

CURRICULAR ADAPTATION WORKSHEET 2

THE INTER-WAR YEARS

Name: _____ Course: _____ Date: _____

2. THE EVOLUTION OF DEMOCRACY



At the end of the First World War, democracy continued to be the form of government in Europe. During the inter-war years, democratic governments went through a certain amount of instability, but they remained intact.

In the United States, democracy had different characteristics to those European countries. The main difference was bipartisanship, a two party political system.

1. Put the name of the corresponding countries.

- a) In _____ after the fall of the Second Reich, a constitutional democracy was established, called the Weimar Republic.
- b) In _____ the Liberal Party adopted measures to reduce the high rate of unemployment, and introduced improved medical services and subsidised housing.
- c) In _____, post-war economic problems, such as high prices and tax increases, provoked many strikes and tension between left-wing parties and conservative parties. But democracy was never in danger.

2. Put the evolution of European democracy in order.

Democratic governments adopted contradictory measures. On the one hand, they established universal suffrage, but on the other hand, they established limits to citizen's rights when there were protests (demonstrations and strikes) about the shortage of food or the increase in unemployment.

The conservative middle class, worried about the increasing importance of the workers' parties, supported the authoritarian parties. These parties became very popular in Germany and Italy.

The popular masses reacted by voting in elections for workers' parties that defended their interests. As a result, the representation of these moderate left parties increased in parliaments (they defended the rights of workers within a democratic system): the Labour Party in Great Britain, the Socialists in France and the Social Democrats in Germany. Support for communist (extreme left) parties also increased. They were more revolutionary and their aim was to establish a working class dictatorship.

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3. Match each party of the United States to its characteristics.

The Democratic Party

The Republican Party

_____ was a left-wing party that also defended capitalism. They support government intervention in economy and the existence of trade unions. They represented the interests of the middle and the working class.

_____ was a right-wing conservative party that defended capitalism and free market economy. They opposed government intervention in economy and they opposed the trade unions. They represented the interests of wealthy business owners.

4. Define the following concepts.

Klu Klux Klan:

Weimar Republic:

Isolationist foreign policy:

New Deal:
