Why did Hitler become the leader of Germany in 1933?

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| 2016 Student ResearchOur 2016 student research showed that only a small number of students understood how the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933. Use this resource sheet to help you organise the knowledge and understanding that you have gained having worked through chapter 2.1 of the textbook. |
| Nazi ideology: Why might Nazi ideas have appealed to some German people?Look back at p.21 and the diagram of Nazi ideas shown in figure 2.1. Explain in your own words why you think that Nazi ideas would have appealed to some German people following Germany’s defeat in the First World War and the economic difficulties that followed. |
| The Great Depression: Why did more German voters support Hitler and the Nazis after 1929?Look back at p.22. Explain in your own words why more German people may have voted for the Nazis during the hardships of the Great Depression. What were the Nazis offering and promising the German people at this time? |
| Nazi contributions to their own success: Why did more German voters support Hitler and the Nazis after 1929?Look back at p.23 and 24. Explain in your own words how each of these Nazi actions and organisations may have increased their appeal to the German people. Look carefully at the photographs on these pages. What can we learn from them about why the Nazis may have appealed to the German people at this time? |
| Appointed into powerIt is important to remember that the largest vote that the Nazis received from the German people was in the election of July 1932. They won 13.7 million votes or 37.3 % of the total votes cast in Germany. In the next election of that year, November 1932, the vote for the Nazis had dropped to 11.7 million votes, or 33.1 % of the total votes cast. The majority of German people did not vote for the Nazi party but these election results made them the largest and most popular party overall in Germany. Hitler could only come to power with the help of other German politicians, who were not Nazis, and the President of Germany, President Hindenburg. Look back at p.22. Explain in your own words how Hitler was able to come to power in Germany in January of 1933. |