Source F: Photo of the Nazi Youth organisation, Buecherverbrennung, book burning event on 30 April 1936.

(a) Study Source A.
What can you tell from this source about attitudes towards the Jews in Nazi Germany? Use details of the source and your own knowledge to explain your answer. [5]

There was discrimination/prejudice against the Jews: damage to the synagogue, invasion of their accommodation and the lack of help from the police.

Anti-Semitism as Jews were blamed for all of Germany’s ills and hence, Jews were mistreated, deprived and humiliated. In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws defined Jews by race and mandated the total separation of “Aryans” and “non-Aryans”.

Overall, such attitudes contributed to the event of social oppression seen in Source A. Source comes from a Jewish man about his memories of Kristallnacht, which was a campaign of terror unleashed on Jews in 1939, aiming to legally and socially segregate Jews from Germans. This source thus serves to evince a genuine experience of German attitudes to Jews.

(b) Study Sources A and B.
Is one of these sources more useful than the other as evidence about Kristallnacht? Explain your answer. [6]

Judge the reliability of each source as the ground for judgement.

Source A is more useful than Source B as evidence because it showed the extent of influence the Gestapo and SS had over the German people and the use of violence to control the non-Aryan Germans. Kristallnacht was a campaign of terror to be unleashed on Jews in Germany and German officials announced that it had erupted as a spontaneous outburst of public sentiment in response to the assassination of a German embassy official stationed in Paris, by a Jew. Source A showed clearly the impact of Kristallnacht as the Nazis had also looted and destroyed shops and synagogues. This was consistent with my own knowledge of the impact of Kristallnacht. Source B was a directive by the Gestapo in the night after what happened on 9 November in Source A. Kristallnacht was carried out by the SA paramilitary forces and non-Jewish civilians. German authorities looked on without intervening.

(c) Study Source C.
What is the message of the source? Explain your answer, using details of the source and your knowledge. [5]

Source C is a propaganda material intending to propagate the view that the role of women in Germany is to be good wives and mothers who should bear children. It also seeks to promote the view that women should educate their children to be loyal and pledge their lives to the Fuhrer and the nation. Since the Nazis came to power, they confined women to the roles of mother and spouse. Hence, this photo was printed in a German magazine to affirm the identity of the woman, the superior Aryan race and the ideal Aryan family in Germany. This was to communicate that life under Nazi rule was peaceful. This message in turn had the bigger purpose of ensuring that people remained loyal to the Nazi Party.
(b) "Stalin had ruled the Soviet Union successfully between the years 1928 – 1933." Do you agree?

P: Yes, he ruled the Soviet Union successfully as people's lives improved.
E: The state took care of people by providing free healthcare, education, food and clothing for meeting people's basic needs. Due to collectivisation (and rapid industrialisation), introduced in 1928, job opportunities were available to people and they could earn a wage to support their living needs better.
E: People's basic housing, food and health needs were met better as compared to the time before Stalin ruled the Soviet Union. There was enough grain being produced after 1928 from collectivisation to feed people living in towns and fewer people went hungry.
L: The standard of living was raised when Stalin ruled and hence he ruled successfully.

P: No, he did not rule successfully socially.
E: There were harsh working terms.
E: People had to work long hours in poor factory conditions to fulfil Stalin's ambitious goals for his Five-Year Plans and were underpaid for their effort. Stalin's goal of producing 8 million tonnes of steel by 1932 was not met by workers, partly due to their poor working conditions and lack of motivation to put in effort to meet the quota.
E: People's basic housing, food and health needs were met better as compared to the time before Stalin ruled the Soviet Union. There was enough grain being produced after 1928 from collectivisation to feed people living in towns and fewer people went hungry.
L: In just a few years, the Soviet Union progressed so rapidly under Stalin's rule that it become known as the second most industrialised nation in the world, after the United States of America.

P: No, he did not rule successfully politically.
E: Stalin carried out purges during his rule to eliminate any opposition towards him among the Soviets. Scientists, administrators, and teachers who possessed anti-Communist Party opinions were executed.
E: The number of useful workers decreased, affecting progress towards industrial output. Factories produced faulty goods in the Five-Year Plans. Mass exodus of national assets and problems by the government was less effective because of the loss of skilled administrators, especially since they were all the more needed at a time when the Communist Party was expanding state control.
L: Further growth and prosperity of the Soviet Union was impeded.

P: In conclusion, no, he did not rule successfully.
E: People lived in constant fear due to the Communist Party's state control and political purges, and thus faced undue stress not only from poor working conditions, but also from fear of being executed by the government.
E: This caused workers to lose motivation to work harder for rapid industrialisation. Although initially there was optimism for a better life among workers, in the end it gave way to realities on the ground. The nation was affected negatively long-term due to this – economic progress was stunted when it could have reached greater heights.
L: The Soviet Union was not able to compete with the progress of the United States of America, and besides that, faced social and political problems due to Stalin's rule.
(b) “Stalin’s economic policies were effective in creating an industrialised Soviet Union.” Do you agree?

