

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Part B

Hitler's major achievements:

1. Economic recovery—Under his leadership, Germany went from massive unemployment to full employment. The shift from poverty to comfortable prosperity caused an increase in national confidence.
2. Military recovery—By 1938, Germany was the strongest military power in Europe. This amounted to a repudiation of the hated Versailles Treaty.
3. National unity—A vast majority of Germans came to support Hitler as *Führer*. School children were taught to see him as a national savior.
4. National expansion—*Lebensraum* led to the incorporation of Austria and the Sudetenland as parts of Germany.
5. Collective organization—Hitler “socialized” people by forming and encouraging groups such as the *Jungvolk* for children, Hitler Youth, and the German Women’s League, as well as a variety of groups centered on occupations, hobbies, and sports.<sup>2</sup>

## Part C

Hitler's destructive decisions:

1. Determination to annihilate European Jews—Hitler’s violent anti-Semitism caused the death of an estimated six million Jews. This mass murder made reconciliation with the United States, France, and England an impossibility. It also divided German energies and removed the once helpful financial support of the German Jews.
2. Wrecking Europe—Hitler was not a constructive statesman. He lacked the patience and diplomacy needed to turn conquests into real national gains. Besides Jews, many millions of other Europeans, especially Poles and Russians, were also killed. Hitler’s impulsive and erratic actions, especially in the last years of the war, caused the East-West division of Europe.
3. Destruction of German political system—Hitler reduced German government to the person of the Führer himself. There was no system of checks and balances. By absorbing all power and responsibility into the Führer’s role and by failing to make provisions for a Germany without himself, he left the country a political wasteland.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Sebastian Haffner, *The Meaning of Hitler*, tr. Ewald Osers (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1979).

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.