**NEWSPAPER REPORT ON THE 1923 MUNICH PUTSCH**

Create a newspaper report on the Munich Putsch-pay attention to the success criteria below when writing your report:

* A newspaper headline and name
* A newspaper feel
* Pictures
* Use of columns
* Historical knowledge
* Interviews with those involved
* Clearly tells the story
* Uses the sources below
* A interpretation of whether the putsch was a success or a failure for the Nazis

**Source 1: Witness at the trial Karl von Muller**

"(When he spoke) it was a rhetorical masterpiece. In fact, in a few sentences he totally transformed the mood of the audience. I have rarely experienced anything like it."

**Source 2: Munich SA leader Wilhelm Brucker**

"I said to Hitler personally: "The day is coming when I can no longer hold my people. If nothing happens now the men will melt away. We had very many unemployed men among us, men who had spent their last few pence on training, because, as they said, we will strike soon. Then we will be taken into the army and we will be out of the entire mess."

**Source 3:** [**http://www.ushmm.org**](http://www.ushmm.org)

On November 8–9, 1923, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party led a coalition group in an attempted coup d'état which came to be known as the Beer Hall *Putsch*. They began at the *Bürgerbräu Keller* in the Bavarian city of Munich, aiming to seize control of the state government, march on Berlin, and overthrow the German federal government. In its place, they sought to establish a new government to oversee the creation of a unified Greater German Reich where citizenship would be based on race. Although the putsch failed—and Bavarian authorities were able to prosecute nine participants, including Hitler—the leaders ultimately redefined it as a heroic effort to save the nation and integrated it into the mythos of Hitler and the Nazis' rise to power.

**Source 4: In 1923** [**Ernst Hanfstaengel**](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/GERhanfstaengel.htm) **took part in the** [**Beer Hall Putsch**](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/GERbeer.htm)**. He wrote about the experience in his book, *Hitler: The Missing Years* (1957)**

Kahr was sending us off to sleep. He had just said the words "and now I come to the consideration" which, for all I know, was to be the high spot of his speech, when the door behind us which we had come through flew open and in burst Goering with about twenty-five brownshirts with pistols and machine-guns. Hitler began to plough his way towards the platform and the rest of us surged forward behind him. Tables overturned with their jugs of beer. On the way we passed a major named Mucksel, one of the heads of the intelligence section at Army headquarters, who started to draw his pistol as soon as he saw Hitler approach, but the bodyguard had covered him with theirs and there was no shooting.

Hitler clambered on a chair and fired a round at the ceiling. It is always maintained that he did this to terrify the gathering into submission, but I swear he did it to wake people up. Anyway, on home ground at last, Hitler barked an impromptu proclamation: "The national revolution has broken out. The Reichswehr is with us. Our flag is flying on their barracks."

**Source 5:** [**Adolf Hitler**](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/GERhitler.htm)**, speech made at the Burgerbraukeller, (8th November, 1923)**

The Bavarian Ministry is removed. I propose that a Bavarian government shall be formed consisting of a Regent and a Prime Minister invested with dictatorial powers. I propose Herr von Kahr as Regent and Herr Pohner as Prime Minister. The government of the November Criminals and the Reich President are declared to be removed. I propose that, until accounts have been finally settled with the November criminals, the direction of policy in the national Government be taken over by me. Ludendorff will take over the leadership of the German National Army, Lossow will be German Reichswehr Minister, Seisser Reich Police Minister.

**Source 6: Rudolf Olden, *Hitler the Pawn* (1936)**

Hitler wanted "to make himself scarce," to retreat with the fighting leagues to Rosenheim. This simply meant flight. The General had another plan. He was certain of success. No German, at any rate no German in uniform, would shoot at the "General of the World War," at the national hero. At about noon a procession of 2000 National Socialists marched, twelve abreast, through the town. At first shot Hitler had flung himself to the ground. He sprained his arm, but this did not prevent him from running. He found his car and drove into the mountains.

**Source 7: Official biography of** [**Adolf Hitler**](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/GERhitler.htm) **published by the** [**Nazi Party**](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/GERnazi.htm) **(1934)**

Hitler shouted. "Close the ranks," and linked arms with his neighbours. The body of the man with whom Hitler was linked shot up into the air like a ball, tearing Hitler's arm with him, so that it sprang from the joint and fell back limp and dead. Hitler approached the man and stooped over him. Blood was pouring from his mouth. Hitler picked him up and carried him on his shoulders. "If I can only get him to the car," Hitler thought, "then the boy is saved."

**Source 8: An account by Karl von Muller. He was an historian who was at the meeting. This account is based on evidence he gave at Hitler’s trial.**

Kahr had spoken for half an hour. Then there was movement at the entrance as if people wanted to push their way in. Despite several warnings, the disturbance did not die down so Kahr had to stop speaking.

Eventually, steel helmets came into site. From this moment on, the view from my seat was rather obscured… The hall was still restless. Hitler made a sign to the man on his right, who fired a shot at the ceiling. Thereupon Hitler called out: ‘The national revolution has broken out. The hall is surrounded.’…

An hour later after Hitler’s first appearance, the three gentleman came back into the hall with Hitler and Ludendorff. They were enthusiastically received. On the platform Kahr began to speak first without being requested to. The other two gentleman spoke only after repeated requests..

**Source 9: William L. Shirer, The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, 1959**

.. This Ludendorff proceeded to do; it is now a question of a great national cause, he said, and he advised the three gentleman to cooperate. Awed by the attention of the generalissimo, the trio appeared to give in. Ludendorff’s timely arrival had saved Hitler. Overjoyed at his lucky break, Hitler led the others back to the platform, where each made a brief speech and swore loyalty to each other and to the new regime. The crowd leaped on chairs and tables in a delirum of enthusiasm, and Hitler beamed with joy. The meeting began to break up.