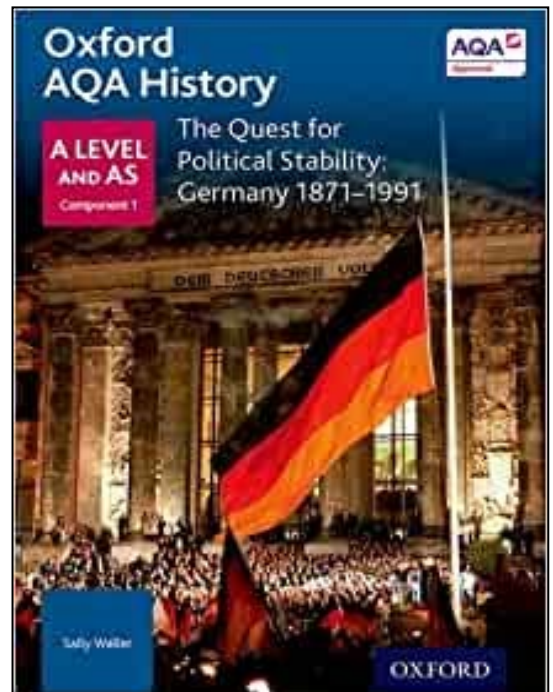
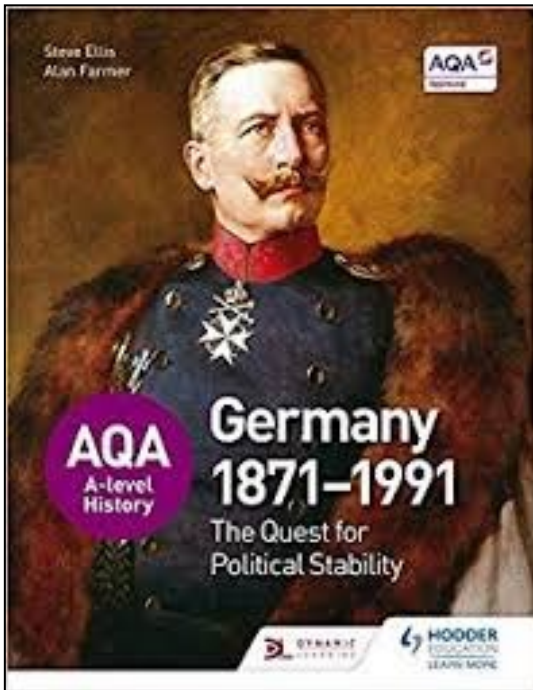


Barrow Hall College

AQA A-Level History



Germany Work Booklet

Unit 1: Bismarck's Germany 1871-90

Name:

Class:

Teacher:

How to use your Germany Workbook

Use the icons in your work booklet to guide you.



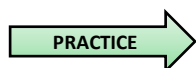
This is an activity for you to be getting on with independently as the lesson begins.



This is information you are being introduced to for the first time, make sure to read this as carefully as possible and highlight any key words or phrases.



These terms or phrases are key to understanding the topic we are studying make sure you know their meanings and that you feel comfortable using them.



This is your chance to work with the new information you are learning about, these short tasks will help develop your understanding of the topic of the lesson.



These short knowledge quizzes provide you with the opportunity to consolidate the key facts and figures from the lesson in one convenient place for revision.



At the conclusion of the lesson you will use this space to consider the enquiry question from the lesson and practice extended writing in your exercise book.

Lesson Topic: The German Empire in 1871	Completed	Assessment /25: _____ Grade_____
1. The make-up of the German Empire		Essay Question:
2. The German Constitution		'The German constitution of 1871 established a democratic form of government in Germany.' Assess the validity of this view.
3. Prussian dominance?		
4. The roles of the Emperor, Chancellor, Reichstag and army		[25 marks] WWW:
5. German disunity		
6. Political groupings, and parties and their ideologies		
7. Assessment: Exam Lesson – Section B Question		EBI:
8. Otto von Bismarck		Essay question: How accurate is to say that Bismarck had little success in domestic affairs from 1871 to 1890? [25 marks]
9. The liberal era, 1871-79		
10. <i>Kulturkampf</i> – causes and actions against Catholic Church		
11. The end of the <i>Kulturkampf</i>		WWW:
12. Treatment of national minorities		
13. Economic protectionism		
14. Bismarck and socialist threat		EBI:
15. State socialism		
16. The role of the Reichstag and the struggle between autocracy and democracy		
17. Bismarck's fall from power		
18. Bismarck overview lesson		
19. Assessment: Exam Lesson – Section B Question		




Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.

DO NOW 



- Write down three questions you would like to ask about this cartoon.
- Leave a line under each question to write the answer at the end of the lesson.



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.

NEW INFO

The extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871

There was no single state of Germany before 1871. Until the early nineteenth century, the area we now think of as Germany had been made up of over 300 different German states all loosely grouped together in the 'Holy Roman Empire'. This had been destroyed by the French Emperor Napoleon in 1806 and, following his defeat in 1815, 39 new states had been established by the Congress of Vienna, in an attempt to create greater stability in the area.

There was competition for influence over these states between Prussia, the largest of the states, and Austria, a German-speaking neighbour. Prussia had played a significant part in the defeat of the French and had acquired new territory in the industrialising Rhineland at the Vienna Congress. King Wilhelm of Prussia and Otto von Bismarck, his **Minister-President** (chief minister) from 1862, took Prussia to war against Austria and forged a new 'North German Confederation' in 1867. Following a further war against the French (the Franco-Prussian War of 1870–71), this Confederation was extended to include the southern states of Germany in May 1871. Thus, in 1871, **Wilhelm I** was proclaimed as German **Kaiser** in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles near Paris. His newly united Germany was hailed the **Kaiserreich** or Second Reich.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Minister-President	Under the Kingdom of Prussia the Minister President functioned as the chief minister of the King. After the unification of Germany in 1871 and until the collapse in 1918, the office of the Prussian Minister President was usually held ex officio by the Chancellor of the German Empire, beginning with the tenure of Otto von Bismarck.
Kaiser	
Kaiserreich	



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.

PRACTICE 1

Explain what the situation in Germany was like before unification in 1871.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

300 German States Holy Roman Prussia

PRACTICE 2

Explain the role of War in unifying Germany as one state.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Austria Franco-Prussian Bismarck Confederation Kaiserreich



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.



Kaiser Wilhelm presided over 26 separate states, including Prussia, which was by far the largest. Prussia comprised over 60 per cent of the area of the Reich and contained a similar proportion of its population. Bavaria was the next largest state. The Reich also included the mainly French-speaking provinces of Alsace-Lorraine in the west, a Danish minority in North Schleswig, and some quite extensive Polish-speaking areas in East Prussia.

Since the Second Reich had 'officially' been formed by the voluntary agreement of its component states and cities, it was accepted that these states would retain their own sovereignty (or right of self-government) over their own internal affairs. This made the new Germany a **federal** state. Twenty-two of these member states (or **Länder**), including Bavaria, Württemberg and Saxony, also retained their own monarchies. Indeed, the state of Bavaria negotiated a considerable degree of **autonomy** (independence), including the right to maintain its own army in peacetime. Grand-dukes ruled in Baden,

Mecklenburg and Hesse, while Hamburg, Lübeck and Bremen were 'free' or self-governing cities. The states thus retained a significant amount of power. However, a new **constitution** (system of government) was essential in order to define the way in which the newly united Reich would be ruled and clarify the powers of its Emperor.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Federal	A system of government in which different states retain some independence in their internal affairs but accept a central government for matters of common importance.
Länder	
Autonomy	
Constitution	



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?

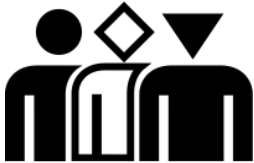


LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.

PRACTICE 1

**Explain the level of diversity in the newly formed Reich and the challenges that could bring
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

French

Polish

Danish

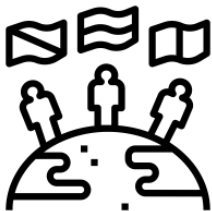
Languages

Alsace-Lorraine

PRACTICE 2

Explain how the new German Reich was a ‘federal’ state.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Federal

Lander

Bavaria

Twenty Two

autonomy



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.



Since the early nineteenth century, German liberals, like those elsewhere in Europe, had been clamouring for a **‘democratic constitution’**. By this, they meant a system in which the power of the ruler and his ministers was limited and that gave the people some control over their own government. The German liberals wanted Germany to have an elected parliament, chosen by ‘the people’ – or at least the wealthiest citizens. The liberals believed that this was the only way to guard the people’s freedom. An elected parliament would represent the people’s views, question ministers’ policies, and ensure that taxes were properly spent. Indeed, the liberals had supported Bismarck’s unification on the understanding that such a constitution would be the result.

However, Bismarck was no liberal. He came from the traditional aristocratic ‘Junker’ class of Prussia; his basic views were **conservative** and his commitment to the **authoritarian** Prussian tradition was strong. He was deeply suspicious of ‘people power’ and, although he claimed to support ‘constitutions’ and appeared to pander to the liberals’ ideas in order to harness their energies in pursuit of a strong, united Germany, his view of what a constitution should be turned out to be very different from theirs.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Democratic Constitution	A system of government that allows the members of the state the right to choose those that govern them, usually through a system of elected representatives.
Conservative	
Authoritarian	



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.

PRACTICE 1

**Explain what the German Liberals wanted politically for their new country.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Elected Parliament

People

Wealthiest

Represent

Question

Taxes

PRACTICE 2

**Explain how Bismarck’s approach differed from the Liberals.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Traditional

Junker

Conservative Authoritarian Support

Pander



Lesson 1: What was the German Empire like in 1871?



LO: To know the key features of the German Empire in 1871.

LO: To be able to explain the extent and make-up of the German Empire in 1871.



Key Knowledge Check

In which year was German Unification?	Which empire were they formally part of?	Which nations had Prussia defeated in recent years?	What was the name of the Kaiser?	What was the name of the name of the chancellor?
Which was the largest state within the empire?	Who was the political architect of German unification?	What was the title of the head of the government?	What were the separate German states called?	What was Germany's system of Gov. called?



➤ What was the German Empire like in 1871?

