

German Revolution 1918

3rd Nov- German sailors mutinied in Kiel - triggered uprisings in Germany
 9th Nov Kaiser Wilhelm II forced to abdicate
 Friedrich Ebert of SDP became Chancellor

Spartacist Uprising 4th-15th Jan 1919

- Led by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg (communist)
- 100,000 workers went on strike and demonstrated in Berlin
- Liebknecht & Luxemburg were arrested and brutally murdered by Freikorps



Kapp Putsch March 1920

- The gov tried to disband the Freikorps
- 5,000 Freikorps marched on Berlin, captured Berlin and declare new gov lead by Wolfgang Kapp
- Ebert calls for general strike, Berlin at standstill and putsch collapsed after 4 days

THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC 1918-29

Women

- Given right to vote & elected to political positions
- No women held cabinet posts through Weimar Republic's existence
- Millions of women welcomed to work force
- Women made up 75% of cinema goers & took part in more sports

Living Standards

- Unemployment insurance 1927, covered 17 million workers
- Wages rose in real terms
- Pensions and sickness benefits introduced
- Government subsidies for building parks, schools



The Rentenmark - New currency which was backed by gold and controlled by the national bank

The Young Plan - Agreement between Allies and Germany to cut reparations from £6.6 billion to £2 billion

Art & Culture

- Dada Movement
- Kammerspielfilm
- New Objectivity
- The Bauhaus school
- Famous films included Nosferatu (1922) and Phantom (1922)



Locarno Pact - agreeing peace in Europe and guaranteeing borders

Kellogg-Briand Pact - renounced war as a method of solving international disputes

Treaty of Versailles

- Germany could only have 100,000 soldiers, 6 ships and no submarines or aircraft
- Rhineland demilitarised and other land lost
- Germany had to pay £6.6 billion in reparations
- Germany had to take blame for WWI

Weimar Constitution

Proportional Representation
 Article 48- President could suspend constitution in an emergency
 Voting age reduced from 25 to 20
 Women given suffrage

Opposition to Weimar

- Left - KPD wanted communist state
- Right - wanted capitalism and to bring back Kaiser
- Freikorps - former soldiers made unemployed by Treaty of Versailles

French Occupation of the Ruhr - In Dec 1922 Germany were unable to pay reparations so the French army invaded the Ruhr
 German workers used passive resistance

Hyperinflation

- Rise in prices and unemployment
- A loaf of bread cost 1 mark in 1919, then 250 marks in Jan 1923, and 200,000 million marks in Nov 1923



Stresemann - Chancellor in Aug 1923, called off passive resistance in Ruhr, responsible for Rentenmark

Economic Recovery

The Dawes Plan - Agreement between Allies and Germany to reduce reparations to £50 million per year and USA loaned Germany \$25 billion

