The King’s role in Spain was held under a particularly interrogating light after the Wall Street Crash of 1929, subsequently the Great Depression plunged the majority of Spain’s population into further poverty, and yet the monarchy continued to enjoy abundant wealth. It is telling that Alfonso XIII allowed the municipal elections of 1931 to take place and yet reveal the glaringly obvious lack of support for the monarchy from Spaniards.

Furthermore the organisation of opposition to Alfonso’s office was growing prominent. The San Sebastian Pact indicates that representatives from all walks of the political spectrum (Republicans, Catalans, Liberals and Socialists) came together in 1930. Although this pact was intended to be secretive the King soon found out; clearly it would have been wise for him to swiftly abdicate rather than face the full force of political muscle against him; he may have been assassinated as a result of his defiance. King Alfonso would have most likely wanted protect his wealth and lifestyle, and become exiled, rather than remain stubborn and face execution.

The importance of Primo’s failures to the eventual abdication of the King is significant. They both represented for the Spanish people figures of the past; the old, backward Spain, behind socially, economically and politically. As Primo’s popularity plummeted the legitimate foundations of King Alfonso’s position of authority also crumbled. The fact that Alfonso was unable to organise a strong military dictatorship post-Primo further added to his perceived inadequacy for fulfilling the needs of a desperate Spain. However inadequate the King was in himself, the monarchy had not been politically effective in Spain for ages. The failures & fall of Primo and the instability that followed was what really pushed the Spanish people towards Republicanism. The strength of this fresh ideology was what made the San Sebastian Pact possible, which was a very real & scary threat towards the position of King Alfonso XIII. If Primo’s dictatorship had remained successful, he would have retained his grip on and support from the Spanish people, as well as retaining his arrangement with King Alfonso XIII. Therefore, I conclude that the failure of Primo’s dictatorship was truly entirely to blame for the abdication of King Alfonso XIII.

Questions
Is my introduction too long?
When I mention things like ‘promotion by merit’ should I explain these terms?
What should a topic sentence look like?
Can I use ‘Primo’ and ‘de Rivera’ interchangeably?
At the end of each paragraph, should I argue back on my point?
Have I not written enough?