➤ Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Kaiser

Kaiserreich

Federal

Lander

conservative Authoritarian Prussia

autonomy

Wilhelm

Bismarck

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



NEW INFO

Prussia controlled two thirds of the territory of the new German Empire, contained three fifths of its population, and possessed many of its industrial and mineral resources. The King of Prussia was the Emperor, and the Minister-President of Prussia was the Chancellor. Prussia also dominated the Bundesrat, with 17 of the 58 votes there (Bavaria was next highest with six votes), and the civil service and bureaucracy of the Empire followed the pattern already established in Prussia. The Imperial Army was modelled on the Prussian Army, and law codes were based on the Prussian ones.

Prussia was a strongly authoritarian state. It had its own 'three-class' franchise system, which led to a Prussian Parliament dominated by aristocratic Junkers. Consequently, Prussian influence acted as a brake on democratic change. At the same time, it provided a source of strength, since Prussia's traditions of military prowess and administrative efficiency gave the German people something to be proud of and served as a patriotic focus. It is perhaps no coincidence that Bismarck chose to wear a Prussian military uniform whenever possible throughout his time as Chancellor.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Bundesrat	Representatives from the 25 state governments that made up the Kaiserreich; also known as the Upper House.
Authoritarian	
Junker	

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



PRACTICE

Using the information on the previous page research and label

7 facts about Prussia around your map.



Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?

LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.

NEW INFO

The new constitution

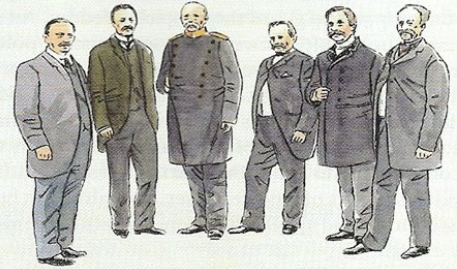
Kaiser

- Was the hereditary monarch (and always the King of Prussia too)
- Appointed/dismissed chancellor and other ministers (Secretaries of State)
- Could call/dissolve the Reichstag
- Commanded the army directly
- Controlled foreign policy, including the right to make treaties and alliances and declare war if attacked
- Gave assent to all laws (with the chancellor)
- Devised policies and laws in consultation with his chosen chancellor, ministers and the Bundesrat
- Had the final say in any dispute over the constitution.



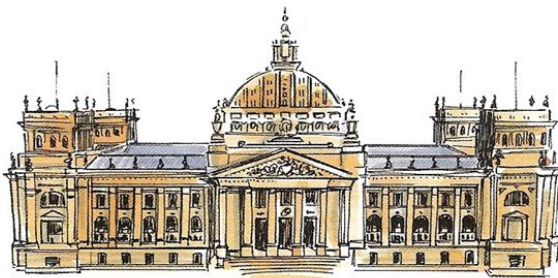
Government (chancellor and ministers)

- Was appointed and dismissed by the Kaiser (and responsible only to him, not to the Reichstag)
- Decided outlines of policy with the Kaiser/ Bundesrat (Were not required to take account of the Reichstag's views/resolutions)
- Chancellor (and Kaiser) gave assent to all laws.



Reichstag (parliament, also known as the Lower House)

- Members (deputies) elected by males over 25 years
- Deputies had the right of free speech
- Elections held every three years by an indirect voting system which varied in different regions
- Gave consent to all laws (including the annual budget which assessed the raising and spending of taxes)
- Could question, debate, agree to or reject a law proposed by the chancellor
- Could not amend a law
- Could not demand the dismissal of the chancellor or any other ministers.



Bundesrat (also known as the Upper House)

- 58 representatives from the 25 state governments in proportion to size of state (Prussia, the 26th and largest state, had 17 members)
- Presided over by the chancellor
- Could initiate legislation
- Decisions decided by majority vote except for any proposal to alter the constitution, which needed a majority of 14
- Had to approve new laws (along with the Reichstag, Kaiser and chancellor)
- Could veto all legislation except a budget approved by the Reichstag
- Had to give approval to the Kaiser for a declaration of war (in cases where Germany was not under attack).



Fig. 4 The constitution of the German Republic

KEY TERMS

Key words:

Constitution = is a set of fundamental principles (rules) according to which a state is governed.

Democratic = the right to vote for an elected representative (government chosen by the people)

Autocratic = a ruler who has absolute power

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



PRACTICE

Kaiser

- Was the hereditary monarch (and always the King of Prussia too)
- Appointed/dismissed chancellor and other ministers (Secretaries of State)
- Could call/dissolve the Reichstag
- Commanded the army directly
- Controlled foreign policy, including the right to make treaties and alliances and declare war if attacked
- Gave assent to all laws (with the chancellor)
- Devised policies and laws in consultation with his chosen chancellor, ministers and the Bundesrat
- Had the final say in any dispute over the constitution.



Part of Government: _____

Democratic or Undemocratic: _____

Explanation:

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Hereditary

Chancellor

Reichstag

Army

Policies

Laws

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

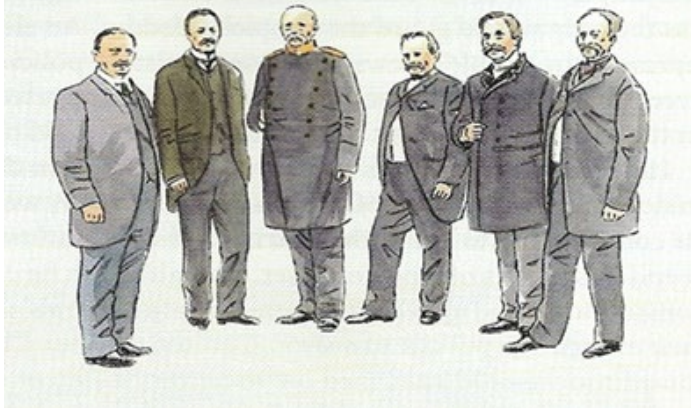
LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



PRACTICE 2

Government (chancellor and ministers)

- Was appointed and dismissed by the Kaiser (and responsible only to him, not to the Reichstag)
- Decided outlines of policy with the Kaiser/ Bundesrat (Were not required to take account of the Reichstag's views/resolutions)
- Chancellor (and Kaiser) gave assent to all laws.



Part of Government: _____

Democratic or Undemocratic: _____

Explanation:

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Kaiser

Reichstag

Bundesrat

Chancellor

Minister

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



PRACTICE 3

Reichstag (parliament, also known as the Lower House)

- Members (deputies) elected by males over 25 years
- Deputies had the right of free speech
- Elections held every three years by an indirect voting system which varied in different regions
- Gave consent to all laws (including the annual budget which assessed the raising and spending of taxes)
- Could question, debate, agree to or reject a law proposed by the chancellor
- Could not amend a law
- Could not demand the dismissal of the chancellor or any other ministers.



Part of Government: _____

Democratic or Undemocratic: _____

Explanation:

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Members

25 years

Deputies

Elections

Consent

Laws

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



PRACTICE 4

Bundesrat (also known as the Upper House)

- 58 representatives from the 25 state governments in proportion to size of state (Prussia, the 26th and largest state, had 17 members)
- Presided over by the chancellor
- Could initiate legislation
- Decisions decided by majority vote except for any proposal to alter the constitution, which needed a majority of 14
- Had to approve new laws (along with the Reichstag, Kaiser and chancellor)
- Could veto all legislation except a budget approved by the Reichstag
- Had to give approval to the Kaiser for a declaration of war (in cases where Germany was not under attack).



Part of Government: _____

Democratic or Undemocratic: _____

Explanation:

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Budesrat

Representatives

Chancellor

Veto

Reichstag

Lesson 2: How democratic was the Kaiserreich?



LO: To know the key features key features of the German constitution in 1871 and how it worked.

LO: To be able to explain the democratic and undemocratic aspects of the new constitution.



CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

How many of the Bundesrat seats belonged to Prussia?	Who dominated the Prussian parliament?	What type of monarchy did Germany have?	Who had the final say over the constitution?	What was the parliament known as?
Who could be elected to the parliament?	Who led the German government? (Role)	Who appointed the government ministers?	How many members made up the Bundesrat?	Who had the second most seats in the Bundesrat?

APPLY

➤ **Was the German constitution more autocratic or democratic?**

➤ Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Use your **completed highlighted diagrams** to answer the following **two questions**:

- What aspects of this constitution appear democratic?
- What aspects of the constitution appear undemocratic?

Aspects that appear democratic	Aspects that appear undemocratic
<i>One aspect that appeared democratic was the Reichstag. This was because members (deputies) were elected by males over 25 years. For example, the Reichstag could... This made the new German constitution democratic because...</i>	<i>One aspect that appeared undemocratic was the Kaiser. This was because he was the hereditary monarch (and always the King of Prussia too). For example, he could... This made the new German constitution undemocratic because...</i>

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Autocratic Democratic Hereditary Chancellor Reichstag Army Policies
 Laws Members 25 years Deputies Elections Consent
 Laws Bundesrat Representatives Chancellor Veto



Lesson 3: How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?



LO: To know key arguments for and against Prussian dominance in the German Empire.

LO: To be able to explain how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871.

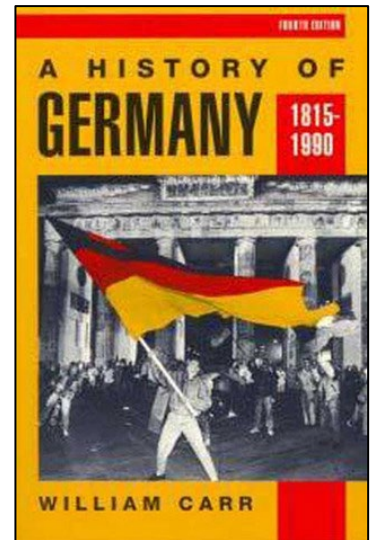


Read the extract below and circle the correct answer:

EXTRACT 2

The structure of the Reich was permeated with the autocratic spirit of victorious Prussia. The Empire did not emanate from the will of the people. In theory all its princes were equal; in practice no-one denied that the Prussian ruler was more equal than the remainder. The Reich was, however, rather more than a simple extension of Prussian power over the southern states. It was an uneasy compromise between the forces of conservative federalism, the liberal unitary principle, and the military might of Prussia. Significantly, imperial ministers were not accountable to the Reichstag; normally they were members of the Bundesrat. Undoubtedly **Liebknecht's** description of the Reichstag as a 'fig leaf covering the nakedness of absolutism' contains a good deal of truth. But, limited though its powers were, the Reichstag was able to exert an influence – particularly after 1890. On the eve of the First World War (1914), there were some faint signs that Germany might be moving towards a more flexible form of government.

