

	Stalin	Hitler similarities	Hitler differences	Similarity rating
Early Life	Born in Georgia 1879. Changed his name to Stalin (man of steel). Father was an alcoholic and abandoned the family when Stalin was a boy. Made his name in violent bank raids raising money for the Communist Party. Was sent to Siberia by the Tsar's secret police twice, but escaped both times.	Got on badly with his father, who died when Hitler was a young boy. Fought in WWI. After the war was sent to spy on extreme political parties but joined the German Worker's Party (a right wing Nationalist party).	Unhappy at school, lonely and moody. Left school with no qualifications and failed to get into art school. Lived on the streets of Vienna. Hitler was a great public speaker.	
What did they believe in?	Stalin was ruthless, devious and held grudges and was determined to make his enemies suffer. He was a clever, hardworking politician. He believed in Communism and supported the Russian Revolution to remove Tsar Nicholas II and Monarchy.	Hitler was also ruthless and devious. He blamed the Jews for all of Germany's problems including the humiliation of defeat in WWI. Hitler promised to rid the world of Jews as well.	He believed that the Aryan race were the master race and he wanted to rid the world of non Aryans within 1000 years.	
How did they rise to power?	Following the death of USSR leader Lenin, Stalin went for the leadership facing Bolshevik army leader Trotsky. Stalin told Trotsky the wrong date of Lenin's funeral (on purpose) to make him look bad and it worked. Trotsky was murdered by an ice pick in the head! Stalin took over USSR.	With his popularity he took over the German Worker's Party which became the Nazi Party. Hitler attempted to take over Germany with a rebellion but failed and was imprisoned. Continued to attack the leaders for their role in the economic depression of Germany.	Hitler grew in popularity due to his speaking skills and building on the anger of Germany in WWI. Following his time in jail he realized he would need to be elected into power. He became Chancellor Jan. 30 th 1933.	
How did they keep control?	Stalin used terror to control USSR, there could be no opposition. Secret Police / Spy networks were set up, children informed on their parents, critics were sent to Gulags, enemies within the Party were purged along with teachers, engineers and workers – 18 million by 1937. Stalin also used Propaganda and censorship to control ideas. Newspapers & radio stations were controlled, churches were closed (Religion was banned, they had to worship Stalin). Statues of Stalin were put in every town.	Hitler used Terror to keep power after his election in 1933. The SS were set up as his private bodyguards and became ruthless killing machines. The Gestapo was a secret police who spied, tortured, searched and killed anyone suspected of being an enemy of the state. Law courts were set up, fair trial was impossible. Concentration camps were also set up. Propaganda was also used to promote Hitler as a great saviour and hero as well as attack enemies (Jews, foreigners)	Hitler hated Communists as most of the country feared them after what had happened in Russia in the the 1917 Revolution. He used Propaganda to scare people further into thinking the same could happen in Germany. Stalin's murdering of millions of peasants and his taking control of land and property also scared the middle classes.	
How did they change people's lives: Workers	Stalin's government controlled all industries, setting up 100 new industrial towns and 15000 ne factories. Unemployment fell dramatically however workers were paid less and worked more. Harsh punishments were given for lateness. Peasants were forced to join collective farms (controlled by the government) where millions starved. Trade Unions were banned.	Hitler reduced unemployment significantly after promising 'work and bread' following the Great Depression in 1929-32. More jobs were created in factories and building projects like roads and stadiums. Hitler also labour programmes for 18-21 year old's who were out of work. Workers worked longer hours and less pay and Trade Unions were also banned.	Workers were given days out and better working conditions to encourage them to work harder.	
- women and family	Women were expected to be more independent, not just their domestic role as wife and mother but also workers in the factories. As a result many children ended up on the streets as orphans, begging and stealing to survive.	All men were expected to work and contribute to society.	Women were expected to stay at home as a wife and mother. They were expected to have as many children as possible, even rewarded with medals for certain milestones (4,6,8 babies).	
Young people	Every child would get free education for 9 years however resources were poor and teachers badly paid. RE was replaced with atheism and Communism. The curriculum was changed to prepare for technical (factory) work. History was rewritten to promote Stalin and Lenin as the great heroes. Young people were expected to join the 'pioneers' and promise to obey the Communist Party. There was camping and team building events in the Pioneers.	Education was controlled by the Nazi Party. The curriculum was rewritten, especially History to promote the propaganda of antisemitism. There was a lot more sport to make the young people fit and strong. Biology was about keeping the Aryan race pure and not to mix with different races. The Hitler Youth was set up and all boys were expected to attend – Holidays camps, sporting activities, character building, boxing, combat training, using weapons etc.	Girls were expected to attend the League of German Maidens (Like the Hitler Youth but just for girls) – they would learn to be good wives and manage the home as well as learn about keeping the master race pure.	