

OCR GCSE (9–1)

# HISTORY B

SCHOOLS HISTORY  
PROJECT

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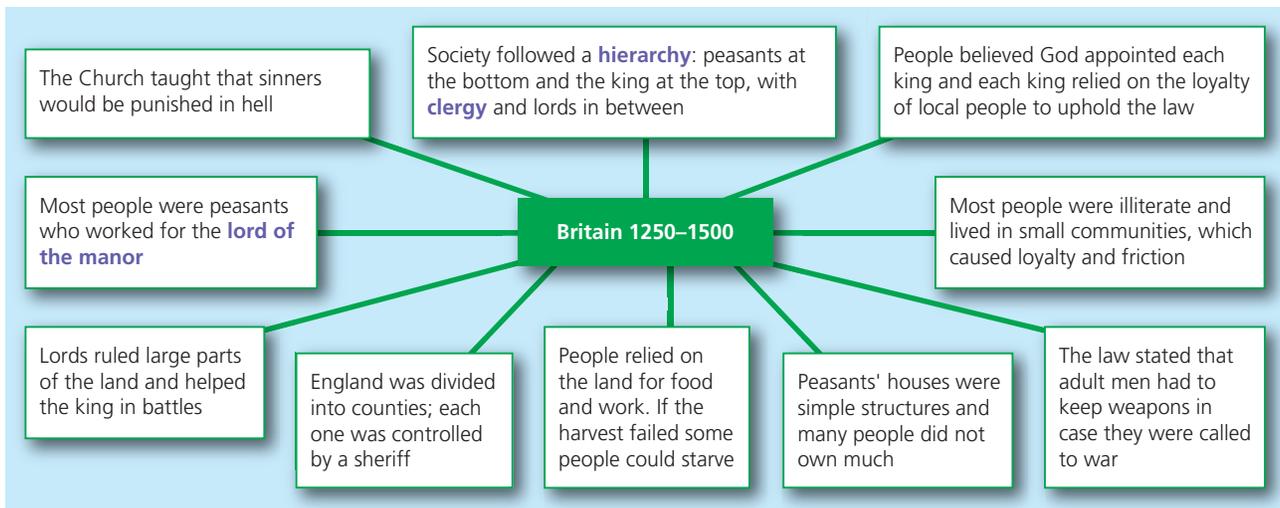
TASKS



# Chapter 2 Crime and Punishment, c.1250 to present

## 2.1 Medieval crimes and criminals, c.1250–c.1500

REVISED



### Medieval criminals committed serious and petty crimes

- **Felonies** (serious crimes), such as murder and stealing expensive goods (worth more than 12d), would lead to severe punishment such as **hanging**.
- People most feared gangs of robbers, generally **outlaws** (people who were on the run to escape the law), who would **ambush** travellers and burgle houses.
- **Petty crimes** (small and not very significant) included getting into debt and doing limited harm to a person or property. Occasionally laws were passed against **dice** and football as the Church argued that they encouraged idleness.
- The majority of crimes were non-violent and theft was by far the most common crime.
- Later on in the fifteenth century, crime grew as rebellious rich landowners used their **retainers** (private armies) to control their local area. This kind of problem grew worse during the **Wars of the Roses** (1455–85).
- There was terrible **famine** across England in the fourteenth century when harvests failed. Hunger and debt increased the crime rate.

#### Key point

The teachings of the Church, the rigid structure of society and the people's reliance on farming to make ends meet all contributed to both the types of crime committed and rates of crime during the medieval period.

### Homicide rates were high

- Sudden deaths had to be reported to a **coroner**. A few months after this, the homicide case went to trial. Homicide included justifiable homicide, homicide in self-defence, accidental homicide, suicide and murder.
- Suicide was considered a serious crime because the Church taught that only God could decide when a person's life should end.
- Records suggest over half of medieval homicides stemmed from arguments.
- **Strip farming** involved people working very close to each other, with heavy tools to hand and no real medical care, which helps to explain the high homicide rates. Arguments were worse during harvests.