Adapted from William Carr, *A History of Germany 1815–1990*, 1991



Carr suggests the following things in this extract:

- | | | | |
|----|--|------|-------|
| 1. | That the Empire came from the will of the people: | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2. | That the Prussian ruler was more powerful than the others: | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3. | That the Reich was more than simply a series of states controlled by Prussia: | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4. | That the Reichstag had no influence over Germany's decisions: | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5. | That by the eve of the First World War Germany was moving towards a flexible form of government: | TRUE | FALSE |



Lesson 3: How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?



LO: To know key arguments for and against Prussian dominance in the German Empire.

LO: To be able to explain how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871.



Prussian dominance?

Bismarck intended that Prussia should dominate the new *Reich*. To a large extent, he succeeded in his aim:

- 1 Prussia possessed 60 per cent of Germany's population and two-thirds of its territory. Prussia returned 235 deputies out of a total of 397 in the *Reichstag*. The fact that it had seventeen seats in the *Bundesrat* meant it could block any unwelcome constitutional amendments.
 - As German Emperor, the Prussian King was head of the imperial executive and civil service and supreme warlord of the *Reich's* armed forces.
 - Except from the periods 1872–73 and 1892–96, the Imperial Chancellor was always simultaneously prime minister of Prussia.
- 2 Prussian and imperial institutions were so intertwined that they could hardly be distinguished. The Prussian minister of war was also the imperial minister of war. Imperial secretaries of state worked closely with Prussian ministers.
- 3 Not surprisingly, Prussia's aristocracy enjoyed a dominant position in the political, military and administrative structure of the Empire.
- 4 The Prussian state parliament, elected by a three-class system, was dominated by the aristocracy, the rich, the military and a conservative civil service. This hindered the development of parliamentary democracy in Germany as a whole.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Bismarck	
Reichstag	
Bundesrat	
Aristocracy	



Lesson 3: How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?



LO: To know key arguments for and against Prussian dominance in the German Empire.

LO: To be able to explain how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871.



Read the statements on the previous page, summarise them and explain how they meant that the new German constitution was Prussian Dominated

<u>Point</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
1		
2		
3		
4		



Lesson 3: How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?



LO: To know key arguments for and against Prussian dominance in the German Empire.

LO: To be able to explain how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871.



The Prussian state government

Prussian voters were divided into three classes, according to the amount of taxes they paid. This ensured that the rich had far more electoral power than the poor and power remained in the hands of the conservatives. Most of the other state assemblies were elected by universal suffrage (the right of most people to vote).



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Universal Suffrage	



Explain how the rich had more power in the Prussian State Government.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Prussian

Voters

Taxes

Rich

Electoral

Conservative



Lesson 3: How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?



LO: To know key arguments for and against Prussian dominance in the German Empire.

LO: To be able to explain how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871.



However, for all the complaints about a 'Prussianisation' of Germany, the identity of 'old Prussia' was significantly diluted by its integration into the *Reich*. Prussia could no longer be governed without consideration of the wider interests of Germany. Prussian influence was slowly undermined by the need to make concessions to the states. Non-Prussians soon held important posts in government both in the *Reich* as a whole and in Prussia. It was the new *Reich*, not Prussia, which now engaged the loyalties of most Germans.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Concessions	



Explain how the new German Constitution was not entirely Prussian dominated.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Prussia diluted governed interests influence concessions loyalties



Lesson 3: How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?



LO: To know key arguments for and against Prussian dominance in the German Empire.

LO: To be able to explain how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

How much of the German population was made up by Prussians?	How many deputies did Prussia have in the Reichstag?	How many seats did Prussia have in the Bundesrat?	<- What power did this give them?	Which military title did the Prussian king have in the new Reich?
How many German chancellors were not from Prussia?	Which social class dominated Prussian Politics	How was voting decided in most states other than Prussia?	How many classes where Prussian voters divided in to?	What were these voting classes based on?

APPLY

➤ How far was the new German Empire Prussian dominated?

➤ Answer the question in your exercise books using the box below to help you.

Success criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate how far the German Empire was Prussian dominated in 1871	Explain one reason how the German Empire was not Prussian dominated	Support your point with a precise piece of factual evidence Evaluate your answer	Come to an overall conclusion as to whether the German Empire was Prussian dominated or not
Sentence starters	<i>On the other hand, the new German Empire was not Prussian dominated. This was because...</i>	<i>For example,... Therefore, the Empire was also clearly not Prussian dominated because...</i>	<i>To a larger extent, the new German Empire was/ was not Prussian dominated. This was because...</i>



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

NEW INFO

Bismarck as Imperial Chancellor

After 1871 Bismarck was Prussian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister and Imperial Chancellor. As such, he exercised most of the powers ascribed to the Crown in the constitution. His reputation as the man who had brought about German unification coupled with his influence over Emperor William I gave him an immensely strong position, which he exploited.

Loathing the existence of any rival authority, Bismarck ensured that other ministers were little more than senior clerks, carrying out his orders. There was nothing that resembled an imperial cabinet. Bismarck dominated the secretaries of state and made sure that they did not confer with the *Kaiser* without his permission. His mistrust of potential rivals encouraged him to rely increasingly on his son Herbert, who was **Secretary of State** of the Foreign Office from 1886.

Nevertheless, while Bismarck exerted a tight grip over all aspects of policy, foreign and domestic, in the *Reich* and in Prussia, there were practical and theoretical limitations to his power, especially in domestic affairs:

- The fact that Germany was a federal state reduced his influence.
- The *Reichstag* was a major constraint (see below).
- Bismarck's long absences from Berlin (he liked to spend time on his country estates) and his poor health (often stomach troubles arising from over-eating and over-drinking) reduced his control of day-to-day decision-making.

Many contemporaries viewed Bismarck with awe – a legend in his own lifetime. Recent historians have often been less impressed. They have represented him as more a lucky opportunist than a master-planner. They have also drawn attention to his less desirable attributes: his vindictiveness, his intolerance of criticism and his frequent use of bullying to get his way. It should be said that these methods did not always succeed. After 1871 he was persistently thwarted in his efforts to shape the domestic developments of the *Reich*.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Minister	
Secretary of State	
Vindictive	



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

PRACTICE 1

**Explain the role, rights and responsibilities of Bismarck in the new German Empire.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Powers Crown Constitution Clerks Orders Kaiser

PRACTICE 2

**Explain how, if at all, Bismarck's power was limited in any way.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Federal Reichstag Poor Health Long-Absences



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

NEW INFO

The Reichstag

Bismarck was anxious for political power in Germany to remain in traditional hands – in those of the Emperor, his army officers, his ministers – and particularly in his own. Arguably the constitution gave little opportunity for the exercise of democracy. The *Reichstag*, for example, could censor the Chancellor but not secure his dismissal. It could itself be dismissed at any time and new elections called. Bismarck regarded the *Reichstag* with some disdain – as a collection of squabbling politicians who did not reflect popular opinion.

Characteristically, he was ready to work with the *Reichstag* only on condition that it accepted his proposals or some compromise acceptable to him. If agreement could not be reached, he usually dissolved the *Reichstag* and called for fresh elections. He was prepared to use all the means at his disposal, not least the exploitation of international crises, to swing public opinion in elections to secure the passage of contentious legislation.

Reichstag politicians have often been criticised by historians for failing to do more to exploit their potential power. However, they faced a difficult task. The balance of power was tilted sharply in favour of the monarchy and most Germans remained deeply respectful of authority, believing that it was right and proper that the Emperor, or his Chancellor, should rule. There was no widespread conviction that power should be in the hands of the political party which happened to have a majority of seats in the *Reichstag*. Even members of **left-wing** parties did not expect the *Reichstag* to exercise much control over government. The most that they hoped for was that it would have some influence on government decisions.



KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Constitution	
Contentious Legislation	
Left-Wing Parties	



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

NEW INFO

Socialist leader August Bebel claimed that the *Reichstag* was the 'fig-leaf of despotism'. However, in reality, the *Reichstag* had more power than Bebel suggested and Bismarck had envisaged:

- The Second Empire needed a vast number of new laws and no bill could become a law until it passed the *Reichstag*. The government also needed more money, which only the *Reichstag* could provide. Bismarck, therefore, was forced to negotiate deals and grant concessions.
- The *Reichstag* was an open forum of debate whose members enjoyed parliamentary immunity. Debates were widely reported in the press. The Chancellor and the ministers of state could be questioned and embarrassed.
- For many Germans, the *Reichstag* – not the *Kaiser* – was the focus of national attention.
- No parliament in the world in the 1870s was elected on a broader **franchise**.
- Universal male suffrage promoted the development of mass political parties with popular appeal. While these parties were in no position to form governments, Bismarck could not afford to ignore them. Although under no constitutional obligation to adopt policies approved by the *Reichstag*, he did need to secure support for his own legislative proposals.
- What is striking is how troublesome the *Reichstag* was for Bismarck, criticising and often thwarting his plans. Indeed, historians may have overemphasised the way that the *Reichstag* bowed to Bismarck and not emphasised enough the way that he bowed to *Reichstag* pressure. On several occasions in the 1880s he explored the possibility of changing the constitution – proof of the *Reichstag's* influence.

The *Reichstag* was thus neither an all-powerful parliament nor simply a pliant instrument under Bismarck's control. It was something in between. It certainly acquired a genuine popular legitimacy and became a focal point for those whom Bismarck saw as 'enemies of the state': Poles, Catholics and socialists.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Despotism	
Franchise	
Legitimacy	



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.



**Explain the role, rights and responsibilities of the Reichstag in the new German Empire.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Laws

Bill

Discuss

Vote

Decisions



Explain how, if at all, the Reichstag's power was limited in any way.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Bismarck

Tilted

Monarchy

Respectful

Authority



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

NEW INFO

The role of the army

The army played an important role in the *Reich*, as it had done in Prussia. It was essentially Prussian. The Prussian army was by far the largest of the four armies that comprised the German army. The three other contingents, from Bavaria, Saxony and Wurttemberg, all came under the Emperor's command in time of war and followed the Prussian lead in organisation, instruction and weaponry.

