Which of Hitler’s actions are represented here?
After Anschluss, why did Hitler feel so confident?

- Got away with Rhineland and Anschluss.
- Britain and France and the LoN had not stopped him.
- His army had grown to **600,000 men by 1938** (he had **1.5 million by 1939**, with 3500 tanks).
- He had a larger population than before.
- He had alliances (**Anti-Comintern Pact and Rome-Berlin Axis**).
Four big questions about the Sudeten Crisis:

- Why did Hitler want the Sudetenland?
- What was the “Sudeten Crisis”?
- What was the Munich Agreement?
- Why were the Sudeten Crisis and Munich Conference so important?
Why did Hitler want the Sudetenland?

• 3 million German speakers
• Position next to Germany
• Well fortified area of mountains
• Resources in the region would be useful
What was the “Sudeten Crisis”?

• Hitler encouraged, Henlein, leader of Sudeten Nazi Party, to rebel. He promised to support them if they needed help.
• Chamberlain met Hitler at Berchtesgaden (15th Sept 1938).
• Hitler demanded the German speaking areas of Sudetenland after a plebiscite.
• Britain and France agreed, and forced President Benes to accept.
• Chamberlain went back to tell Hitler at Bad Godesberg (22nd Sept 1938) the good news.
• Hitler demanded that he be given the areas immediately without plebiscite.
• Chamberlain refused and flew back to London and started to prepare for war.

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What was the Munich Agreement?

• Mussolini invited Hitler, Daladier and Chamberlain to meet in Munich to discuss the problem of the Sudetenland.
• They met on the 30th September, 1938.
• They agreed that Hitler could have the Sudetenland.
• Britain and France guaranteed to protect the rest of Czechoslovakia.
IMPORTANT LEARNING POINT 1 – STALIN WAS NOT INVITED TO THE MEETING

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IMPORTANT LEARNING POINT 2 – CHAMBERLAIN AND HITLER HAD A PRIVATE MEETING AFTER THE MUNICH CONFERENCE

PEACE IN OUR TIME!

1ST October 1938
Why were the Sudeten Crisis and Munich Conference so important?

1. Hitler realised that he had almost pushed too far (in Poland, 1939, he made sure he got USSR on his side)
2. Britain and France had betrayed Czechoslovakia
3. Czechoslovakia lost its defensive frontier - a year later Hitler took the rest of the country anyway, and no-one stopped him.
4. Germany had more resources and weapons.
5. Britain had sped up rearmament
6. Russia felt betrayed.