## In the medieval period, new crimes emerged as attitudes and circumstances changed

- **Vagrancy** (when people wander from place to place in search of work) became a problem after the Black Death of 1348 killed over half of the population. The resulting shortage of workers led to cases of debt and theft.
- In 1351, Parliament passed a law that required all able-bodied men to swear that they would stay and work in their home village. In 1388, it became illegal for a labourer to leave their **hundred** (a way in which counties were divided) without written permission.
- Medieval **manors** (villages) were free to devise their own laws and punishments. After 1350, **scolding** (the crime of using offensive or abusive speech in public) appeared. It spread steadily after this date and was applied mainly to women.
- In 1351, **treason** (the crime of plotting against your monarch or country) was clearly defined. It included a woman killing her husband, as men were thought to be the head of a family. **Counterfeiting** coins was also considered to be treason.
- **Heresy** (spreading beliefs not allowed by the Church) became a major crime after 1500. The Church feared that people such as the **Lollards** might go to hell if they were free to interpret Christ's teachings.



### Test yourself

- 1 What was considered to be a serious crime in the medieval period?
- 2 Name two types of new crimes that emerged during this time.
- 3 Who were the most feared criminals during the medieval period?
- 4 Who were the Lollards?



### Practice questions

- 1 Name one type of crime committed during the medieval period. (1 mark)
- 2 Name one type of crime that was considered to be homicide in the medieval period. (1 mark)
- 3 Name one reason why homicide rates were high in the medieval period. (1 mark)



### Spot the second-order concept

Second-order concepts are the things that historians use to make sense of the past. They include: cause, consequence, change, continuity, significance and diversity. In the exam you will gain marks by using second-order concepts in your answers, but don't feel that you have to name the second-order concepts that you are using.

This extract from an exam answer contains several examples of causation (why something happened). Highlight the extract to show where they occur.

**Write a clear and organised summary that analyses the types of crimes committed between 1250 and 1500.**

**Support your answer with examples.**

**(9 marks)**

*During the medieval period, a number of different crimes were committed. However, homicide rates were particularly high because this crime included a range of offences such as suicide, homicide in self-defence as well as murder. In addition, the medieval system of strip farming sometimes led to increased hostilities between people as it meant they worked closely alongside each other. The situation was further worsened when harvests failed, as they did in 1315–16, as this led to famine and desperation. It was such situations that led to arguments and rising crime rates.*

*As attitudes and circumstances changed during this period, new crimes appeared. For example, the Black Death struck England in 1348 and killed over half of the population. This led to a shortage of workers, which in turn led to vagrancy becoming a problem as some people wandered the country looking for work. As a result, in 1351, Parliament passed a new act that stated all able-bodied men had to swear they would stay and work in their home village.*

