Germany Unites!

In 1815, the Congress of Vienna, decided that the German states will unite to form the German Confederation. The two strongest powers were Austria and Prussia during the early 19th century, Austria having the upper hand because of its population and wealth. Austria opposed German unification because it threatened their Austrian Empire. The Congress of Vienna gave Prussia the Rhineland (rich in coal and iron), leading to the construction of railroads. After experiencing extreme difficulty in trading with the German Confederation, the Prussian king Frederick William III formed the Zollverein, or trade union, in order to eliminate trade tariffs between the German states. The Zollverein was essential to the German industrial revolution because it provided a free trade zone in central Europe, allowing the expansion of railroads. However, the German Revolutions of 1848 brought in Wilhem I as ruler since the Germans wanted a more liberal government, supported by the newly found Progressive Party. Frederick wanted a constitutional monarchy and so he was removed from power.

Prime Minister Otto Von Bismarck (1862 - 1890): a Junker (landowning class) intellectual who created a conservative nationalistic Germany. He distrusted Catholicism, socialism and the West. He believed “blood and iron” (War and Industrialization) would unify German under Prussian leadership. He practiced realpolitik, “politics of reality” with no room for idealism. In order to enlarge Prussia, he joined with Austria against Denmark (who wanted to annex the German states Schleswig and Holstein) during the German-Danish War 1864. Prussia took Schleswig increasing it's national pride and Austria took Holstein. Bismarck foresaw controversy with Austria. The future of these two properties was decided by the Treaty of Gastein (Aug. 14, 1865) which both Austria and Prussia accused each other of breaking. This dispute brought up the issue of which power, Austria or Prussia, would dominate the German Confederation. Before this controversy occurred, Bismarck isolated Austria by negotiating a non-intervention pact with England, getting the support of Russia (angry at Austria over the Crimea), and promised Venetia to Italy. With this, Austrian power was weakened. Bismarck then picked a quarrel with Austria over Holstein, leading to the Seven Weeks War (Austrian-Prussian War 1866) between Prussia and both Austria and the states of the German Confederation. The Prussians utterly destroyed the Austrians at the Battle of Koniggratz (Sadowa). A preliminary peace, called Treaty of Prague, was signed, leading to Austria's loss of Venetia to Italy and the North German Confederation, a union of 21 states including Hanover which the Prussians completely dominated. However, the German states south of the Main River—Austria, Bavaria, Baden, Württemburg—remained independent and disunited. The new state was ruled by the King of Prussia, Wilhem I with a Reichstag (Parliament keeping traditional Junker power dynamic) in charge of the military. Spain asked Prussia's royal Hohenzollern family to provide a monarch, Bismarck refusing three times until he made a fourth offer. The French were upset by this and since France did not participate in the Austro-Prussian War, they demanded “revanche for Koniggratz” (revenge for Koniggratz). In a conversation at Ems, Leopold of the Hohenzollern agreed to withdraw his acceptance to the Spanish throne. The French demanded further commitment, especially from the Prussian king that there will be no candidate for the Spanish throne (meaning possible alliance with Spain). Wilhem refused. Bismarck then edited the message from France to the king, creating the Ems Dispatch, which sounded as if the French were threatening war if their demand was not fulfilled. This sparked the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871), the French losing in the end. The war ended with the Battle of Sedan, the Prussians capturing Napoleon III, overthrowing the liberal government and establishing the Second Reich.

Meanwhile, Bismarck headed kulturekampf (1871) a conflict between the German government and the papacy for the control of schools and Church appointments. After the Palace of Versailles was captured and the French were forced to sign the Treaty of Frankfurt (1871) giving up Alsace and Lorraine. Wilhem I is proclaimed as Emperor of Germany in Versailles.
Bismarck and Unification-

It is important to note that there is much debate about Bismarck’s aims to unify all German states under Prussian rule. Some historians argue that Bismarck only intended to unify the north German states but the strength of nationalist feelings after 1866 led to German unification under its own steam. According to this opinion, Bismarck actually reacted to political changes in other German states and capitalized on it rather than pursuing a master plan from the beginning to control all German states.

Italy Unites!

In 1815 at the Congress of Vienna, Prince Metternich of Austria ignores the Italian cries for unity causing Italy to divide. Austria controlled the Northern parts of Italy, the Pope controlled the Papal States, Marie Louise controlled Parma, the Hapsburg princes controlled Tuscany and Modena, the King of Sardinia controlled Piedmont and Sardinia, and Kingdom of the Two Sicilies was controlled by the Bourbon King Ferdinand IV. Early attempts of Italian Unification occurred in 1831 when Giuseppe Mazzini “The Beating Heart of Italy” (activist and journalist) founded a group called Young Italy, a secret society formed to promote Italian unification. Mazzini believed that a popular uprising would create a unified Italy, and would start off a European-wide revolutionary movement. He ignited the moral crusade of Risorgimento, Italian spirit of nationalistic resurgence. However, his efforts failed for the Pope had been turned against radical romantic republicanism and so Mazzini was exiled. In 1848 Charles Albert, King of Sardinia (ruler of Piedmont and Savoy), declared war on Austria to obtain Italian independence, starting the First Italian War for Independence. The war ended in 1849 with Austria crushing Sardinia, leading Charles Albert to abdicate his throne to son Victor Emmanuel II. In 1852, Victor Emmanuel II appointed Count Camillo di Cavour as Prime Minister of Piedmont.

Count Camillo di Cavour - The failures of 1848 showed Count Camillo di Cavour to make Piedmont a model of progress that other Italians would admire. He worked hard to plant constitutional and parliamentary practices in Piedmont. He weakened the power of the Church by using a strong anticlerical policy, cutting down the number of religious holidays, limiting the right of church bodies to own real estate, etc. Cavour also used realpolitik “the politics of realism”, working secretly with republicans (whom he disliked). Because he was a constitutional monarchist, he had no sympathy for the Mazzini and his revolutionaries. In 1855 Cavour involved Piedmont on the British and French side of the Crimean War (1853-1856), using the peace conference to give international publicity to the cause of Italian unification. In 1859 the Franco-Austrian War (Italian War of 1859) begins when Cavour tricks Austria into declaring war on Piedmont, the French army rushing to help since Napoleon III was convinced of the need to unify nations, and saw the fight in Italy as a way to win support from French liberals. Both Piedmont and France ended up winning the wars Magenta and Solferino. However, Napoleon III ended up in a difficult situation. The Prussians began mobilization on the Rhine, not wishing France to create an Italian sphere of influence for itself. In Italy, revolutionary agitation broke out with the defeat of the Austrians. Napoleon III, ended up making a separate peace with the Austrians. The Franco-Austrian agreement (1859) gave Lombardy to Piedmont but left Venetia within the Austrian Empire. This offered a compromise solution to the Italian question (turning existing Italian governments into a federal union) to be presided by the pope. Cavour nor the Italian patriots wanted this, so revolution continued to spread. Tuscany, Modena, Parma, and Romagna drove out their rulers, resulting in their annexation to Piedmont due to plebiscites (popular votes). In 1860, the Milles Expedition (Expedition of the Thousand) occurred. The Thousand Red Shirt Army, a unit of volunteers led by Giuseppe Garibaldi (a pupil of Mazzini) landed in Sicily in order to conquer the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies (Sicily & Naples), ruled by the Bourbons.
The expedition was a success and brought Naples and Sicily into the Kingdom of Sardinia. By the end of 1860, Sardinia had gained Northern Italy. In 1861, Victor Emmanuel II was the first king of a united Italy and declared Italy a united nation-state. In 1866, Italy gained Venetia from Berlin after Prussia defeated Austria in the Seven Weeks War.

**Problems After Unification**

In 1870 the pope opposes unification because they saw themselves as prisoners so the church was granted its own land (the Vatican). The south remained the land of priest, landlord, and impoverished peasant, despised by the rich northerners. Lawlessness in Sicily and Naples did not disappear with the overthrow of the Bourbons. Few had the right to vote, and parliamentary life was unrealistic and corrupt.

