

“The Nazi’s rise to power in Germany during the inter-war years largely resulted from the consequences of the First World War.” To what extent do you agree with this verdict?

Agree

- Versailles Treaty
 - Germany blamed for war
 - Reduced military
 - Reparations
 - Loss of colonies
- League of Nations
 - Not able to raise an army
 - Left out U.S., Soviet Union
 - Applies sanctions because they don’t want war
- Poor economy
 - Reparations
 - Inflation
 - Strikes
- Depression
 - Partly caused by WWI
 - High tariffs
 - Dawes Plan
- Resentment
 - Loss of pride
 - Disillusionment
 - Harsh punishments in Versailles
 - Veterans can’t find jobs
- Violence
 - Rise of socialism and communism; some leaders were Jews
 - Government too weak to stop communist violence
 - Freikorps puts down violence; eventually SA & Nazis seen as way to restore order
- Weimar Government
 - Weak democratic coalition
 - Unable to solve problems
 - Parties didn’t work together
- Hitler’s Experiences
 - Was in WWI and gained resentment from it
 - Blamed “November Criminals” for stabbing Germans in the back
 - Used Jews and Bolsheviks as a scapegoat
- Policy of Appeasement
 - Britain and France were heavily in debt after WWI
 - Both countries didn’t want another war so quickly
- U.S. Isolationism
 - Disillusionment
 - Countries criticized U.S. for not canceling war debts
 - Renewed desire to stay out of European affairs