# Chapter 4 The Elizabethans, 1580–1603

## 4.1 Elizabeth and her Court, the Privy Council and the rebellion of the Earl of Essex

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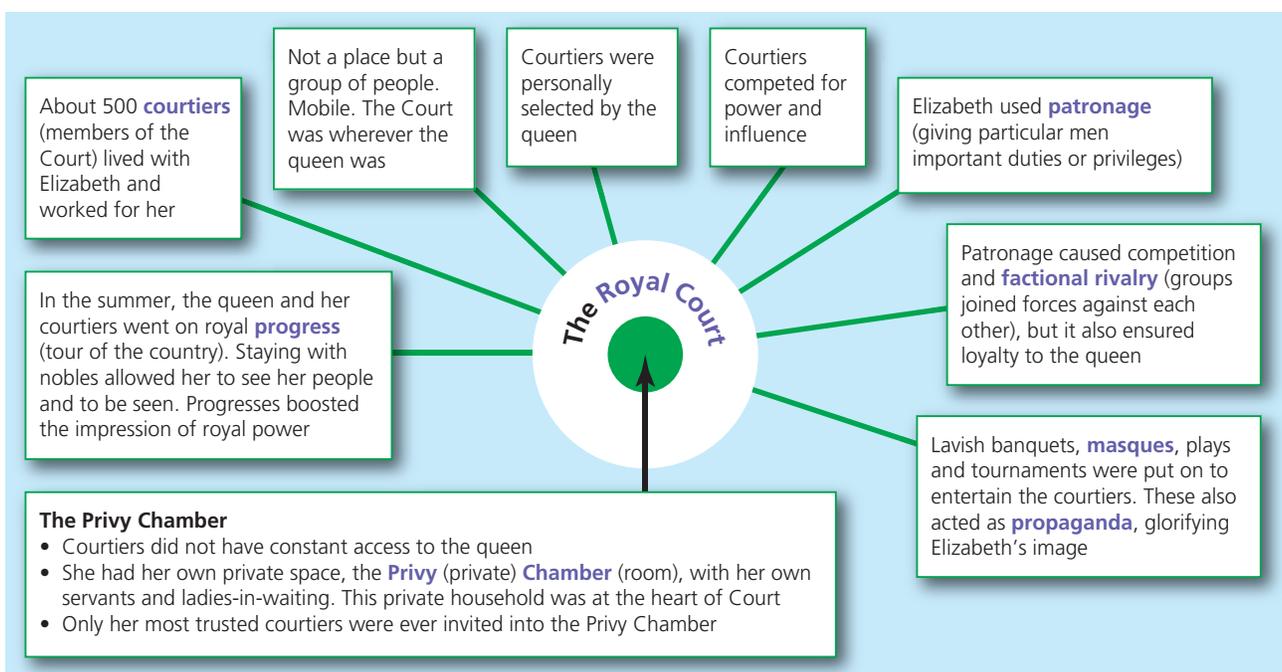
### Key point

Elizabeth successfully governed with the help of William Cecil for 40 years, but at the end of her reign she faced a rebellion from her favourite, the Earl of Essex.

### TIP

All the words in **purple** are defined in the glossary of key terms that you can find here: [www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotesdownloads](http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotesdownloads). Make sure that you can spell them, know what they mean and aim to use them in your written work.

### The Royal Court was the centre of political life



### The Privy Council was Elizabeth's small close group of key ministers

- The **Privy Council** was a group of ministers selected by Elizabeth to help her govern the country. It met at Court almost daily.
- Elizabeth's council had nineteen members – far smaller than her predecessor Mary's.
- Her first council was a clever compromise of nobles. Later it became an effective group of full-time politicians drawn from the gentry.
- Cecil and Walsingham were her most important ministers.

#### William Cecil (Lord Burghley), Secretary of State 1558–72 and 1590–98; Lord Treasurer 1572–90

- Elizabeth's main minister for 40 years. She relied heavily on him
- Correspondence passed through him
- Moderate Protestant but more willing to **suppress** Catholics than the queen
- Avoided foreign religious disputes which could lead to costly wars
- Never a 'yes' man. Prepared to challenge Elizabeth. Loyal but knew how to manage the queen

#### Sir Francis Walsingham, Secretary of State 1572–90

- Responsible for foreign affairs
- Strong Puritan. Believed Catholics were a threat and should be **repressed**
- Cold and distant. Did not flatter the queen
- Elizabeth's 'spy master'. Ran a network of informers uncovering plots against Elizabeth
- Elizabeth once lost patience with him and threw her slipper at him
- Hardworking, well educated. Died following a fit probably caused by exhaustion

## The 1590s was a challenging decade for Elizabeth

- Elizabeth's closest advisers died (Walsingham in 1590 and Cecil in 1598). This opened up opportunities for new courtiers to compete to gain influence.
- England experienced a series of bad harvests, famine, plague and rising poverty.
- England's expensive war with Spain dragged on.
- Elizabeth had no heir so there was uncertainty around succession.
- Elizabeth was less popular. Her previously tight control of the Royal Court broke down.



### Test yourself

- 1 What was the Royal Court?
- 2 What was patronage?
- 3 What's the difference between the Privy Chamber and the Privy Council?

