

The Early days of the Weimar Republic

Instructions: Use the sources to try and ascertain what the different reasons for the early problems faced by the Weimar Republic were. For each statement find evidence to support the statement and make a note of any political groups, organisations or individuals who were responsible for spreading these ideas or creating these situations.

Statement	Evidence	People involved
The Weimar Republic was blamed for losing the war and accepting a harsh peace settlement.		
Economic instability led to political polarization and the emergence of extremist groups.		
The government was too weak to enforce laws.		
The German people had no desire to be governed by a democratic institution and looked to powerful groups to take control.		
The military wanted to retain power and influence in Germany.		
Extremist groups sought to take advantage of the weakened German government.		

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Uprising	What was the aim of the rebellion?	What factors enabled the rebellion to be as successful as it was?	How did the government overcome the crisis?
Kiel Mutiny			
Spartacist Uprising			
Bavarian Uprising			
Kapp Putsch			
Beer Hall Putsch			

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A number of different factors caused these uprisings. These factors are each the result of different events and emotions and each led invariably to further problems for the new Weimar Republic. Complete this chart to highlight the root causes of the different problems faced by the Weimar Government.

Caused by	Factor	Leads to
Defeat in the First World War	Discontent of the military	Powerful groups such as the Freikorps
	Economic problems	
	Unemployment	
	Political extremism	
	Contempt of Peace Settlement	

*There are other factors that you may have identified. These can be added to the foot of your chart.