



How did Hitler gain control?

This will test your understanding of some of the techniques Hitler and the Nazis used to gain control of the people.

Source A

'I'm beginning to comprehend, I think, some of the reasons for Hitler's astounding success ... He is restoring pageantry and colour and mysticism to the drab lives of twentieth century Germans ... The hall was a sea of brightly coloured flags. Even Hitler's arrival was made dramatic. The band stopped playing. There was a hush over 30,000 people packed in the hall. Then the band struck up the Badenweiler march, a very catchy tune and used only, I'm told, when Hitler makes his big entries. Hitler appeared at the back of the auditorium, and, followed by his aides Goering, Goebbels, Hess, Himmler and the others, he strode slowly down the long centre aisle while 30,000 hands were raised in salute ... In such an atmosphere no wonder, then, that every word dropped by Hitler seemed like an inspired word from on high. Man's - or at least the German's - critical faculty is swept away at such moments and every lie pronounced is accepted as high truth itself.'

Resource by Mr Yelland
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This extract is taken from William Shirer's Berlin diary, published in 1941 (Shirer was an American reporter who was in Germany at this time).

The question

Using the information in these sources, decide whether the following statements are **true** or **false** in explaining how party rallies were carefully managed to make people think of Hitler as a great leader.

	True	False
1. Hitler arrived punctually.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Rallies were held in huge arenas with the people carefully arranged in groups.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. There were lots of flags and symbols.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Many rallies were held at night and included torchlight processions and bonfires.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Hitler was the only speaker.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Hitler would study the crowd and wait quietly to be introduced.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. The SS men were scattered throughout the crowd to keep people under control.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. His speeches were long and complex because he wanted to convince the people that his ideas were right.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. He was very dramatic and emotional.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. The crowds listened to Hitler in silence.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>