P: Yes, Stalin’s economic policies were effective in creating an industrialised Soviet Union.
E: The Soviet Union was modernised due to the advent of rapid industrialisation.
E: The state provided workers with modern equipment such as tractors, so they could work more efficiently. Thus, productivity increased. New roads were built and there was an increased power supply with 13 billion kilowatts per hour of electricity produced in 1932, greater than what was produced in 1928.
L: In just a few years, the Soviet Union progressed so rapidly under Stalin’s rule that it become known as the second most industrialised nation in the world, after the United States of America.

P: No, Stalin’s economic policies were ineffective in creating an industrialised Soviet Union.
E: There were harsh working terms. People had to work long hours in poor factory conditions to fulfil Stalin’s ambitious goals for his Five-Year Plans and were underpaid for their effort.
E: Stalin’s goal of producing 8 million tonnes of steel by 1932 was not met by workers, partly due to their poor working conditions and lack of incentive to put in effort to meet the quota.
L: Though Stalin changed his economic policies to improve national productivity, it failed when deadlines for goals were nearing as people were pressured to fulfils quotas which caused them to be unhappy and unable to toil as hard as Stalin expected them to. It impeded the rate of industrialisation in the Soviet Union.

P: Yes, Stalin’s economic policies were effective due to the implementation of collectivisation.
E: After 1928, all land and crops were state-owned. The quantities of crops to produce, working hours, and wages were all planned out and fixed by the state. Those who produced low quantities were punished.
E: More crops were produced which could be exported to raise funds for industrialisation. Food supply became more secure which provided energy to workers, to work at a faster and more efficient rate, for industrialisation. Workers had food to eat and thus, had fuel that they needed to increase their work productivity in factories. The Soviet Union’s production of materials thus increased a lot. Production of coal increased from 12 million tonnes in 1928 to 21 in 1932, for instance.
L: Heavy industries became more prominent and the economy was boosted due to extra food being generated from collectivisation.

P: No, Stalin’s economic policies were ineffective as the success of collectivisation was short-lived.
E: As many people did not want to hand over their private property to the state, they burned their crops and killed their animals, which decreased harvests and productivity. Food supply was severely affected.
E: Grain harvest dropped drastically from 1928–1934, and did not recover to the 1928 level for many years. Thus food supply again became insecure and workers had less food for a few years. Many workers died in the Great Famine from 1932–1933, slowing the productivity of the Soviet Union.
L: The aims of collectivisation to secure food supply for workers and raise funds for industrialisation were not met as not enough food was being produced to feed Stalin’s own people, let alone be exported.

P: In conclusion, no, Stalin’s economic policies were ineffective as their success was short-lived.
E: Though people were initially eager to work hard for a better life after the hardships they faced under the Tsar’s rule, this gave way to realities on the ground: gruelling working conditions, stress from having to fulfils quotas, and a decreased standard of living.
E: Industrialised factories over-produced certain goods to meet the quotas set by the state, and used up resources such as iron at a fast rate, leading to some items being under-produced, causing a lack of consumer goods, or even basic necessities such as food.
L: The Soviet Union saw an economic slowdown after 1937, so much so that industries such as oil stopped growing.
(b) “Stalin's policies were supported by most Russian people during his years in power.” Do you agree?

P: Yes, Stalin’s policies were supported by industrial workers because they improved the standard of living.
E: Stalin introduced rapid industrialisation of Soviet industries. Factories were built to produce machinery and other advanced technology that benefitted the people, since it made work more efficient.
E: Tractors were used in farms instead of manual labour, thus increasing productivity of people’s work as they could produce more goods and exert less labour or energy while doing so.
L: The standard of living and working was raised, and this was welcome by the Russians.

P: No, some policies were not supported by kulaks, such as collectivisation.
E: Stalin’s plan to convert farmland areas into state-owned areas to be state-controlled was met with opposition, as people did not want to lose land and goods that they rightfully owned, to the state.
E: When Soviet authorities began confiscating animals and land from people, they chose to burn crops and kill their animals instead to prevent authorities taking them away. This caused the Great Famine from 1932 – 1933.
L: Over a million Russians died of starvation during the severe famine.

P: Yes, Stalin’s policies were supported by women because there was greater gender equality.
E: Women’s importance in society was raised as Stalin encouraged them to enter the workforce.
E: Women could hold jobs as important as men’s in factories and industries, working to produce goods. Stakhanovites who were named by the government for being exemplary workers that worked harder than was expected of them, also included women.
L: Women were more greatly viewed as equals and had a greater say in society. Men and women also benefitted from greater manpower in industries.

P: No, some policies were not supported, such as rapid industrialisation.
E: Industrialised factories over-produced certain goods to meet the quotas set by the state, and used up resources such as iron at a fast rate, leading to some items being under-produced, causing a lack of consumer goods, or even basic necessities such as food.
E: People’s standard of living dropped, especially during famine from 1932 – 1933.
L: People became unhappy due to the fall in quality of life.

P: In conclusion, Stalin’s policies were supported as he oversaw the rapid industrialisation and technological advancement of the Soviet Union.
E: Stalin boosted the economy by creating jobs for people in factories.
E: Despite a fall in the standard of living due to collectivisation and industrialisation, success was enjoyed by all due to the standardisation of work and goods produced, so the state ensured that everyone received an equal share of reward for the work of the entire nation.
L: The Soviet Union gradually became only second to the United States in the world in terms of industrialisation.