Weimar Republic Guided Research

Through guided internet research, students will create notes about the Weimar Republic, a bold experiment in a constitutional democracy. Students will draw a conclusion as to why the democracy of the Weimar Republic failed and the implications for the U.S. constitutional democracy.

| Guided Question | Resource | Notes |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. How did the Treaty of Versailles, especially Article 231, handicap Germany’s recovery after WWI? | United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Holocaust Encyclopedia:<https://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005425> |  |
| 2. The Weimar Assembly created a new democratic constitution for Germany in 1919. How was it similar to the U.S. Constitution? | Alpha History, Weimar Constitution:<http://alphahistory.com/weimarrepublic/weimar-constitution/> |  |
| 3. How did American intervention in 1923 help the Weimar Republic continue? | Alpha History, American Assistance to Germany:<http://alphahistory.com/weimarrepublic/american-assistance/> |  |
| 4. Hitler’s political party became more popular within the Weimar Republic. Describe how Hitler and the NDSAP gained political power. | Alpha History, The Rise of the NSDAP:<http://alphahistory.com/weimarrepublic/rise-of-the-nsdap/> |  |
| 5. Read about the Weimar Republic’s failure. Why did the Weimar Republic collapse? How did this collapse contribute to the rise of Hitler and the Nazi party? | Alpha History, Why the Weimar Republic Failed:<http://alphahistory.com/weimarrepublic/why-the-weimar-republic-failed/> |  |
| 6. **Draw a Conclusion:** Considering what you read about the rise and fall of the Weimar Republic, could the United States be vulnerable to similar threats to its democracy and constitution? |