

Example 1: To what extent did Hitler create a totalitarian system of government?

Criterion A: 4 marks

The question for investigation has been clearly stated and it is appropriate. Two sources are identified. (The sources consist only of extracts which themselves appear to have been taken from Hite and Hinton, *Weimar Germany and Hitler*, which is a shame.) One source is primary. The value relates to its origin but not to its purpose or content and the explanation is not developed. There is repetition of “confusion” without identifying what is meant or how this is relevant to the research question. Limitations are more developed. It has been chosen as an example of the Structuralist viewpoint. Second source is secondary. The origin is not clearly addressed, for example there is no information about the author. The limitations are not fully explained and are little more than generalisations. It is chosen an example of the Intentionalist viewpoint.

Criterion B: 12 marks

This starts with an error, in that Hitler used the Enabling Act to merge the offices of Chancellor and President in 1934 and he became recognized leader of the Nazi party as early as 1921. There is no definition of “Totalitarian System of Government”. There is an attempt to describe the two viewpoints of Hitler’s rule, namely Structuralist and Intentionalist, then critical analysis of the two supported by examples, coming to the conclusion that Hitler’s rule should be seen as a mixture of the two as according to Ian Kershaw. The investigation is focused on the research question and clearly shows different perspectives with a reasoned conclusion. Some examples are given to support both viewpoints but more could have been given and at times the investigation is not developed.

Criterion C: 4 marks

The reflection is clearly focused on what the investigation highlighted to the student about the methods used by historians and challenges facing historians but not the limitations of methods. It is clearly focused on the rest of the investigation.

Total: 20 marks