

AS HISTORY

The quest for political stability: Germany, 1871–1991

Component 1L Empire to democracy, 1871–1929

Wednesday 13 May 2020 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/1L.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

After 1871, the government was appointed by the Kaiser. The Kaiser's powers were extensive, incorporating control of foreign policy, command of the armed forces and the power to appoint and dismiss chancellors. Furthermore, the Kaiser was the head of the Protestant Church and, through sermons and religious instruction, the Church reinforced his authority. The Protestant Church upheld the conservative hierarchy, preaching respect for the authority of the father within the family, the employer in the factory and the Kaiser in the nation. Bismarck's political position was based upon his ability to present himself as the foremost servant of the Kaiser. 5

Adapted from L Abrams, *Bismarck and the German Empire*, 1995

Extract B

The German Empire was founded by Otto von Bismarck in 1871. Given his towering position within the political system, Bismarck's office became the actual power centre of the government. The heads of Reich offices were not ministers answerable to the monarch but state secretaries who reported to the Reich Chancellor. They had no direct access to the Kaiser. Bismarck's approach to government also weakened the role of the Bundesrat, which according to the terms of the constitution was the actual government of the Reich. As chairman of the Bundesrat, Bismarck had the ability to push ahead with his administrative centralisation. 5

Adapted from VR Berghahn, *Imperial Germany 1871–1918*, 1994

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of political authority within Germany in the years 1871 to 1890?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2 'The German economy was completely transformed in the years 1890 to 1914.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 'Working-class Germans benefited greatly from social reforms and cultural change in the years 1919 to 1929.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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