Prussian-German officers owed personal loyalty to the King/Emperor, not the state. The system of conscription ensured that all German men served for two to three years in the army. This gave officers ample opportunity to build on the values already inculcated at school: discipline, pride in military institutions and love of the Fatherland.

As the creator of the *Reich*, the army had a special place in the minds of most Germans. After 1871 it was taken for granted that the army's needs must always come first and that the highest virtues were military ones. Uniforms encouraged respect and obedience and both Bismarck and the *Kaiser* always wore military uniform in public.

Given that the military budget was not subject to annual approval, the army was virtually independent of *Reichstag* control. It was not bound to consult any civilian authority before acting. Many army officers were hard-line conservatives. They had little time for the *Reichstag* and even less for liberals and socialists. Indeed, some army officers were as much concerned with the 'enemy' within as they were with Germany's enemies beyond the *Reich's* borders. If called upon, they were ready to disperse demonstrations, break strikes and crush any attempt at revolution.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Prussia	
Conscription	
Socialists	



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

PRACTICE 1

**Explain the role, rights and responsibilities of the army in the new German Empire.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Prussia Conscription Creator Budget Granted

PRACTICE 2

**Explain how, if at all, the army's power was limited in any way.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Kaiser Chancellor Respect Demonstrations Revolutions



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

NEW INFO

Emperor William I

In many respects, the key man in the 1871 constitution was the Emperor. Yet Emperor William I is often the forgotten man of Bismarck's Germany. He became King of Prussia in 1861 and viewed his kingship of Prussia as more important than the title of German Emperor which he received in 1871. Despite possessing considerable powers as *Kaiser*, William was generally content to leave the task of governing Germany (and Prussia) to Bismarck and limited himself to embodying the dignity of the new state. William, conservative in most matters, had reservations about some of Bismarck's measures, including the *Kulturkampf* and his Chancellor's tough handling of subordinates. But he appreciated Bismarck's ability. Bismarck appreciated William's support. He described William in his memoirs as a polite, gentlemanly, courteous man with the attitude and manners of a Prussian army officer. William, despite several assassination attempts on his life, seems to have been genuinely popular in his later years – a man who personified the values of 'old Prussia'. Many Prussians approved of William's rather austere and simple lifestyle.



KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Conservative	
Kulturkampf	
Assassination	



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

PRACTICE 1

**Explain the role, rights and responsibilities of the Kaiser in the new German Empire.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Germany King Prussia Powers

PRACTICE 2

**Explain how, if at all, Bismarck's power was limited in any way.
In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.**



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Bismarck Assassinations Later Life



Lesson 4: Who really held power in the German Empire?



LO: To know the roles and responsibilities of the Kaiser, Chancellor, Reichstag and army.

LO: To be able to explain who held the most power in Imperial Germany in 1871.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

Who did Bismarck appoint secretary of state from 1886?	Who did Bismarck stop from speaking to the Kaiser?	How did Bismarck regard the Reichstag at times?	Which group was surprised by the Reichstag's level of influence?	How did Bebel describe the Reichstag?
Which factor led to the development of mass political parties?	Who were the German Army / soldiers loyal to?	How long did all German men have to serve in the Army?	When did Wilhelm become the King of Prussia?	How could Wilhelm be described politically?

APPLY

- **Who do you initially think held the most power in Imperial Germany?**
- Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Success criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate the power structure of the Kaiserreich.	Explain why one person or group had the most power.	Support your point with a precise piece of factual evidence Evaluate your answer	Come to an overall conclusion as to who held the most power in Imperial Germany.
Sentence starters	On one it could be argued that _____ held the most power in Imperial Germany.	For example,... Therefore, _____ held the most power in Imperial Germany because...	On the other hand it could be argued that... This was because...



Lesson 5: Exam Lesson practice – Section B Essay question



LO: To know the requirements of your History A-Level exam Component 1.

LO: To be able to explain how to answer a Section B exam question on the A Level history paper.

There are two different types of question on your exam paper:

Section	Questions and marks	Timing	Marks
A: Evaluating historical extracts	<p>One compulsory question linked to three historical interpretations [30 marks]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The compulsory question will ask you: <i>'Using your historical understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in Extracts A, B and C are in relation to...'</i> 	Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes	80 marks [40% of A Level]
B: Essay writing	<p>Two from a choice of three essay questions [25 marks]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay questions will contain a quotation advancing a judgement, and could be followed by: <i>'Assess the validity of this view'.</i> 		

You will write TWO different essays where you are expected to:

Assessment Objective	You need to...
AO1	<i>Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.</i>

For example, you may chose a question which looks like the one below:

'The German constitution of 1871 established a democratic form of government in Germany.'

Assess the validity of this view.

(25 marks)

- Highlight** the **key words or phrases** that we need to focus on to gain a better understanding of the **demands** of the question.



Lesson 5: Exam Lesson practice – Section B Essay question



LO: To know the requirements of your History A-Level exam Component 1.

LO: To be able to explain how to answer a Section B exam question on the A Level history paper.

Before you begin, it is important to make a brief plan for your answer. Complete the table below:

Agree: German constitution did establish a democratic form of government	Disagree: German constitution <i>did not</i> establish a democratic form of government
Your own judgement:	

- This question will enable you to practise the skill of **balanced essay writing**. Before you begin, draw up a **two-column plan**.
- On **one side** jot down the ways in which the constitution **was democratic** and on the **other side** list the ways it was **not**.
- Decide whether you will **agree or disagree** with the view overall and make your **judgement** clear in your **introduction** and again – having argued the case with reference to both sides – in your **conclusion**.



Lesson 5: Exam Lesson practice – Section B Essay question



LO: To know the requirements of your History A-Level exam Component 1.

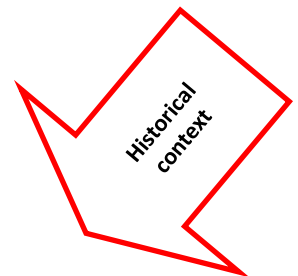
LO: To be able to explain how to answer a Section B exam question on the A Level history paper.

a) Structuring your answer

- A **clear structure** makes for a much more effective essay.
- In order to structure an answer to the question effectively you need **several paragraphs**.
- In **each paragraph** you will deal with **one factor** – the constitution being **democratic** or **autocratic**.
- You will first have to decide the **order of your paragraphs**.
- You need a **short** but **clear introduction** that **briefly explains** your **argument** in relation to the question and a **conclusion** that provides a **summary**.

b) Writing a focused introduction

- It is vital that you **maintain focus** on the question from the **beginning** of your essay.
- One way to do this is to use the **wording of the question** to help you write your argument.
- Lets look at what this might look like!



The German constitution had been created in 1871 by Bismarck and Wilhelm I after the new German Empire had been proclaimed in January of that year. The constitution of this new empire stated that Germany was to be a federal state. Powers and functions were divided between the central government and 25 state governments.



Lesson 5: Exam Lesson practice – Section B Essay question



LO: To know the requirements of your History A-Level exam Component 1.

LO: To be able to explain how to answer a Section B exam question on the A Level history paper.

Establishing a key argument

- Now that we have set the scene and explained what the constitution was and some background historical context, we now want to **make our argument** very clear to the examiner.
- We need to decide if we **agree or disagree** with the statement in the question from the very beginning.
- Come to a yes or no answer in your head – ***did the German constitution set up a democratic form of government?*** Yes or no!
- You will need to make your argument clear in your next few sentences then briefly **foreshadow** what will be included in your main paragraphs i.e. **each factor you will be explaining.**
- Lets look at how this might look.

The **German constitution** had been created in **1871** by **Bismarck and Wilhelm I** after the new **German Empire** had been proclaimed in January of that year. The constitution of this new empire stated that Germany was to be a **federal state**. Powers and functions were divided between the **central government and 25 state governments**.

The German constitution can be **argued to be essentially autocratic, rather than democratic** simply because the **power resided mostly with the Emperor, Wilhelm I**. The power **Bismarck wielded as Chancellor** and the **degree of power over policies given to the Bundesrat** also shows signs of autocratic rather than democratic rule.

Key argument



Lesson 5: Exam Lesson practice – Section B Essay question



LO: To know the requirements of your History A-Level exam Component 1.

LO: To be able to explain how to answer a Section B exam question on the A Level history paper.

Writing up your answer

- Now it is time to write your answer.
- This must be **balanced** throughout.
- There must be **at least five paragraphs** in the main body.
- This must be a **3:2 answer** (either 3 arguments that it was autocratic and 2 arguments that it was democratic or vice versa).
- Use your **planning grid** to write **PEEE paragraphs**. (Point, Explanation, Evidence and Evaluation).

Look at the **model paragraph** below:

- In **one colour highlight** = the use of **precise historical evidence** (factual information)
- In a **second colour** = **evaluation**

One way that the **German constitution of 1871** established an **undemocratic form** of government was due to the position of the **Kaiser**. This was because **Wilhelm I** was always the **King of Prussia and of Germany**. He was the main person in the constitution who held all the power in the German Empire. For example, **Wilhelm could appoint and dismiss the Chancellor and dissolve the Reichstag at any time**. **He also commanded the armed forces of the Empire**. Therefore, the position of the Kaiser showed that the German constitution was **more autocratic** as all of the **powers resided ultimately with the Emperor**. Wilhelm I essentially supervised the **execution of all federal laws** and **possessed the right to interpret the constitution** that suited his own needs.

Now over to you...

- **Paragraph 2** – **balance** your answer by evaluating how the **Reichstag** showed that the German constitution was **democratic**.
- **Paragraph 3** – your own argument. Evaluate how the position of the **Chancellor** showed that the German constitution was **autocratic**.
- **Paragraph 4** – balanced response. Evaluate how the institution of the **Bundesrat** showed that the German constitution was **democratic**.
- **Paragraph 5** – your own argument. Evaluate **Bismarck's intentions** and the fact that the constitution was **Prussian dominated** in creating a more **autocratic** style of government.
- **Conclusion** – **summarise** your arguments. Evaluate why the German constitution was to a **large extent**, autocratic and less democratic.



Lesson 6: How united was Germany?



LO: To know the different reasons why Germany was still disunited.

LO: To be able to explain how far Germany was united politically, economically and socially.



