World history topics

IB DP History Paper 2: the essay, authoritarian states, 20th-century wars, the Cold War

From 12 seats to power

> How did a small, extreme party take power so fast?

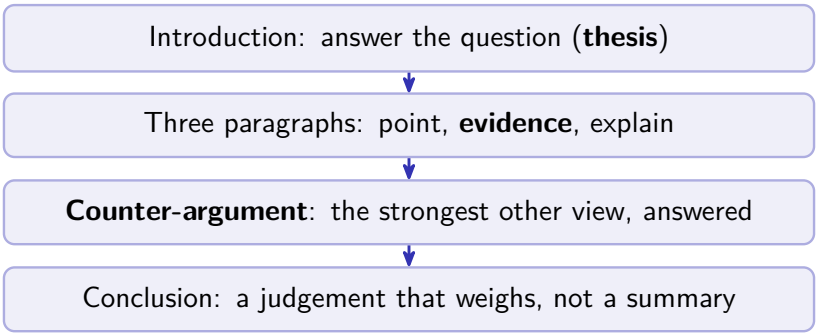
- May 1928: 12 of 491 seats in the German parliament.
- January 1933: its leader heads the government.

Paper 2

Two essays, 1 hour 30 minutes, 15 marks each.

- Two of twelve world history topics, studied across regions.
- Questions on causes, effects, change and comparison.

The shape of an essay



Precise evidence

Vague

"Hitler took more power."

Precise

"The Enabling Act of 23 March 1933 let Hitler make laws without parliament."

Command terms

Term	What to do
Discuss, evaluate	arguments for and against, weighed, a **judgement**
To what extent	how far it is true: "largely, but..."
Compare and contrast	both states in every paragraph
Examine	the claim and its assumptions

Argue, don't narrate

Narrative

Tells what happened, in order.

"In 1929... then in 1930..."

Argument

Answers the question.

"The most important cause was... because..."

Authoritarian states

Questions ask about three stages.

- One leader or party; no free elections or opposition.
- Know two states from different regions: Germany and Cuba.

Germany: the road to power

Humiliation, then inflation, then depression.

- Versailles: lost land and reparations; many felt humiliated.
- The Crash: American loans stop; unemployment rises.

The Nazi vote

As unemployment rose, so did the Nazi vote.

- Unemployment rose from 1.4 to about 5.6 million.
- The Nazi vote rose with it.

Appointed, not elected

> Hitler got power by a deal, not an election victory.

- Conservatives thought they could control him.
- A good essay weighs several factors.

Consolidation, 1933-34

> Eighteen months from chancellor to Führer.

- A decree after the Reichstag fire suspends civil rights.
- The Night of the Long Knives kills rivals in the SA.

Terror and consent

Terror

The Gestapo secret police.

Concentration camps.

Consent

Goebbels' **propaganda**; the Hitler Youth.

Jobs through rearmament and roads.

Cuba: the road to power

From a failed attack to a one-party state.

- Batista took power in a military coup.
- Guerrilla war from the Sierra Maestra, 1956-58.

The literacy campaign

> Real social reform built real support.

- 1961: about 250,000 teachers and volunteers to the countryside.
- Free health care and schooling followed.

Germany and Cuba compared

	Germany	**Cuba**
Consent	**propaganda**, economic recovery	real reforms: literacy, health
Force	the Gestapo, camps	the CDRs in every street
Verdict	**terror** the final guarantee	terror the final guarantee

Three kinds of cause

> Long-term conditions, short-term events, a **trigger**.

- Historians separate the causes of a war by time.
- The First World War as the example.

Five weeks to war

> From one shooting to a general war in five weeks.

- The alliances pulled each state in.
- Britain joined after German troops entered Belgium.

Effects of the First World War

> The effects of one war became causes of the next.

- About 10 million soldiers died.
- In Britain most women over 30 got the vote in 1918.

A war without direct fighting

> Rivals who competed everywhere except head to head.

- The United States and the Soviet Union, and their allies.
- They never fought each other directly.

The Cold War, 1945-1991

> Crises, **détente**, and a sudden end.

- **Origins**: ideas, Soviet control of Eastern Europe, US **policy**.
- The Marshall Plan: about US$13 billion for Western Europe.

Who was responsible?

Three schools of historians.

- Historians disagree.
- Using their views shows that history is argued.

Check yourself

Thesis, three argued paragraphs, counter, **judgement**

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Command terms: what each asks you to do

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Authoritarian states: **emergence**, consolidation, policies

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First World War: three kinds of cause; effects

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Cold War: origins, crises, détente, end; three schools