**Historiography**

There are two theories about why Italy was unified; the first theory is simply that the Italian's enjoyed the principle of a unified Italy, and the second theory is that the “Risorgimento” or movement to unify Italy, was just an imperialist or colonialist venture. The second theory has developed in the last century, and is a classic example of the “revisionism” or “reevaluation” of a specific piece of history. The founder of this new outlook on the “Risorgimento,” or new culture, is Carlo Aliaanello, who in his first novel, The

Ensign expressed a serious accusation to the creators and unification policies of the kingdom of Sardinia. The ideas expressed in his work, which emerged during the fascist period, when the Risorgimento was considered a “intangible” myth, Aliaanello risked his confinement, which he only managed to avoid because of the fall of the regime. With the establishment of the Italian Republic, Aliaanello could further develop his line of thought with the publication of The Legacy of the Prioress, considered by some his greatest work, and The Conquest of the South, often referred to in the essay later revisionist works. In keeping with its 19th-century predecessors, according to Aliaanello the choices made in the unification process, as well as being totally alien to the needs of Southern Italy, have been performed by the Piedmontese, with the involvement of the British government and masonry for the purpose of mere foreign occupation, or imperialism.
1. Bismarck and Cavour share a similarity in that
   a. Both were pro-revolutionary
   b. Both followed the policy of realpolitik
   c. Both manipulated shrewd political tacticians
   d. Both B & C
2. Which two states out of all the German states obtained the most power?
   a. Schlesswig and Holstein
   b. Prussia and Austria
   c. Bohemia and Bavaria
   d. Prussia and Schlesswig
3. Otto von Bismarck is most well known
   a. For continuing to maintain, in spite of political developments, that the Austrian empire was 'great by reason of its education and the intelligence which permeates it!'
   b. For saying “I cannot make a speech, but I can make Germany.”
   c. For his attitude that German unification would be achieved not by speeches and majority resolutions...but by blood and iron.”
   d. For being called “the sick man of Europe” in diplomatic circles.
4. In 1860, which region/city did Sardinia gain?
   a. The Rhineland
   b. Venetia
   c. The Zolverein
   d. Northern Italy
5. Which of following did NOT lead into the Seven Weeks War?
   a. Dispute over the Treaty of Gastein
   b. Prussian and Austrian dispute over who will dominate the German Confederation
   c. Non-intervention pact between Prussia, England, Italy, and Russia
   d. Prussian and Austrian dispute over who will dominate the North German Confederation
6. In what year does the Crimean war end?
   a. 1854
   b. 1855
   c. 1856
   d. 1857
7. Prussia’s defeat of Austria in the 1866 Austro-Prussian war resulted in the creation of
   a. The German Confederation
   b. The North German Confederation
   c. The Reichstag
   d. The German empire
8. The Kingdom of Two Sicilies refers to which two kingdoms?
   a. Naples and Sicily
   b. Naples and Italy
   c. Sicily and Germany
   d. Sicily and Venice
9. Bismarck promised what land to Italy in order to ensure Italian support in a war with Austria?
   a. Alsace-Lorraine
   b. Venetia
   c. The Sudentenland
   d. The Zolverein
10. Who was Giuseppe Mazzini’s pupil?
    a. Cavour
    b. Victor Emmanuel II
    c. Bismarck
    d. Garibaldi
11. What treaty formed the North German Confederation?
    a. Treaty of Gastein
    b. Treaty of Prague
    c. Treaty of Frankfurt
    d. Treaty of Versailles
12. Who was the first King of Italy after Italy was united?
    a. Victor Emmanuel III
    b. Giuseppe Garibaldi
    c. Victor Emmanuel II
    d. Benito Mussolini
13. Which Prussian royal family was asked to provide a monarch to the Spanish?
    a. Hohenzollern
    b. Habsburg
    c. Haigerloch
    d. Hechingen
14. Which country was NOT involved in the Ems Dispatch?
    a. Spain
    b. France
    c. Germany
    d. Italy
15. After Napoleon III was captured by Prussian troops in 1871, the liberals overthrew the government and established the
   a. Third Republic
   b. Third Empire
   c. Second Republic
   d. Second Reich

