

## Interpretation 1

From *The Coming of the Third Reich*, by Richard J. Evans, published in 2004.

The 'march on Rome' galvanised the fascist movements of Europe... As the situation in Germany began to deteriorate... Hitler began to think that he could do the same in Germany as Mussolini had done in Italy.

## Interpretation 2

From *Adolf Hitler* by John Tolund, published in 1996.

The state police rounded up hundreds [of rebels], disarming them on the street. The rebels left behind at the beer hall to hold the command post were so unstrung [unsettled] by the catastrophe that they surrendered without resistance to police. They stacked up their arms and went home to brood. The Putsch was over. But victorious state police marching away from the beer hall were abused by indignant citizens, with cries of "Traitors of the Fatherland! Jew defenders! Bloodhounds! Heil Hitler - Down with Kahr!"

## Source A

From a report in September 1923 by the Bavarian police.

As a result of rising prices and unemployment, the workers are bitter. The patriotic are at fever pitch because of the failure of the resistance in the Ruhr.

## Source B

An announcement made on 9 November 1923 by Gustav von Kahr, leader of the state government of Bavaria.

The deception and treachery of ambitious rebels have changed a peaceful meeting, held to encourage people to work together, into a scene of disgusting violence. The declarations of support, forced from myself, General von Lossow and Colonel Seisser at the point of the gun, are null and void. The National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP), and the troops who have gathered to support them, are banned.

## Source C

A photograph of Hitler's Shock Troop in Munich on the morning of the Putsch, 8 November 1923.



## Source D

A painting from 1940 by H. Schmitt, one of Hitler's followers, who took part in the Munich Putsch. Hitler stands at the front of the rebels with his arm raised, with Ludendorff on his right.



### Source F

An extract from a speech made by Adolf Hitler at the Bergerbrau Keller on the evening of 8 November 1923.

The Bavarian government is removed. I propose that a new Bavarian government shall be formed consisting of a Regent [a temporary monarch] and a Prime Minister who will have dictatorial powers. I propose Herr von Kahr as Regent and Herr Pohner as Prime Minister.

The national government of the November Criminals and the Reich President in Berlin are declared to be removed. I propose that, until we can bring the November criminals to account, the national government will be taken over by me. Ludendorff will take over the leadership of the German National Army, Lossow will be German Minister for the Armed Forces, Seisser will be the German Police Minister.

I want now to fulfil the vow which I made to myself five years ago when I was a blind cripple in the military hospital: to know neither rest nor peace until the November criminals had been overthrown, until on the ruins of the wretched Germany of today there should have arisen once more a Germany of power and greatness, freedom and splendour.

### Source G

From a letter, written by Hitler in 1924, while in prison after the Munich Putsch.

When I resume active work, it will be necessary to pursue a new policy. Instead of working to achieve power by an armed coup, we will have to hold our noses and enter the Reichstag. If outvoting them takes longer than outshooting them, at least the result will be guaranteed by their own constitution. Sooner or later we shall have a majority, and after that - Germany!

### Interpretation 3

From *The Coming of the Third Reich*, by Richard J. Evans, published in 2004.

It seems likely that they (the Bavarian authorities) offered Hitler leniency in return for his agreement to carry the can [take responsibility]. As judge, they picked... a well-known nationalist... Hitler was allowed to wear his Iron Cross and address the court for hours on end... The court grounded its leniency in the fact that the participants 'were led in their action by pure patriotic spirit and noble will'. The judgement was scandalous even by the standards of the Weimar judiciary.

### Source E

A 1924 cartoon from the political magazine *Simplicissimus*. Hitler is shown setting fire to the town. He is being carried by von Lossow, the head of the German Army in Bavaria, and von Kahr, the leader of the state government of Bavaria. Meanwhile, Kahr shouts out: 'Officer, arrest that arsonist up there.'



Cut out each of these sources / interpretations and organise them into the following categories:

- 1) Causes of the Munich Putsch
- 2) Events of the Munich Putsch
- 3) Consequences of the Munich Putsch

Then decide which is the best source for learning about the Munich Putsch and which is the worst, **explaining** why.