## Essex dared to defy the queen and was executed for treason in 1601

- 1 Essex was one of Elizabeth's favourite courtiers but he defied Elizabeth in 1589 by joining Drake's failed attack on Lisbon and again in 1590 when he married without her permission.
- 2 When William Cecil died, the queen made Robert, his son, Secretary of State. This was the job Essex wanted. Essex was jealous.
- 3 Elizabeth sent Essex to Ireland in 1599 to defeat a Catholic rebellion led by Hugh O'Neill, the Earl of Tyrone. Instead Essex made a truce.
- 4 Elizabeth was cross with Essex, so banned him from Court in 1600 and took away his government jobs. He was financially ruined.
- 5 Essex led a short-lived rebellion in 1601. He underestimated how much support there was for Elizabeth. He was arrested and executed.



### Make revision cards

In your exam you will need to use precise, relevant and detailed information in your answers. Revision cards can help to make the details stick. Write a topic heading on the front and then put up to five key words/phrases on the back. Use the words to explain your knowledge on the topic. Once you have made your cards you should test yourself, or work with a friend to test each other.

#### We suggest you make three cards:

- William Cecil
- Francis Walsingham
- The Earl of Essex.

#### On each card have the following headings:

- name, job and main dates
- background
- religion
- character
- role and his approach to his duties
- relationship with Elizabeth.



### Spot the mistakes

This paragraph attempts to describe the role and importance of Elizabeth's councillor William Cecil. However, there are some mistakes in the paragraph. Find them and correct them.

*As her Secretary of State all correspondence passed through Cecil and he controlled access to the queen. He always did what she wanted and never questioned her judgement because he was so loyal. Like Elizabeth he was very cautious and wanted to avoid expensive foreign wars. Cecil was a strong Puritan who worked hard as Elizabeth's spymaster to stamp out Catholic plots. He pushed her into signing the death warrant for the execution of Mary Queen of Scots and she never saw him again. But when he died she was devastated. His son Robert Devereux took over as Secretary of State.*

# Chapter 6 Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945

## 6.1 The Nazi Party, ideas and leaders in 1933

REVISED

### The Nazi Party had its origins in the 1920s but was not strong until the 1930s

- The Nazi Party was founded in 1919 by Anton Drexler. It was a small **right-wing** party (fiercely nationalistic) with its main support in southern Germany.
- Adolf Hitler, a young Austrian with a natural talent for public speaking, became the chairman of the party in 1921.
- On 8 November 1923, Hitler led an unsuccessful takeover of power in Munich. The so-called **Munich Putsch** (or Beer Hall Putsch) ended up with sixteen Nazis dead, Hitler jailed and the party banned for two years.
- At his trial, Hitler gained national fame for his political ideas and in prison wrote *Mein Kampf*, which detailed these ideas and gained him more fame.
- Relaunching the party in 1925, the Nazis decided to take power through democracy. They remained a relatively small unpopular party until the Great Depression of the early 1930s.
- Faced with high unemployment and depression, the German people turned to more extreme parties such as the Nazis.

#### Key point

The Nazis were a highly organised and appealing party in 1933.

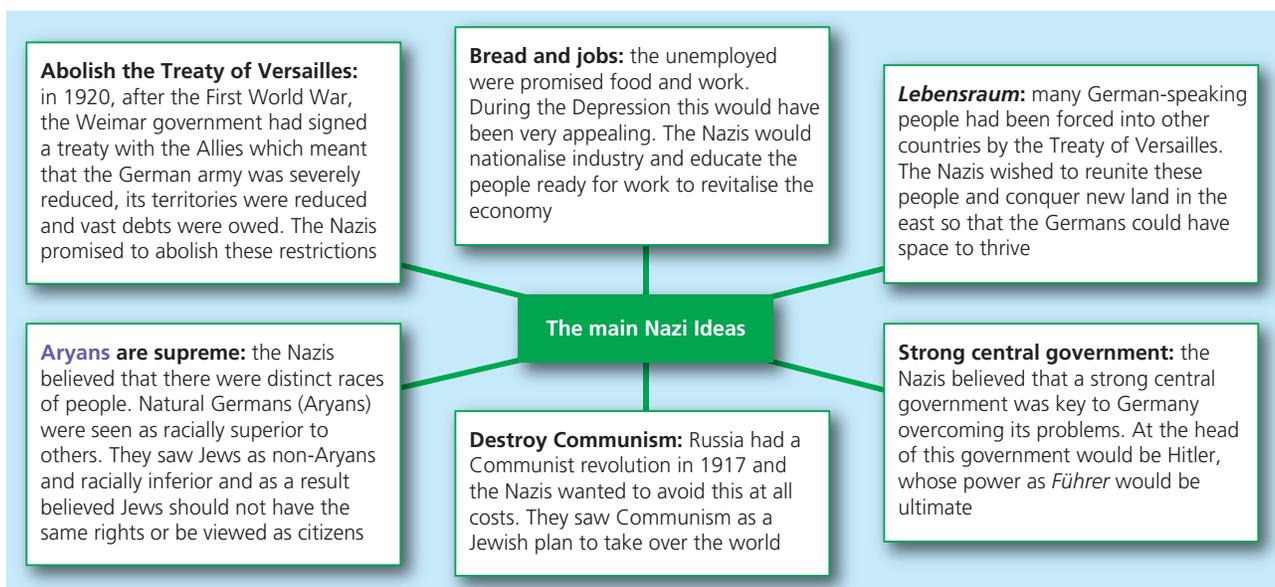
### The Nazi Party was run by a handful of driven, extremely right-wing men

- By 1933, the Nazis had won the majority of seats in the Reichstag and had a personal membership of over 850,000. They had emerged from their weak beginning in the 1920s to become a hugely powerful force.
- The most prominent people in the party were as follows:

<b>Adolf Hitler</b>	An ex-soldier with charisma who could whip a crowd into a frenzy. He was portrayed as god-like and his right-wing views about race formed the backbone of the party
<b>Joseph Goebbels</b>	A highly educated and very anti-Semitic man who realised the power of modern media. He was tasked with spreading Nazi propaganda using newspapers, film and radio
<b>Ernst Röhm</b>	Fear was a key tactic of the Nazis and in order to create fear they needed force. In 1933, this came through the SA, a personal army of brown-shirted stormtroopers, led by Röhm, which was 400,000 strong
<b>Heinrich Himmler</b>	Fanatical about Nazi ideas, he created an elite force of soldiers, the SS, who wore black shirts and would work alongside the SA. He had strict entry requirements and its force numbered 50,000 in 1933
<b>Herman Göring</b>	An ex-fighter pilot who was second in power to Hitler. He would go on to create the Gestapo (the secret police) and command the <i>Luftwaffe</i> (air force)

### The Nazi Party policies were created to appeal to the masses and make Germany great again

- Germany in 1932–33 was not in a good state:
  - The Wall Street Crash had led to a global Great Depression and it affected Germany badly. Unemployment soared and poverty was widespread.
  - The ruling government before the Nazis, the Weimar government, appeared weak and unable to provide any solutions to this worsening situation.
  - In this situation, the Nazi ideas to make Germany strong seemed very appealing and they made the most of this.



### Structure the detail

As you can probably tell from these two pages, the Nazi Party was very strong in 1933. Two of the key things you must do in an exam is support your answer with specific evidence and explain your point. In the table below are four big reasons why the Nazis were strong in 1933. Your job is to develop these reasons. First, find specific evidence you can use to prove that this reason is true. Secondly, you should explain why this made them strong. Using the word 'because' is crucial. Some boxes have been done for you.

Reason	Evidence to prove this	Explain why this made the Nazis strong
The Nazis were well led		<i>This made the Nazis strong because ...</i>
The Nazis were organised		
The Nazis had popular ideas		
The Nazis had force	<i>The SA was 400,000 strong in 1933. The SS was 50,000 strong</i>	

### Test yourself

- 1 What was the key turning point in the success of the Nazi Party?
- 2 Who was the man in charge of Nazi propaganda?
- 3 Name three of the most important Nazi ideas of the early 1930s.

#### TIP

Precise knowledge is the key to success in these exams. From the detail here about Nazi leadership and ideas, you need to know the names of the key individuals and at least five key terms related to the Nazi ideology.