16. “Risorgimento” means
   a. Revolution
   b. Movement
   c. Resurgence
   d. Riot

17. Nationalism played a different role in Europe in the years after the 1848 Revolutions than it had before. Which of the following is true about nationalism in the post-1848 period?
   a. It lost ground to liberalism
   b. It became associated with revolution
   c. It had the same unifying effect in all European states
   d. It became a tool used by elite politicians for state-building

18. How did Italy become involved in the Crimean War?
   a. The war was brought onto Italian soil
   b. The British forced Italy to join
   c. The French forced Italy to join
   d. Cavour involved Italy

19. The Treaty of Gastein was made between Prussia and
   a. Denmark
   b. France
   c. Austria
   d. England

20. Who controlled the Papal States in 1815?
   a. Austria
   b. Ferdinand IV
   c. The Bourbons

21. Bismarck isolated Austria by making pacts and deals with these three countries
   a. England, Italy, and Russia
   b. Vietnam, Korea, and Russia
   c. The United States, England, and Italy

22. Giuseppe Mazzini’s nickname was
   a. “The Beating Stomach of Italy”
   b. “The Throbbing Heart of Italy”
   c. “The Beating Hearty of Italy”
   d. “The Empty Stomach of Italy”

23. Bismarck’s policy of “kulturkampf” was an active discrimination against
   a. Jews
   b. Gypsies
   c. Catholics
   d. Protestants

24. Who are the Red Shirts?
   a. A unit of volunteers involved in the Milles Expedition
   b. A unit of volunteer involved in the Expedition of the Thousand
   c. Both A & B
   d. A secret society formed to promote Italian unification.

25. The Treaty of Prague was a treaty between
   a. France and Austria
   b. Austria and Prussia
   c. Denmark and Italy
   d. England and Austria

26. Which type of government did Garibaldi prefer?
   a. Democracy
   b. Republic
   c. Monarchy
   d. Utopia

27. A Junker is
   a. A German nobleman
   b. A German soldier
   c. A German working class
   d. None of the above

28. Which country wanted Italy to unite the LEAST?
   a. France
   b. Austria
   c. Germany
   d. Britain

29. A “Reichstag” is
   a. A Policy
   b. The Parliament
   c. The military
   d. None of the above
30. What is a plebiscite?
   a. Popular vote
   b. Slave
   c. Home
   d. Village

31. Otto von Bismarck achieved the unification of Germany mainly through warfare. Which of the following is NOT true about the war of 1866, in which Prussia and Austria fought?
   a. Due to the strength of Austria, the war lasted well over a year
   b. Austria was expelled from the German Confederation in the aftermath
   c. Prussia decided against annexing any Austrian territories
   d. It resulted in the formation of the Northern German Confederation

32. Emmanuel II was King of Sardinia and became King of all of Italy after declaring unification. Which of the following is not true of the Italian people in the time of unification?
   a. The majority wanted unification
   b. They wanted to be represented through a constitution
   c. They were strongly opposed to all monarchs
   d. They supported military revolutions in order to achieve their goal
Answer Key for Quiz Section
Most explanations are excerpts from study guide.

1. D - Both Cavour and Bismarck practiced realpolitik “politics of reality”
2. B - Remember that Austria was the most powerful German state during the existence of the German Confederation and Prussia was the most powerful German state during the existence of the Northern German Confederation.
3. C - Bismarck believed “blood and iron” (War and Industrialization) would unify German under Prussian leadership. “The sick man of Europe” referred to the Ottoman Empire in 1914.
4. D - By the end of 1860, Sardinia had gained Northern Italy
5. D - The North German Confederation was a result of the Treaty of Prague, the treaty that ended the Seven Weeks War.
6. C - Crimean War (1853-1856)
7. B - The Prussians utterly destroyed the Austrians at the Battle of Koniggratz (Sadowa), the last battle of the Seven Weeks War. A preliminary peace, called Treaty of Prague, was signed, leading to Austria’s loss of Venetia to Italy and the North German Confederation.
8. A - Kingdom of the Two Sicilies (Sicily & Naples)
9. B - Bismarck isolated Austria by negotiating a non-intervention pact with England, getting the support of Russia (angry at Austria over the Crimea), and promised Venetia to Italy.
10. D - Giuseppe Garibaldi (a pupil of Mazzini)
11. B - Treaty of Prague, was signed, leading to Austria’s loss of Venetia to Italy and the North German Confederation.
12. A - Victor Emmanuel II was the first king of a united Italy and declared Italy a united nation-state.
13. A - Spain asked Prussia’s royal Hohenzollern family to provide a monarch, Bismarck refusing three times until he made a fourth offer.
14. D - The French demanded further commitment, especially from the Prussian king that there will be no candidate for the Spanish throne (meaning possible alliance with Spain). Wilhem refused. Bismarck then edited the message from France to the king, creating the Ems Dispatch.
15. D - The war ended with the Battle of Sedan, the Prussians capturing Napoleon III, overthrowing the liberal government and establishing the Second Reich.
16. C - Risorgimento, Italian spirit of nationalistic resurgence.
17. C - Although before 1848 nationalism was associated with revolutionary aspirations, after 1848 it was associated with a new breed of practical nationalist state-builders, like Italy’s Count Cavour and Germany’s Otto von Bismarck.
18. D - In 1855 Cavour involved Piedmont on the British and French side of the Crimean War (1853-1856), using the peace conference to give international publicity to the cause of Italian unification.
19. A - In order to enlarge Prussia, he joined with Austria against Denmark (who wanted to annex the German states Schleswig and Holstein) during the German-Danish War 1864. Prussia took Schleswig increasing it’s national pride and Austria took Holstein. Bismarck foresaw controversy with Austria. The future of these two properties was decided by the Treaty of Gastein (Aug. 14, 1865).
20. B - Austria controlled the Northern parts of Italy, the Pope controlled the Papal States, Marie Louise controlled Parma…
21. A - Before this controversy occurred, Bismarck isolated Austria by negotiating a non-intervention pact with England, getting the support of Russia (angry at Austria over the Crimea), and promised Venetia to Italy.
22. C - Early attempts of Italian Unification occurred in 1831 when Giuseppe Mazzini “The Beating Heart of Italy” (activist and journalist)…
23. C - Meanwhile, Bismarck headed kulturekampf (1871) a conflict between the German government and the papacy for the control of schools and Church appointments.
24. C - In 1860, the **Milles Expedition** (Expedition of the Thousand) occurred. The **Thousand Red Shirt Army**, a unit of volunteers.

25. B - The Prussians utterly destroyed the Austrians at the **Battle of Koniggratz** (Sadowa). A preliminary peace, called **Treaty of Prague**.

26. A - Because he was a constitutional monarchist, he had no sympathy for the Mazzini and his revolutionaries.

27. A - a **Junker** (landowning class). The landowning class consisted of the aristocracy and nobles.

28. B - Austria did not want Italy to get independence and unite, hence the First Italian War for Independence. Before this war, in 1815 at the **Congress of Vienna**, Prince Metternich of Austria ignores the Italian cries for unity causing Italy to divide.

29. B - The new state was ruled by the King of Prussia, **Wilhem I** with a **Reichstag** (Parliament keeping traditional Junker power dynamic) in charge of the military.

30. A - Tuscany, Modena, Parma, and Romagna drove out their rulers, resulting in their annexation to Piedmont due to **plebiscites** (popular votes).

31. A - Because of the superiority of Prussia's weapons, and the Prussian army's better use of railroads to transport troops, Austria was defeated in just seven weeks, and suffered four times as many casualties on the battlefield.

32. C - Many were unopposed to monarchies if they were constitutional monarchies.

Who became the first Prime Minister of united Italy?