Significance of Germany by World War I
Results of Unification
Science and Industry

What did the war mean to Germans?
Who was pro-war?
Effects of industrialization
Who was the enemy?
Expectations of war
Crowd scenes such as this in the lead up to the outbreak of war were common in German cities (and in many other European capitals). Who is the man in the inset picture?
The War (begins 1 August 1914 when Germany declared war on Russia)

Hopes of a quick war versus the reality

British Trenches on the Western Front
The trauma of defeat

The effects of war on society

The shock of surrender

What happens to the old order?

Consequences of Word War I

Betrayal?
Weimar Republic/Treat of Versailles

Declaration of Weimar Republic
The end of empires – Germany loses territory
Early Weimar Republic

Economic Collapse
Political Violence and Legitimacy of the Weimar Republic

Troops restoring order in the city of Dresden in 1923

Between 1918 and 1923, and 1929 and 1932, there were many such scenes, in many cities.
Scientists in the Weimar Republic

Fritz Haber with poison gas canisters during Word War I.

About the rise of the Nazis, Max Planck said: “The fundamental evil consists, in my opinion, in the coming of the dominance of the masses.”
Beginning of Nazi movement

WWI and its effects on Hitler

What did extreme right wing parties want?

“We hate the present regime,” it has “made it impossible for us to liberate our enslaved Fatherland, destroy the war-guilt lie and win needed Lebensraum in the east. We declare war against the system... and against all those who support [it].” (group of anti-Weimar WWI veterans in 1928 pamphlet.)
The Nazis take power
Franz von Papen, who had been chancellor (similar to prime minister) wanted to return to power. When the new chancellor resigned, von Papen thought he could use Hitler and rule through him and the Nazis – the Nazis had lost support so should be easier to control.

He persuaded the aging German president to appoint Hitler as chancellor. This happens January 30 1933.

Hitler had played a major role in destroying the Weimar Republic of which he then became chancellor. He quickly set about finishing it off completely.

– Dissolved parliament almost immediately.
– Civil rights suspended a month later.
– In March Hitler gives himself dictatorial powers.
– Within in 6 months of election, thousands of Jews and political opponents out of work. First concentration camps start up.
– April, official boycott of Jewish-owned businesses followed by laws barring Jews from civil service jobs.
– Nazi paramilitaries, the SA, control the streets.
– In 1934 Hitler destroys the SA, killing most of its leadership. This group had taken the socialism in national socialism more seriously and opposed Hitler's alliance with big business.