

9.03: Rise of Dictators – knowledge organiser

1 – Why Dictators rose to power after World War One • <u>Treaty of Versailles</u> (1919) humiliated Germany: lost 13% territory, army cut to 100,000, reparations of 132 billion gold marks. • Italy's "<u>mutilated victory</u>" after WWI: 600,000 dead, unemployment over 2 million, strikes during Biennio Rosso (1919–1920). • <u>Russia</u>: February & October Revolutions (1917) toppled Tsar; civil war (1918–1922) killed 7 million. • <u>Economic chaos</u>: German hyperinflation (1923) – bread cost 200 billion marks; democracies seen as weak, paving way for extremism.	2 – Lenin and Stalin • Lenin's October Revolution (1917) promised "Peace, Land, Bread"; Bolsheviks seized Petrograd, sparking civil war (1918–1922). • Civil war killed 7 million; Cheka enforced "Red Terror"; foreign armies (Britain, France, USA) intervened. • Stalin outmanoeuvred Trotsky after Lenin's death (1924); Trotsky exiled (1929), murdered in Mexico (1940). • Stalin's USSR: Five-Year Plans (1928) industrialised rapidly; famine in Ukraine (1932–33) killed 4.5 million; Great Terror (1937–38) saw 1.5 million arrests, 700,000 executions.
3 – Mussolini and the birth of fascism • Post-war Italy: 600,000 dead, unemployment 2 million, strikes during Biennio Rosso (1919–1920). • Mussolini founded Fasci di Combattimento (1919); Blackshirts attacked socialists; March on Rome (Oct 1922) made him PM at 39. • By 1926, opposition banned; Mussolini as Il Duce; propaganda slogans like "Mussolini is always right." • Projects: Pontine Marshes drained, motorways built; invaded Ethiopia (1935); anti-Jewish laws (1938); regime collapsed in 1943, Mussolini executed (1945).	4 – Hitler's road to power • Versailles (1919): Germany lost 13% territory, army cut to 100,000, reparations 132 billion marks; Weimar blamed. • Hitler joined Nazis (1919), leader by 1921; Beer Hall Putsch (1923) failed; wrote Mein Kampf in prison. • Great Depression (1929): 6 million unemployed; Nazis won 37% vote (July 1932); Hitler appointed Chancellor (Jan 1933). • Consolidation: Reichstag Fire (Feb 1933), Enabling Act (March); Hitler became Führer (1934); propaganda via Goebbels; Nuremberg Laws (1935), Kristallnacht (1938).