RHINELAND REMILITARISED 1936

Lord Lothian.

$C \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow A^*$ JUDGE

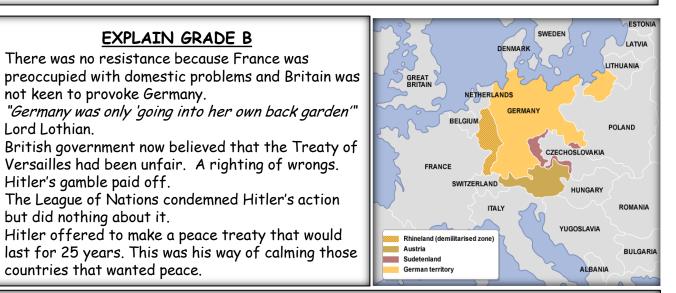
- The Treaty of Versailles demilitarised the Rhineland this meant that Germany would not be able to keep military forces in a 50km stretch of the Rhineland.
- Hitler resented this term because it made Germany vulnerable to invasion. Hitler was determined to rearm Germany and strengthen German borders.



CAN YOU SPELL? Remilitarised Rhineland Treaty of Versailles

DESCRIBE GRADE C

- Whilst the rest of the world was watching Abyssinia, Hitler ordered his troops to occupy the Rhineland.
- On 7th March 1936 German troops moved back into the Rhineland.
- This was German territory but had been declared demilitarised at the Treaty of Versailles.
- This was a calculated risk by Hitler.
- It was a clear breech of the Treaty of Versailles and broke the terms of the Locarno Treaty.
- Hitler and his generals were nervous. It was a **bluff** the German army had only 22,000 soldiers and had strict orders to retreat if they met any resistance.
- German troops were in no position to stand up to the French army if it reacted.



ASSESS RESULTS GRADE A

- Hitler openly broke the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations let him.
- Hitler's prestige soared especially in Germany.
- Hitler's position strengthened & it increased his confidence.
- It was the start of a feeling that he would always get away with it (Britain & France would always back down) that led to WWII in the end.
- Led to the signing of the Rome-Berlin Axis.
- Encourages Hitler to try to reunite with Austria Anschluss.