Read the extract below and answer the following questions:

EXTRACT 3

Initially the Bismarckian constitution represented a viable compromise, even if it was a compromise that avoided problems by ignoring them. It was a compromise between the conflicting demands of Prussia, the liberals and the individual states. However, it was a compromise that had no in-built flexibility and by the 1880s it had become a straitjacket that distorted the constitutional development of Germany. As long as Bismarck remained in power, the German constitution had some coherence. He was able to hold the federal structure of the Reich together, but the danger remained that a future German Chancellor would be confronted by the conflicting pressures of a conservative Prussia (where the voting system ensured a large conservative majority) and a more left-wing Reichstag (voted in on **universal franchise**). With Bismarck's dismissal in 1890, the Reich became a collection of rival centres of power. The Reichstag, Crown, bureaucracy, army and pressure groups all competed for power and paralysed the system. Bismarck's constitutional legacy was thus one of chaos rather than authoritarianism.

Adapted from David G. Williamson, *Germany Since 1815*, 2005



Q1. What is Williamson's view of the new German constitution?

Q2. According to Williamson, what was Bismarck's personal contribution?

Q3. According to Williamson, what is Bismarck's legacy?



Lesson 6: How united was Germany?



LO: To know the different reasons why Germany was still disunited.

LO: To be able to explain how far Germany was united politically, economically and socially.

NEW INFO

How united was Germany?

The new *Reich* was born in a mood of national euphoria. Germans were proud of their victory over France, proud that their new country was the strongest military state in Europe, proud that Germany was strong economically and proud that its economic strength was growing.

Nevertheless, the new *Reich* was far from united:

- Each state had its own traditions. Each also had powers over education, justice, agriculture, religious matters and local government.
- Over 60 per cent of the population were Protestant, but Catholicism was strong in Alsace-Lorraine, in south-west Germany, in the Rhineland and among the Poles.
- Ten per cent of the *Reich's* population were non-German minorities – Poles, Danes and French.
- There were economic and social divisions – between rich and poor, and between the industrialising north and west and the predominantly rural south and east.

Thus, a major problem was to unite Germany in fact as well as in theory. Pre-1871 nationalism had been generally seen as a progressive force which aimed to sweep away the old regime and introduce liberal and representative government. After 1871 German nationalism became more conservative. The German nation was now identified with the new *Reich*, any criticism of which was denounced as unpatriotic. A distinct national identity developed that transcended that of the member states. Arguably non-Prussian Germans became more Prussian while Prussians became more German.

PRACTICE

Is there any evidence to suggest that Germany was united? Or Divided?

United	Divided



Lesson 6: How united was Germany?



LO: To know the different reasons why Germany was still disunited.

LO: To be able to explain how far Germany was united politically, economically and socially.

NEW INFO

The Franco-Prussian War 1870-71

In 1870 France and Prussia went to war. The Prussian army, allied with troops from four southern German states – Bavaria, Wurttemberg, Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt – easily defeated French forces. Historians remain divided about what to call the war: should it be Franco–Prussian (the usually accepted name) or Franco– German? The war was so dominated by Prussian military expertise that, in many ways, it was essentially a Prussian enterprise. Nevertheless, the war was also the first genuinely German war in which all the German states fought. By 1871, when the war ended, all Germans were proud of, and wished to be associated with, the Prussian–German victory.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Prussia	

PRACTICE

Is there any evidence to suggest that Germany was united? Or Divided?

United	Divided



Lesson 6: How united was Germany?



LO: To know the different reasons why Germany was still disunited.

LO: To be able to explain how far Germany was united politically, economically and socially.

NEW INFO

German economic development

The results of the war against France stimulated the German economy. Alsace- Lorraine, for example, contained Europe's largest deposits of iron ore, and production increased rapidly after 1871. The injection of huge French indemnity payments into the German economy, following the Franco-Prussian War, helped to cause a spectacular, if short-lived, boom. The boom assisted German banks, which, in turn, provided capital for new railways and new industries such as electricity and chemicals. Between 1871 and 1890 coal production soared, steel production increased by some 700 per cent and the railway network doubled in size.

Growing industry swelled the ranks of the German industrial working class. In 1871 only five per cent of Germans lived in urban areas. By 1900 nearly twenty per cent did so. This had political as well as economic consequences. Many of the **proletariat** were attracted to socialism. The peasantry, declining in numbers, tended to be more conservative.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Proletariat	

PRACTICE

Is there any evidence to suggest that Germany was united? Or Divided?

United	Divided



Lesson 6: How united was Germany?



LO: To know the different reasons why Germany was still disunited.

LO: To be able to explain how far Germany was united politically, economically and socially.

NEW INFO

German society

German society, despite all the economic changes, remained divided along traditional class lines. What mobility there was tended to be within a class rather than between different classes. The higher levels of the civil service and the army remained predominantly the preserve of the nobility. The most direct threat to the nobility's supremacy came from wealthy industrialists who tried to emulate, rather than supersede, the nobles.

While the middle classes were expanding, most Germans were agricultural or industrial workers. For many farm labourers, life was hard and industrial employment seemed an attractive option. Thus, there was a drift to the cities, even though the living and working conditions of the proletariat remained poor.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Social Mobility	

PRACTICE

Is there any evidence to suggest that Germany was united? Or Divided?

United	Divided



Lesson 6: How united was Germany?



LO: To know the different reasons why Germany was still disunited.

LO: To be able to explain how far Germany was united politically, economically and socially.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

Over what % of the German population was Protestant?	Which areas were Catholic?	What % of the Reich was non-German?	In what year did France go to war with Prussia?	Which payments helped boost the new economy?
Which industries benefitted from the building of railways?	By what percentage did steel production increase?	Which group of society were attracted to socialism?	Which part of society was expanding?	For which group of people was life hard?

APPLY

➤ How united was Germany in 1871?

- Answer the question in your exercise books using the box below to help you.

Success Criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate how united Germany was in 1871	Explain one way that Germany was/ was not united	Support your point with a precise piece of factual evidence	Evaluate your answer
Sentence starters	<i>To a larger extent, Germany was/ was not united in 1871 politically/ socially/ economically. This was because...</i>	<i>For example,...</i>	<i>Therefore, Germany was united/ disunited in 1871 because...</i>



Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



NEW INFO

Political groupings, and parties and their ideologies

The political framework laid down by Bismarck, with its provision for representation and elections, produced some flourishing political parties. However, these were slightly different from modern parties. They were not competing for the right to rule the country or preparing manifestos that offered broad policy proposals. They were actually more like pressure groups, representing the interests of different sections of the community and aiming to be in a position to advance the concerns of their followers. Table 1 indicates the main political groupings of the Bismarckian era.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Pressure Groups	

PRACTICE

Explain how the political parties of early Germany were different from today.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Rule Manifestos Policy Proposals Pressure Groups Interests



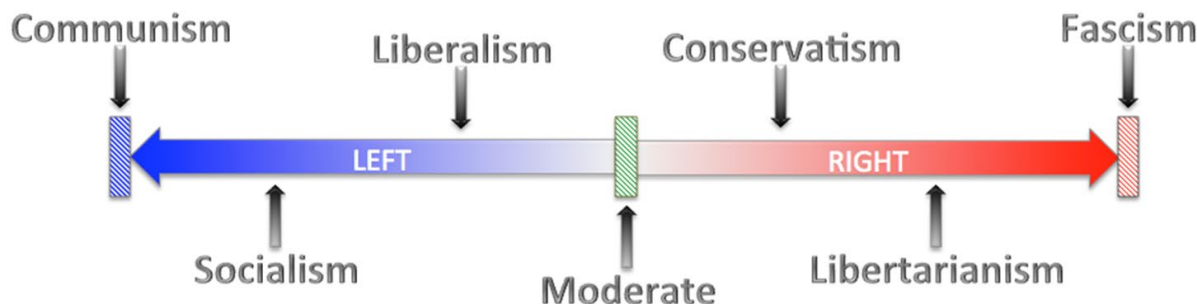
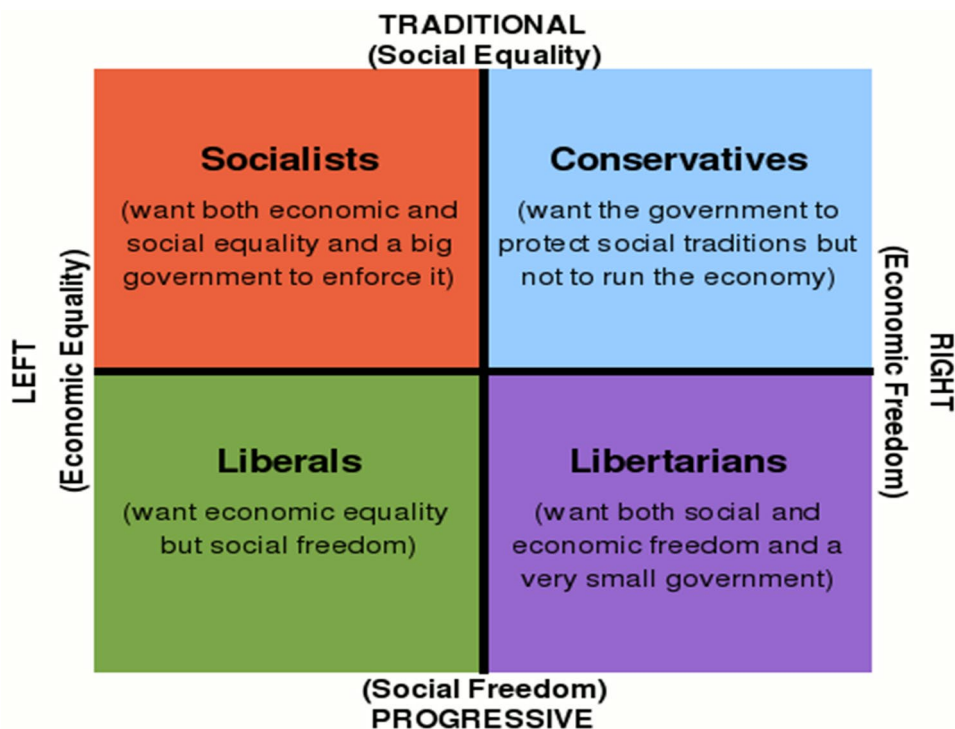
Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



Left-wing beliefs	Right-wing beliefs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Workers should have power and rule the country as a collection of workers’ councils. •There should be equality, with no different classes and no huge differences in the wealth of people in a country. •Change is welcome. •Left-wing views should be spread throughout the world. •Anti-right-wing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Strong leaders should rule over the people. •There are, and should be, major differences between people, classes and races. •Own country should be strong and powerful, with a large empire. •Change is not welcome. •Anti-left-wing.





Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?



LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



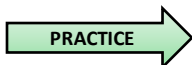
Summary

The Prussian Chief Minister, Bismarck, had achieved German unification through war by 1871 and created a new German Empire, headed by Kaiser Wilhelm I. This was a federal empire with a constitution that combined autocratic features with an elected Reichstag and universal manhood suffrage. Prussia retained considerable influence, while the Chancellor, Bismarck, exerted a dominant influence that gave him almost unlimited power as long as he retained the Kaiser's backing. Issues of authority and the ideology that would shape this Second Reich caused divisions between different political groupings, all of whom had contrasting ideas about the future path that Germany should follow.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Ideology	



Explain how Germany's policies could still be influenced by different parties.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Elected Reichstag Suffrage Influence Authority Ideology



Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



National Liberals
(NL)

Formed in 1867 by those who supported Bismarck's policy of German unification. This was the party of the Protestant middle classes. It was supported by wealthy, well-educated men such as bankers, merchants and civil servants. It favoured **free trade**, a strong Germany, and a constitutional liberal state. After 1875 it grew more conservative as its members felt threatened by the growing strength of the Social Democratic Party. (Note that in 1871 and 1874 the National Liberals were supported by a smaller group of 'Imperial Liberals', which only contested these two elections.)



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Free Trade	



Explain what the National Liberals believed in and whether they would support Bismarck.

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

1867

Bismarck

Unification

Protestant

Wealthy

Free Trade



Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



NEW INFO

Zentrum (Centre Party – Z)	Founded in 1870, this party represented the German Catholics and the minorities opposed to Bismarck. The party was strong in the southern German states, particularly Bavaria, and also in the Rhineland. It was determined to preserve the position of the Catholic Church, especially in education. It was conservative regarding the constitution and favoured greater decentralisation , but it was quite liberal in its attitude to social reform.
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KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Decentralisation	

PRACTICE

Explain what Zentrum believed in and whether they would support Bismarck.

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

1870

Catholics

Southern

Rhineland

Preserve

Liberal



Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?



LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.

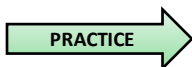


<p>Social Democratic Party (SPD)</p>	<p>There was already a socialist grouping in 1871 but the SPD itself was not founded until 1875. This party represented the working classes and worked with the trade unions. It supported a reduction in the power of the elites and the extension of welfare reforms. Its most extreme members wanted a total overthrow of the constitution and a republic, but the majority were prepared to work within the existing system in order to bring about better conditions for the masses.</p>
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Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
<p>Republic</p>	



Explain what the SPD believed in and whether they would support Bismarck.

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Socialist

1875

Working Classes

Welfare

Republic



Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



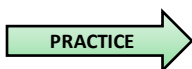
German Conservative Party (DKP)

Conservative elements adopted the DKP name in 1876. This group mainly represented the Protestant and aristocratic Prussian Junker landowners. It was the most **right wing** of the political groups and detested the Reichstag because it was elected by universal suffrage. It was dominant in the Prussian Landtag (Land government) elected under a three-stage system.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Right Wing	



Explain what the DKP believed in and whether they would support Bismarck.

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Conservative Protestant Aristocratic Junkers Landowners Right Wing



Lesson 7: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



NEW INFO

Free Conservatives or Reichspartei (FKP)	Formed in 1871, the FKP represented landowners, industrialists and businessmen. Its members were strong supporters of Bismarck and its geographic base was wider than the DKP.
Progressives or Fortschrittspartei (DFP)	A party that believed in a liberal, constitutional state but disliked centralism and militarism so was not very supportive of Bismarck. Its members wanted to extend the powers of the Reichstag.

PRACTICE

Explain how these parties differed in terms of their support for Bismarck and why.

Include the following words and phrases to improve your answer:

Landowners Industrialists Businessmen Liberal Centralism Reichstag



Lesson 6: Which political parties worried Bismarck the most?

LO: To know which political parties worried Bismarck the most.

LO: To be able to explain the main political parties in Germany and their different ideologies.



CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

How could early German political parties be described?	How were members of the Reichstag elected?	In what year did the National Liberals form?	Which policy of Bismarck's did they believe in?	Which economic policy did they want in place?
What was the Catholic party of Germany?	What was Germany's socialist party known as?	What political leaning were the DKP?	Who were the FKP made up of?	What did the DFP dislike?

APPLY

➤ Which political party worried Bismarck the most?

- Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Success criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate Bismarck's opinion of each of Germany's political parties.	Explain one party that would worry Bismarck.	Support your point with a precise piece of factual evidence Evaluate your answer	Come to an overall conclusion as to which party worried Bismarck the most.
Sentence starters	<i>On the other hand, the party that worried Bismarck the most could have been...</i>	<i>For example,... Therefore, they would have been a concern for Bismarck because...</i>	<i>To a larger extent, the... This was because...</i>

Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

PRE-READ

Otto von Bismarck

Bismarck's father was a moderately wealthy *Junker*. Bismarck was proud of this and all his life liked to present himself as a *Junker* squire. However, he was too clever, too enterprising and too non-conformist to be a typical *Junker*. His mother came from a middle-class family of merchants. Many of her relatives were civil servants, university professors or lawyers. Bismarck did not get on well with his mother, but from her he inherited his intelligence and determination.

At university he developed a reputation as a duellist (fighting 25 duels in one particular year). He was a crack shot and an expert fencer. Passing his law examinations, Bismarck won entry to the Prussian civil service. A year of military service followed, and then on his mother's death in 1839, he retired to help run the family estates.

In 1847 two events occurred to change the direction of his life. First he married Johanna von Puttkamer who provided a stable background to his life, bringing up their numerous children and overlooking his repeated infidelities. Secondly he was elected to the Prussian United *Diet*. Seemingly an arch-conservative, he declared: 'Only two things matter for Prussia: to avoid an alliance with democracy and to secure equality with Austria'. He soon became Prussian envoy to the *Bundestag* at Frankfurt, where, apart from a short time in Vienna as Prussian ambassador, he remained until 1859. During his years in Frankfurt, it became his overriding concern to oppose Austria.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Junker	
Diet	
Bundestag	

Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

PRE-READ

The appeal of German nationalism

Until the mid-1850s Bismarck had shown little but contempt for nationalism. However, by the late 1850s his views had changed. Aware of the popular appeal of German nationalism, he realised that the nationalist movement might be manipulated in the interests of enhancing Prussian power and aid the creation of a united Germany under Prussian control. In 1859 Bismarck was moved from the *Bundestag* to become Prussian ambassador in Russia. In September 1862, he returned to Prussia to become Chief Minister. He only accepted the post on condition that he could do as he saw fit so that he could (as he himself put it) 'make his own music'. His appointment was one of the most momentous occasions in Prussian, German and European history.

In 1862 he had a reputation as a tough, ambitious and ruthless politician. Although viewed (mistakenly) as a conservative reactionary and (correctly) as a loyal supporter of the monarchy, he was also seen (with some justification) as an unpredictable maverick. His appointment as Chief Minister was seen as a deliberate affront to the liberals who regarded him as a bigoted reactionary. Given that Bismarck had no ministerial experience, he was not expected to last long in power.

On 30 September, in his first speech to the Prussian Parliament, he declared:

Germany does not look to Prussia's liberalism, but to its power ... It is not through speeches and majority decisions that the great questions of the day are decided ... It is by iron and blood.

This phrase, afterwards reversed to 'blood and iron', became almost synonymous with Bismarck. Convinced that great issues are decided by might not right, he was determined to make Prussia as mighty as possible. Prussian leadership in Germany would ensure Prussian might. In the 1860s he was essentially a Prussian patriot rather than a German nationalist: his loyalty was to the Prussian King – not to the German people. By brilliant diplomacy and a series of wars against Denmark (1864), Austria (1866) and France (1870–71) he brought about German unification and the creation of the Second Reich.

Realpolitik characterised Bismarck's political career from first to last. He had contempt for idealism and idealists. While he was a sincere Protestant, he was able to divorce personal from political morality. What was good for Prussia (and then Germany) was good. In his view, the end justified the means. He recognised that a conservative regime could no longer operate without popular support, not least that of the liberal middle class whose power was growing. He hoped to achieve conservative ends by means that were far from conservative. His unscrupulous methods occasionally brought him into conflict with William I and the Prussian military and political élites. But while many distrusted his tactics, most respected his judgement.

By 1871 Bismarck was a man of imperious and dominating temperament with an unquenchable thirst for power. He saw himself as a man of destiny, convinced that he would have a great impact on the world. Nevertheless, he once admitted: 'I am all nerves; so much so that self-control has always been the greatest task of my life and still is'. He smoked heavily, consumed huge amounts of alcohol and ate enormous meals. In 1883 his weight reached 114 kilograms. Given to melancholy, he suffered from periods of laziness. He was also an inveterate womaniser and gambler. Aggressive and emotional, his relations with Emperor William I were stormy; their meetings sometimes degenerated into slanging matches, followed sometimes by tears. Ruthless, unpredictable, vindictive and unscrupulous, Bismarck could also be charming and witty, a delightful companion and entertaining conversationalist.



Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

PRE-READ

Bismarck's motives and methods

Historians continue to argue over Bismarck's achievements, his motives and his methods. Innumerable books have been written about him. By 1895 there were already 650 biographies available. Twenty years later there were 3,500 and the number has continued to increase ever since.

When it comes to primary evidence the problem is not a lack of material but an excess, much of it conflicting. Bismarck left a wealth of letters, articles, speeches and official reports. There were also his voluminous *Reminiscences* which are of questionable accuracy: he increased the drama around every event, sometimes embroidering fact with a little fiction, and always presented himself favourably.

While in office, Bismarck frequently made totally contradictory statements at the same time about the same events. Historians interpret this differently. Some see it as symptomatic of Bismarck's perversity of mind, a desire to confuse or mislead friends and enemies alike. Some see it as a lack of settled purpose and an inability to think clearly and coherently in abstract terms. And there are others who see it simply as Bismarck's way of 'reasoning out loud', rehearsing a number of different arguments before reaching a decision.

