

Starter

	Britain 1930-1997	Germany 1919-1963	The witchcraze of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
What do you already know?			
What do you want to know?			



Learning objectives:

- Year 12 taster lesson

What do we study?

- Exam board: OCR
- Unit 1 – Britain 1930-1997 (25%)
- Unit 2 – Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany 1919-1963 (15%)
- Unit 3 – Popular Culture and the Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th Centuries (40%)
- Coursework (20%)



Learning objectives:

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Key words



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How far do these sources support the view that Churchill was appointed Prime Minister in 1940 because he was the best person for the job?

1. Use 2 different colour highlighters and in one colour highlight anything positive about Churchill and in a second colour highlight anything negative.

2. Summarise in no more than 20 words the view of Churchill in each source.

3. What parts of the provenance do you think are important (even if you don't have the knowledge to explain why yet)?

Source A An officer in the Admiralty has an unfavourable view of Churchill.

I dread any more influence from that arch-idiot Winston. I'm quite certain that he has played the whole war of the last eight months to become prime minister, often at the expense of helping to win the war. Witness his refusal to back the demands of the Navy against the Air Force. The high ups still insist on going on with the mad Narvik campaign in Norway.

Acting Director of Naval Operations, diary, 9 May 1940.

Source C A prominent Conservative politician recalls his reaction to the events preceding Churchill's appointment as prime minister.

The news of Chamberlain's intentions to stay was given out. The Labour leaders, Attlee and Greenwood, said they were willing to serve in a new national government but not under Chamberlain. The Cabinet was left in doubt what their attitude would be and Churchill knew that the task of forming a government would certainly fall on him.

Leo Amery, *My Political Life*, 1955.

Source B A former Conservative cabinet minister who resigned in 1938 over Munich gives a view of why Churchill became prime minister.

On 10 May 1940 the Germans invaded Holland and Belgium. Chamberlain's first reaction was that this terrible event gave him an excuse to remain as prime minister. This shows how men in very high office can acquire the belief that they cannot be replaced. He was persuaded that the events only meant he should depart urgently. The choice lay between Churchill and Lord Halifax. Churchill's reputation had risen sharply since 1939. He had shown himself a highly competent First Lord of the Admiralty. His speeches in the Commons had been better than any of his colleagues. Everything that he had prophesied in the past had come disastrously true. Halifax had merely remained the foreign minister of Munich. The choice was obvious.

Duff Cooper, *Old Men Forget*, 1953.

Source D Chamberlain's secretary who went on to be Churchill's secretary recalls in his diary the King's decision on 10 May. He added comments when the diaries were published.

Friday 10 May The King has sent for Winston (fortunately because Halifax, true to form, had gone off to the dentist!). Mr Chamberlain would have liked Halifax to be prime minister. The King certainly disliked the change to Churchill and would have preferred Halifax. The feeling in Conservative circles was represented by a letter sent by Queen Mary to my mother hoping I would not go on to work with Mr Churchill. Winston told me that when he met with Chamberlain and Halifax, Chamberlain said to Halifax 'if the King asks me I should suggest sending for you to be prime minister'. Halifax said if asked he would propose Mr Churchill.

Sir John Colville, *The Fringes of Power: Downing Street Diaries, 1939–1955*, 1987.



Learning objectives:

□ Year 12 taster lesson

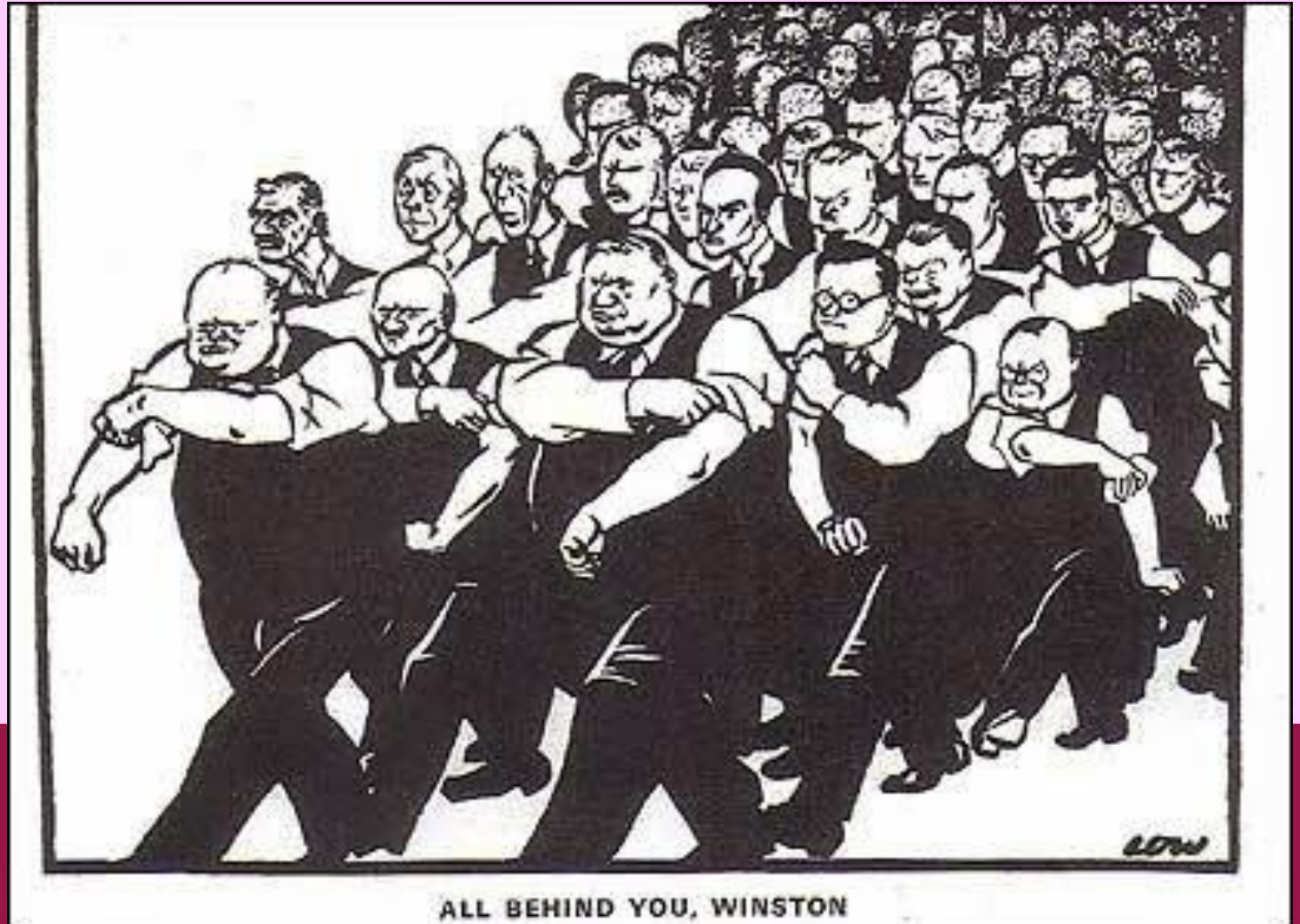
Checking Progress

This cartoon appeared in the London Evening Standard newspaper on 14 May 1940. The artist, David Low, had been a consistent critic of appeasement. Churchill is shown at the front with Attlee (Labour leader) behind him on the right and Chamberlain on the left. Halifax and the Liberal leader, Sinclair, are also shown.

Churchill was appointed Prime Minister on 10 May 1940. What does this cartoon suggest about Churchill's appointment as PM?

Challenge: How does the view in the cartoon compare with this view:

'The King, against his better judgement, appointed Churchill Prime Minister on 10 May 1940. this had not been expected, he did not have solid support in his party and he was plunged into the most serious crisis Britain has faced in modern times.'



Learning objectives:

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End & send

Expectations

- ✓ All equipment away
- ✓ All rubbish in the bin
- ✓ Everybody Leaves in a calm manner.



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