



NAN HUA HIGH SCHOOL
Preliminary Examination 2026

CANDIDATE
NAME

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CLASS

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INDEX
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HISTORY

2174/01

Paper 1 Extension of European Control in Southeast Asia and Challenges to
European Dominance, 1870s–1942

28 August 2026
1 hour 50 minutes

Additional materials: Laptop

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Name, Class and Index Number on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black ink.

Do not use paper clips, glue or correction tape.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

The total mark for this paper is 50.

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

[Turn over

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question 1 is for all candidates.

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the questions you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

Why was this photograph published in the Nazi newspapers? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

Are you surprised by this report? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Source C.

How useful is Source C as evidence of Nazi attempts to reduce unemployment? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources D and E.

Both Sources D and E seem to have contradictory reports about the lives of workers in 1938. Does it mean that one of them must be wrong? Explain your answer. [6]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'Nazi economic policies brought about an improvement to the lives of Germans.' How far do the sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

The impact of Nazi economic policies

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of the questions.

Upon taking power, Hitler and the Nazis moved swiftly to address Germany's economic crisis. The Nazi Party had secured widespread support by promising employment and economic recovery. This was achieved through the Reich Labour Service and a rearmament programme. The Nazis also sought to win workers' loyalty through initiatives like "Strength Through Joy" and "Beauty of Labour". However, these benefits came at a cost, as Hitler sought control over industries to achieve autarky and prepare for war. Not all economic sectors or groups of Germans experienced the benefits that the Nazi propaganda machine claimed.

Were the economic policies as good as the Nazis claimed?

Source A: *A photograph of a grocery store in Munich, Germany, published in Nazi newspapers, 1934.*



Source B: *An extract from a confidential monthly report from the Defence Industry Inspectorate XIII Nuremburg* regarding the sentiments of workers on the ground, December 1936.*

Though the workers do not express it publicly, one senses that they will never be conquered by Nazism. All must, of course, yield to the present pressure, but whenever possible they show that they really have very little interest in Hitler's gibberish. This attitude was obvious during the last speech by the Fuhrer. During the speech, the workers conversed among themselves such that the factory's Brownshirts had to intervene in order to restore quiet. As the speech ended, workers immediately ran for the doors. Even the Nazi supporters in the factory, of which there are still a few in every group, say the broadcasts of the speeches do more harm than good for Nazism.

**The Defence Industry Inspectorate XIII Nuremburg was a regional administrative office that coordinated civilian industry, manpower, and military production within Military District XIII in Germany.*

Source C: *A table published by the League of Nations in 1939, based on statistics provided by the respective governments.*

Percentage of Workers Unemployed				
Country	1929	1932	1937	1939
Austria	12.3	26.1	20.4	15.3
Czechoslovakia	2.2	13.5	8.8	8.5
France	-	-	-	8.0
Germany	9.3	30.1	4.6	2.1
Poland	4.9	11.8	14.6	12.7
United Kingdom	10.4	22.1	10.5	12.6
United States	1.0	24.9	13.2	19.8

Source D: *A 1938 report published by the Social Democratic Party of Germany who were in exile between 1934 and 1940, as part of their resistance work against the Nazi Party.*

In particular, a large number of the skilled workers who were unemployed for a long time are not enthusiastic Nazis. They often complain that they earn much less now than in 1929. But they always say: "It is all the same to us; at least we have work." Those who are still Nazis are subdued. One has the feeling that many only stayed in the Party to get an easier life. The fact that one's wages continually buy less, and that the slave driving gets worse every day cannot be denied.

The mood in the factories is depressed. It is true that even in the old days work was no fun. But if you do not like something, you can get it off your chest frankly and in public. Now one goes to work with a heavy heart because one is always afraid of saying a word too many.

Source E: *An excerpt taken from a Nazi publication titled “We thank the Leader” published in 1938.*

The dignity of labor is seen by the improvements in the appearance of the workplace. The “Beauty of Labor” movement is not empty talk but living in reality. 6,000 factory courtyards now offer space for real relaxation, which was not true in the past. 17,000 canteens and lounges, and 13,000 shower rooms have been transformed. More than 800 community buildings and 1200 sports facilities have been established.

Of no less importance is the ‘Strength Through Joy’ (KdF) vacation program. Earlier, German workers did not know what to do with their five days of annual vacation. They could not visit the beauties of the German landscape, much less travel abroad. The KdF gave German workers the possibility of vacationing at the beach or in the mountains or to explore the homeland. Over 20 million have participated in KdF trips since 1934. That is more than a quarter of Germany’s population.

Source F: *Adapted from an academic article on Nazi Germany’s economic policies in the 1930s, published in 2017.*

It is crucial to question the validity of the full employment achieved by the Nazi Party in 1939. First, women were not included in the assessment of the domestically unemployed. Second, those considered ‘work-shy’ by the State for various reasons were simply taken to concentration camps - as many as 500,000 by 1933 (twice as many as employed by the *Autobahn* program). Those of Jewish descent were also excluded from the unemployed as a result of the Careers Civil Service Act (1933) and the Nuremberg Race Laws (1935), which revoked their citizenship. Finally, the Reich Labour Service mandated that male Germans from the ages of 18 to 25 join the organisation for a minimum of 6 months, excluding them from unemployment figures. The manipulation of statistical data brings into question the actual effect of economic policies on unemployment.

Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

- 2 'The benefits from British colonial rule from the late 1870s in Malaya outweighed the problems.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 3 'The outcomes and treaties that resulted from the Paris Peace Conference had a positive impact on Europe.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 4 'The militarist government was able to exert control over the Japanese society because they had control over the education system.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

End of Paper

Copyright Acknowledgements

- Source A: © <https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/nazi-germany-1933-1945/sales-clerks-at-the-brunningen-grocery-store-in-munich-1934>
- Source B: © Lage der Arbeiteropposition, Aktivität und Verfolgung der illegalen Arbeiterbewegung 1933-1945
- Source C: © League of Nations, *World Economic Survey: Eighth Year, 1938/39* (Geneva, 1939), pg. 128.
- Source D: © Source of English translation: Jeremy Noakes and Geoffrey Pridham, eds., *Nazism, 1919-1945*, vol. 2: *State, Economy and Society 1933-1939*. Exeter: University of Exeter Press, 2000, pp. 179-80.
<https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/nazi-germany-1933-1945/the-sopade-report-on-the-mood-among-workers-september-1938>
- Source E: © <https://www.feldgrau.com/WW2-German-National-Socialist-Organization-Strength-Through-Joy/>
- Source F: © <https://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/corvette/article/view/17066>

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