

Was the Weimar Republic ever a success?

After the difficult early years of the Weimar Republic (1919-1923) Germany settled into an easier time, under the leadership of Gustav Stresemann. Stresemann, as Chancellor and then as Foreign Minister, provided many solutions for Weimar Germany's problems. **Complete the empty boxes below, using information provided from photocopied pages 24-25 of the textbook. For each problem, provide an explanation (in the right hand column) to show how far you think Stresemann solved it.**

Problem	Stresemann's Policy	Positive Results	Negative Results	How far did Stresemann resolve the problem?
Hyper- inflation	The old, worthless money was recalled and destroyed. A new currency called the Rentenmark was introduced.	The new currency was accepted by the German people and food became affordable again.	Hyperinflation was never forgotten as people never gained their savings back that they lost.	Stresemann did deal with hyperinflation successfully. Getting rid of the old currency was the only thing he could do. But there were still a number of Germans angry that the government had let hyperinflation happen in the first place.
French occupation of the Ruhr	The worker's strikes were called off as it hadn't persuaded the French to leave the Ruhr. Promises were made to keep paying the reparations payments.	The French, Germany's hated enemies, left the Ruhr area of Germany.	Many Germans felt that Stresemann had given in to the French by promising to continue the payment of reparations.	
Germany is not trusted by other nations	Co-operated with other European countries. Accepted that Germany could not reclaim the land lost in the treaty of Versailles in the hope of fairer terms.	In 1925, Germany signed the Locarno Pact with France. This was a promise, between both countries, that they wouldn't attack one another again. In 1926 Germany was welcomed into the League of Nations, a large group of countries working to deal with the world's problems. Germany was being accepted again.		
Germany is facing massive reparations	Promised to keep paying the reparations with the hope that the Allies might lower the payments in the future.			
Germany needs to rebuild its economy	Organised big loans of 800 million marks from the USA as part of the Dawes Plan. This would be used to invest into German industry.			

