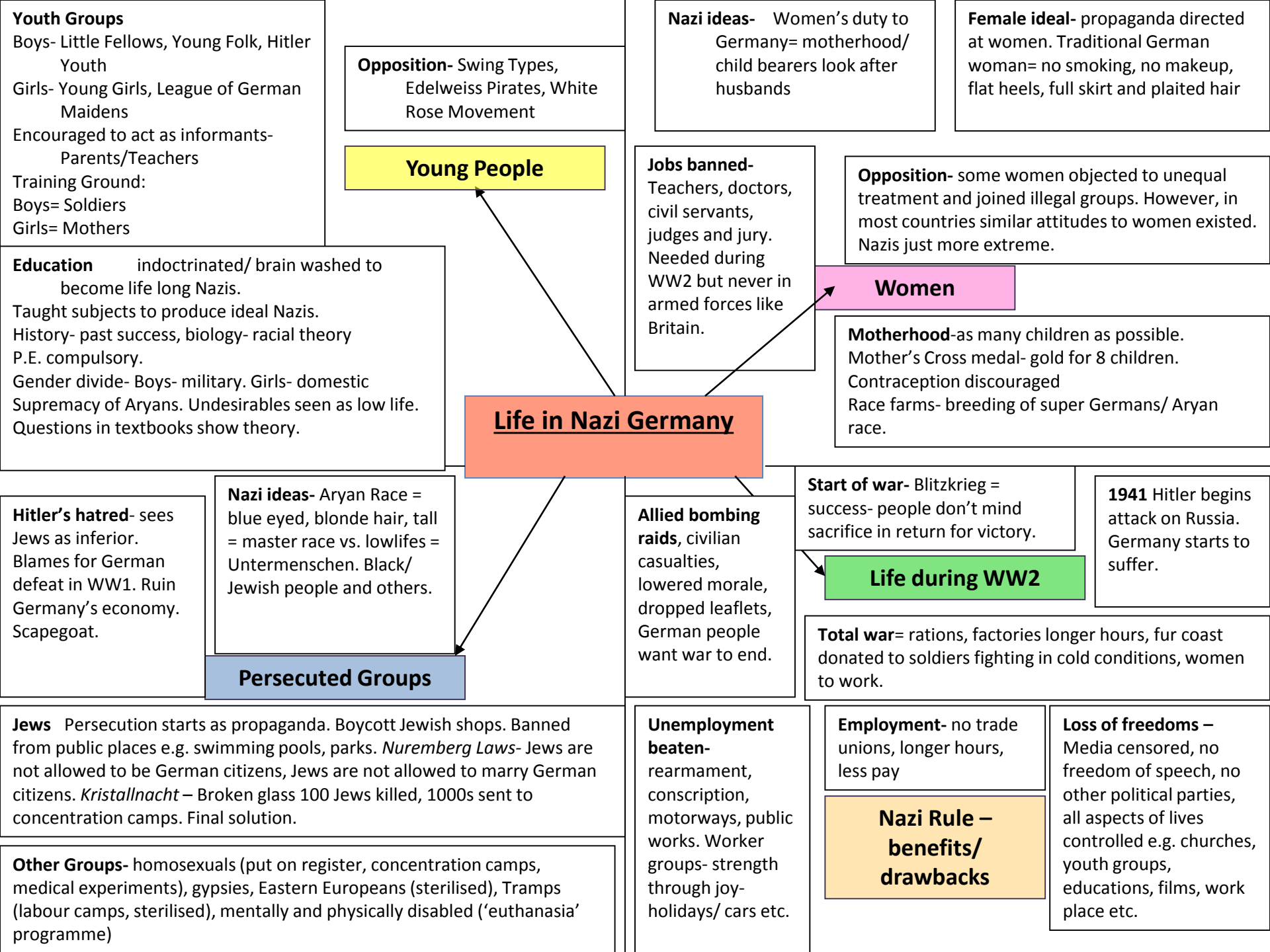
7. Young People

those who did not like restrictions and control over them. *Swing Types*- refused to join Hitler Youth- seen as degenerate, listened to Jazz music. *Edelweiss Pirates*- rebel groups, beat up Hitler Youth. During WW2 they posed a real threat to the Nazis, Helped Allied soldiers and delivered Allied propaganda. 1944- attacked Gestapo and killed an officer. 12 pirates were hung for this crime. *White Rose Movement*- Hans and Sophie Scholl. University Students in Munich. Anti-Nazi message. Both were executed.

Example Questions on how effective the Nazis were at controlling Germany

- Use your mind map to help you plan an answer to these questions.
 - a) Describe the propaganda methods used by the Nazis.
(4 marks)
 - b) Explain the methods used by the Nazis to control people.
(6 marks)
 - c) How successful was the Nazi regime at dealing with opposition to its rule?
(10 marks)

Q3b): What was life like in Nazi
Germany?



Example Questions on what it was like to live in Nazi Germany

- Use your mind map to help you plan an answer to these questions.
 - a) Describe the main features of the education of German children between 1933 and 1945. (4 marks)
 - b) Explain why women were important in Hitler's plans for Germany. (6 marks)
 - c) The Nazis used the following to gain the support of young people.
 - i) Youth groups
 - ii) Education
 - iii) Propaganda

Which do you think was the most important method for gaining support?
(10 marks)