Part Two: Hitler's Rise to Power, 1919–33

Early development of the Nazis

1920– 1922

Hitler's early career

Austrian Adolf Hitler moved to Munich in 1913 and fought for Germany in the First World War. Shocked by Germany's defeat and outraged by the Treaty of Versailles, he rose to prominence.



DAP and Nazi Party.

 September 1919
 Hitler joined the new German Workers' Party (DAP), after spying on them for the military.

 January 1920
 Hitler became second to Anton Drexler, in charge of propaganda.

 February 1920
 The Twenty-Five Point Programme written by Drexler and Hitler.

 August 1920
 DAP rebranded as the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP, or Nazi Party).

 July 1921
 Hitler challenged Drexler's leadership and took control.

 August 1920
 The SA were set up to strengthen Hitler's control.

Setting up the Nazi Party

The Twenty-Five Point Programme

This laid out the policy of the Nazi Party, and included:

- rejecting the Treaty of Versailles and building up Germany's armed forces (rearmament)
- expanding Germany's borders to provide living space (Lebensraum)
- excluding Jews from German society (anti-Semitism)
- nationalising industry.



There are different points of view on the reasons for the growth in support for the Nazi Party, which makes this topic a good one for interpretation questions. Remember these factors when studying the rise of the Party between 1928 and 1932.