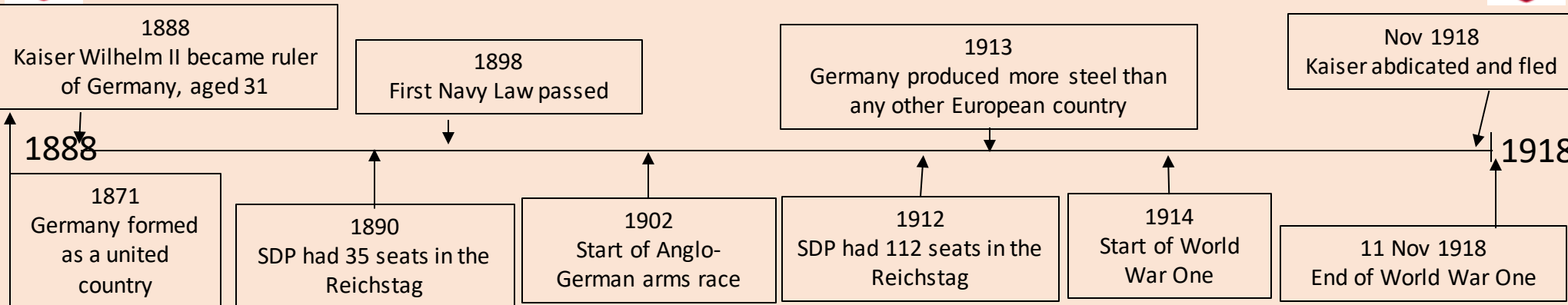




History

GCSE

Kaiser Wilhelm's Germany



Dictator	German ruler, like an emperor or king
Autocratic	Someone who insists on everyone following their ideas
Reichstag	The German parliament
Socialism	A movement which supports the workers and ordinary people
Militarism	The belief that a strong armed forces is necessary for success
Chancellor	The chief minister in German government
SPD	Social Democrat Party – socialist party in Germany
Weltpolitik	Literally ‘world policy’ – focused on making Germany strong internationally
Imperialism	Desire for an empire (to rule over other countries)

Key person profile – Kaiser Wilhelm II

- Born 1859, died 1941
- Ruled Germany 1888 – 1918
- Grandson of Queen Victoria
- Born with a withered left arm
- Autocratic ruler with a strong belief in militarism
- An ambitious man who wanted Germany to compete on the world stage
- He had a violent temper and insisted on getting his own way
- Abdicated in Nov 1918 at the end of WWI

Impact of WWI on Germany

- Drop in industrial production to 2/3 of pre-war levels
- Death of approx. 2 million soldiers
- British naval blockades cause food shortages and starvation
- Riots and rebellions against the government
- Kaiser Wilhelm abdicated – leaving Germany needing a new government
- Huge financial impact - debts

Exam technique tip - ‘Describe two....’
 Four mark question = 1 paragraph = 5 minutes

Make sure you describe two things which answer the question – read it carefully!
 Two marks for identifying points, show some knowledge / detail to get the full four marks.