Whatever the reason, it means that Bismarck's own evidence needs to be used with caution. A single letter or speech is not necessarily a true reflection of his policies or intentions at any given time. Therefore it is difficult to disentangle with any certainty Bismarck's motives, or to decide how far he planned ahead. 'Politics', he said, 'is not an exact and logical science but is the capacity to choose in each fleeting moment of the situation that which is least harmful or most opportune'. He was the supreme opportunist, both before and after 1871. Accordingly, his policies can best be described as flexible.

In 1850 Bismarck declared that the only sound foundation for a great state is not idealism but 'state egoism' (national self-interest). Thirty years later, his beliefs had not changed. Defending himself against critics who accused him of sudden changes of policy, he said:

I have always had one compass only, one lodestar by which I have steered: the welfare of the state ... What is useful, advantageous and right for my Fatherland and – as long as this was only Prussia – for my dynasty, and today for the German nation.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Realpolitik	



Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?

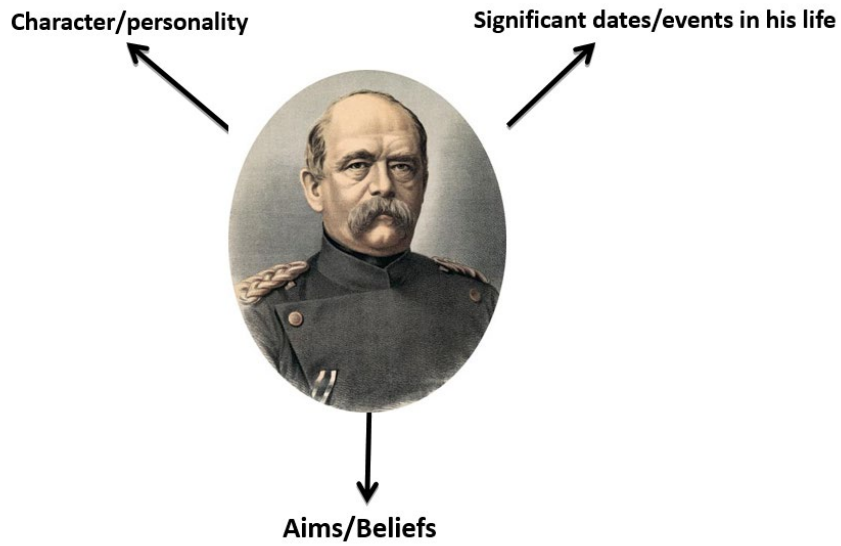


LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

PRE-READ

Create a profile of Bismarck by reading the previous pages in your booklet to find out about Bismarck's:





Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.



- Look at these two images of Bismarck.
- Write a list of words/adjectives that come to mind when you look at these pictures.

Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.



NEW INFO

The personalities of Kaiser Wilhelm I and Bismarck

From 1871, the political development of Germany was very much moulded by its Chancellor, Otto von Bismarck. However, Bismarck's power was only as great as his relationship with the German Kaiser who, for all but the last two years of Bismarck's rule, was Kaiser Wilhelm I. Wilhelm I was very much the Prussian aristocrat and actually complained at having to give up his 'radiant Prussian crown' in return for that of the Empire. However, he enjoyed the trappings of his new office: the state occasions and military ceremonies. Bismarck, admittedly not a totally impartial observer, described him in his memoirs as 'old-fashioned, courteous and a genuine Prussian officer'.

Bismarck did not get on well with the Kaiser's wife, Queen Augusta. He became very agitated when she put forward her liberal views and it is reputed that he turned down dinner invitations if he thought he was to be seated near her.

Kaiser Wilhelm I, who was already aged 74 when he became Emperor and was 91 years old when he died in 1888, was generally happy to allow Bismarck to take the initiative in political matters. This is not to say that the two did not argue; indeed, they were frequently at odds but still seemed incapable of doing without one another. Bismarck manipulated the Kaiser with temper tantrums, tears, hysterical outbursts and frequent threats of resignation. For the most part, Wilhelm gave way.

Bismarck ruled for 26 years in total (19 as Imperial Chancellor) and did so mainly through sheer force of personality. He was not a military general, he was not a particularly good orator, and he never had a large single party backing. It was his innate intelligence, his capacity for hard work, and his love-hate relationship with King Wilhelm I that enabled him to remain at the top for so long. He loathed having to work with the Reichstag, yet he recognised its importance in 'carrying the country' with him and, for the most part, he managed to do just that.

Otto von Bismarck has been described by the historian Jonathan Steinberg as a 'hypochondriac with the constitution of an ox and a brutal tyrant who could easily shed tears; neurotic, vindictive and insensitive as well as charming, charismatic and full of warmth.' Just as his personality was full of contradiction, so too were his policies.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Liberal	



Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

PRACTICE 1

Describe the relationship between Bismarck and Wilhelm I.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

Describe Bismarck's leadership style as Chancellor of the new German Empire.

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

PRACTICE 3

EXTRACT 1

Bismarck saw politics as a struggle. When he talked about 'politics as the art of the possible', he meant that in a limited sense. He never considered compromise a satisfactory outcome. He had to win and destroy opponents or lose and be destroyed himself... he set out to 'beat them all' and he did. ... Domestic politics posed a challenge. There were endless details, conflicting interests, issues that had unforeseeable consequences and the constant buzz of irritating criticism from tedious people in ... the Reichstag. ... He had to know everything and decide everything and he was constantly impatient. ... He had no very strong principles on practical matters and shifted his position all the time. ... Bismarck practised his wizardry to preserve a semi-absolute monarchy and, when it suited him, he would preserve the rights of a narrow, fiercely reactionary Junker class who hated all progress.

Adapted from Jonathan Steinberg, *Bismarck*, 2011



Q1. According to the extract how did Bismarck view politics?

Q2. According to Steinberg how did Bismarck find domestic politics?

Q3. According to Steinberg, what was Bismarck's overall goal?



Lesson 8: Who was the real Bismarck?



LO: To know how Bismarck's personality and key events in his life impacted German politics.

LO: To be able to explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

Who was Bismarck's father?	What was Bismarck's reputation at University?	In 1847 what two events changed Bismarck's life	When did Wilhelm I become Kaiser of Germany?	How old was Wilhelm when he became Emperor?
How long did Bismarck rule for?	What allowed Bismarck to keep power for so long?	What did Bismarck do to the Kaiser?	Who did Bismarck dislike?	What part of society did Bismarck want to try and protect?

APPLY

➤ Explain how Bismarck approached leadership.

- Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Success Criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can explain Bismarck's key motives, aims and beliefs.	Explain one aspect of Bismarck's approach to leadership.	Give a precise historical example	Evaluate your reason as to why this would have made Bismarck end the Kulturkampf
Sentence starters	<i>It could be argued that Bismarck's approach to leadership was... This was because...</i>	<i>For example...</i>	<i>On the other hand...</i>

Lesson 9: How well did Bismarck work with the National Liberals?



LO: To know the achievements and areas of tension Bismarck had with the NL Party.

LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's relationship with the NL Party between 1871 and 1879.



PRE-READ

The National Liberal Party

A first national liberal parliamentary group arose among right-wing deputies of the Liberal German Progress Party in the Prussian House of Representatives during a constitutional conflict sparked by Minister President Otto von Bismarck: In 1862 he had overruled the Liberal opposition in parliament using the so-called Lückentheorie ("Gap Theory") to justify proceeding with taxes for military reforms of the Prussian Army, accompanied by his martial Blood and Iron speech. In the following years, he aimed to reconcile with his opponents by strengthening Prussian hegemony, which culminated in the Seven Weeks' War of 1866.

Upon the victory over the Austrian forces at the Battle of Königgrätz on July 3, many of the Liberals finally put aside their differences due to their support for Bismarck's highly successful foreign policy. Seizing the opportunity, he introduced a bill that subsequently formalised his circumvention of parliamentary budgetary rights. At voting time on September 3, the political division of the Liberals was confirmed, when 19 National Liberal deputies opted for his "Indemnity Law". The first National Liberal faction in the Prussian parliament was formed on 17 November 1866 around Eduard Lasker and Hans Victor von Unruh.

The National Liberal Party was founded in the course of the North German federal election held on 12 February 1867. They gathered support from the Prussian annexed territories of Hanover and Hesse-Nassau as well as from the other states of the Confederation, emerging as the largest faction in the North German Reichstag. An inaugural declaration was adopted on 12 June 1867. The first party chairman was Rudolf von Bennigsen.

Rudolf von Bennigsen (1824-1902) was a founder and Chairman of the National Liberal Party. Initially he cooperated well with Bismarck and was offered the post of Prussian Minister of the Interior in 1877. Bennigsen was more than willing to cooperate with Bismarck to complete the process of German unification and, in particular, to promote economic development and trade. However, Bennigsen opposed Bismarck's policy changes of 1877-78 and an Anti-Socialist Bill. He resigned his seat in 1883.

The party strongly advocated the interests of the Grand Burgher (German: *Großbürger*) dynasties and business magnates as well as nationalist-minded Protestant circles of the educated bourgeoisie (Bildungsbürgertum). The key points of the party manifesto focussed on national unification and Bismarck's policies, which resulted in the emergence of a German nation state as a constitutional monarchy and highly industrialized country.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Right-Wing	

Lesson 9: How well did Bismarck work with the National Liberals?

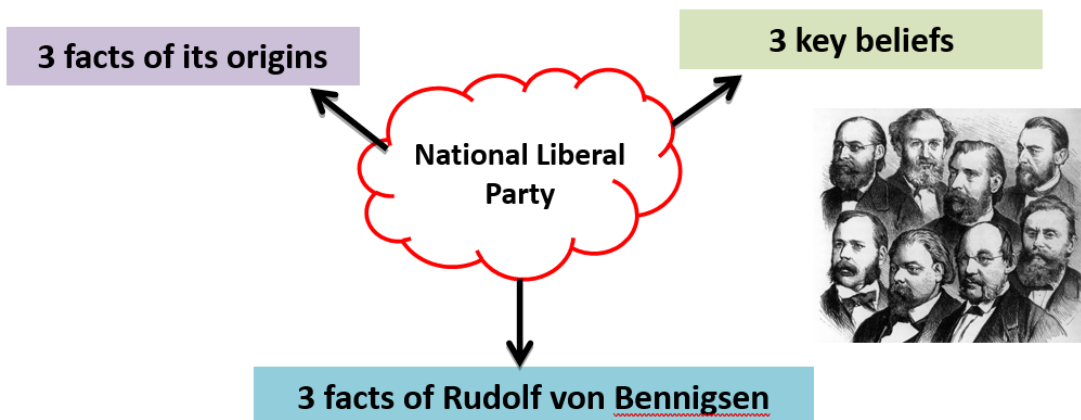
LO: To know the achievements and areas of tension Bismarck had with the NL Party.

LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's relationship with the NL Party between 1871 and 1879.



PRE-READ

Complete spider-diagram like below about the National Liberal Party.



26

Lesson 9: How well did Bismarck work with the National Liberals?



- LO: To know the achievements and areas of tension Bismarck had with the NL Party.
LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's relationship with the NL Party between 1871 and 1879.



NEW INFO

The liberal era, 1871–79

After 1871 Bismarck, who claimed to stand above party or sectional interest, needed a parliamentary majority. Although he was by no means a true liberal, he had little alternative but to work with the National Liberals – the strongest party in the *Reichstag* for most of the 1870s. In some respects the National Liberals were ideal allies. Most of them applauded Bismarck's success in creating a united Germany and were eager to help him consolidate national unity. In the early 1870s, a great deal of useful legislation was passed:

- A **Reichsbank** was created in 1876. This controlled a new currency for the whole Empire.
- A national system of currency was introduced called the Mark, which was very stable because it was backed by gold.
- All internal tariffs were abolished - a uniform law for commerce and the abolition of tariffs on internal trade between Lander.
- There was much legal standardisation – a national penal code (1872), although a single civil law code was not completed until January 1900 and states retained independent control over their police forces
- A single system of weights and measures
- A national postal and telegraph system
- A single court system with a central supreme court for appeals in Leipzig (1879)
- Support for the extension of the railway network across the whole empire.

The National Liberals and Bismarck also united against the Catholic Church. Nevertheless, relations between Bismarck and the National Liberals were always uneasy. Politically Bismarck did not agree with their hopes for the extension of parliamentary government. He became increasingly irritated as they opposed a number of his proposals.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Reichsbank	
Catholic Church	

Lesson 9: How well did Bismarck work with the National Liberals?



LO: To know the achievements and areas of tension Bismarck had with the NL Party.
LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's relationship with the NL Party between 1871 and 1879.



NEW INFO

The army budget

The army budget was a particular bone of contention. In 1867 Bismarck and the National Liberals agreed that the military budget should remain at a fixed level outside *Reichstag* control until 1872. During the Franco-Prussian War the fixed budget was extended until 1874. In 1874 Bismarck presented a law proposing that an army of over 400,000 men should be automatically financed by federal expenditure.

Given that 80 per cent of all federal expenditure was spent on the army, this threatened seriously to reduce the *Reichstag's* monetary powers. The measure – the 'Eternal Law' – was thus opposed by the National Liberals. Accusing them of trying to undermine German military strength, Bismarck threatened to call new elections. The National Liberals shrank from a constitutional conflict. A compromise was eventually reached. The military budget was fixed for seven years at a time (the **Septennates**), rather than voted for annually or fixed permanently.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Prussian Army	
Septennates	

Lesson 9: How well did Bismarck work with the National Liberals?



LO: To know the achievements and areas of tension Bismarck had with the NL Party.
LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's relationship with the NL Party between 1871 and 1879.



Use the reading you have done to complete the table below.

Find **evidence** of Bismarck having a **positive relationship** with the National Liberals and what they **achieved**.

In the **second column**, find **evidence** showing Bismarck having a **negative relationship** with the National Liberals and what **tensions** there were.

Bismarck had positive relationship with National Liberals (achievements)	Bismarck had negative relationship with National Liberals (areas of tension)

Lesson 9: How well did Bismarck work with the National Liberals?



LO: To know the achievements and areas of tension Bismarck had with the NL Party.



LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's relationship with the NL Party between 1871 and 1879.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

In what year was the National Liberal Party founded.	Who was the first party chairman of the NLP?	What year was the Reichsbank created?	What was abolished in the early 1870s?	Where was the supreme court for appeals based
How was the relationship between Bismarck and the National Liberals?	What year was the fixed army budget extended to?	How many men should it pay for?	What was the law nicknamed?	For how many years was the budget eventually fixed for?

APPLY

How successful was Bismarck in dealing with the political issues that arose from the relationship he had with the National Liberals?

Mark an 'x' by the number that you think best answers the above question (1 being very unsuccessful).

Write a **summary paragraph** in your own words explaining your view.



Sentence starters:

Bismarck was very/ mostly/ somewhat/ not successful in dealing with the political issues that arose from the relationship he had with the National Liberals. This was because... For example, in 18... Therefore, Bismarck was successful/ unsuccessful in his relationship with the National Liberals because he was able/ unable to achieve...



Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?

LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics



Write **two questions** you would like to ask about this cartoon.



➤ Leave a line under each question to write the answer at the end of the lesson.



Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics

NEW INFO

The Kulturkampf

Just how important was religion in late 19th-century Germany? Germany was overwhelmingly a Christian country in this period, but, since the Reformation, Germany had been divided along confessional lines, between Catholics and Protestants. In the Holy Roman Empire, the southern German states – such as Bavaria – had been predominantly Catholic while the northern states – such as Prussia – were Protestant. The unification of Germany in 1871 under Prussian control raised numerous concerns among Catholics as to their religious freedoms. Equally, Protestants – particularly middle-class liberals – were suspicious of the Catholic Church and its external allegiance to the Pope in Rome.

The Pope is the head of the Catholic Church and resides in the Vatican in Rome. All Catholics look to the Pope as their spiritual leader. In the 1860s and 1870s, the Catholic Church had become alarmed by 'recent change.' In 1859 Charles Darwin had published *On the Origin of Species*, suggesting a non-Biblical explanation of creation, and then Karl Marx published *Das Kapital* (1867-1894), encouraging workers to rise against their masters and create a classless society. The Pope's own temporal (earthly) power had also been challenged by the unification of Italy.

Much of the 1870s was dominated by Bismarck's clash with the Catholic Church – the *Kulturkampf*. There were a number of reasons for this clash:

- Two-thirds of Germans, mainly those in Prussia and the north, were Protestant. One-third were Catholic.
- In the late nineteenth century Church and State came into conflict in several countries. In 1864 Pope Pius IX's *Syllabus of Errors* had condemned as erroneous every major principle for which liberals stood. In 1870 the Vatican Council laid down the doctrine of papal infallibility. This ruled that papal pronouncements on matters of faith and morals could not easily be questioned.
- These papal measures aroused great alarm in liberal circles. Many of Germany's most enlightened men believed that the future of mankind was at stake. It seemed certain that militant Catholicism would interfere in the *Reich's* domestic affairs and support reactionary causes. The National Liberals, in particular, were determined to do battle with the Catholic Church in what they saw as a life and death struggle for freedom and progress against the forces of backwardness.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Kulturkampf	



Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?

LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics



PRACTICE 1

What was the religious context of Germany?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholic Church?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics

NEW INFO

The Centre Party

German Catholics formed their own party, the Centre Party, in north Germany in 1870 to defend their interests. After the creation of the Empire, it joined forces with south Germans, Poles and the people of Alsace-Lorraine, becoming the second largest party in the *Reichstag* in 1871. It was unique among German parties in drawing its support from all social strata. It favoured greater self-rule for the component states of the *Reich*. It also objected to state interference in the Church's traditional sphere of influence: the education system.

Bismarck and Catholicism

Bismarck, a sincere Protestant, had little affection for Catholicism and viewed the Catholic minority with suspicion. His greatest concern in domestic policy was to unify and consolidate the new *Reich*. Suspicious of those who opposed his creation, he saw plots and subversive activities everywhere. Many of the national minorities – the French in the west and the Poles in the east – who had no wish to be within the *Reich* were Catholic. So were Germans in the southern states, many of whom still tended to identify with Austria rather than with Prussia. So too were the Rhinelanders, some of whom still resented being 'Prussian' (despite being part of Prussia since 1815).

Bismarck saw the success of the Centre Party in 1871 as a grave danger to the Empire's unity. He thought that Centre politicians would encourage civil disobedience among Catholics whenever the policies of the state conflicted with those of the Church. His suspicions deepened when he observed how rapidly the Party became a rallying point for opponents of the Empire.

Whether he really believed that the anti-Prussian political alignment in the *Reichstag* was a papal-inspired conspiracy of malcontents bent on destroying the *Reich* is debatable. But the *Kulturkampf* was widely understood at the time to be a war against internal opponents of unification. It may be that the *Kulturkampf* was also a calculated political ploy on Bismarck's part to put himself at the head of a popular, Protestant crusade. It certainly enabled him to work closely with the National Liberals in the 1870s.

The 'Old Catholics'

Some 5,000 Catholics – they were known as 'Old Catholics' – refused to accept the decree on papal infallibility and broke with the Church. When Old Catholic teachers and professors were dismissed by Catholic bishops, Bismarck had an excellent excuse to attack the Catholic Church. Maintaining that the Prussian government was committed to the principle of religious toleration, he condemned the Catholic Church's actions in a series of newspaper articles in 1872. This marked the start of the *Kulturkampf*.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Centre Party	



Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?

LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics



PRACTICE 1

What was Bismarck's attitude towards Catholicism and the Centre Party?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

What was the decree on Papal Infallibility and how did Bismarck use it to his advantage?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics

NEW INFO

Actions against the Catholic Church

While the *Kulturkampf* was centred on Prussia and directed against the Catholics of the Rhineland and Poland, its effects were felt throughout the *Reich* and legislation against the Church was passed in Prussia, by other state governments and by the *Reichstag*.

- In 1871 the Zentrum was portrayed as the 'home' of Bismarck's 'enemies' (***Reichsfeinde***) in an orchestrated press campaign
- The Catholic section of the Prussian Ministry of Religion and Education was abolished
- Clergy were forbidden from any mention of politics while preaching
- In May 1872 diplomatic relations with the Vatican were broken off
- In 1872 Catholic schools were brought directly under the supervision of the state. In 1872 the *Reichstag* forbade the Jesuit order, a Catholic order of priests whose members had always been supporters of Papal authority, to set up establishments in Germany and empowered state governments to expel individual Jesuits.

May Laws were introduced in May 1873 by the Prussian Minister of Religion and Education, Adalbert Falk. These laws applied only to Prussia and consisted of the following:

- Catholic education came under state supervision.
- Only those who had studied in Germany and passed a state exam could become priests.
- Existing priests were required to retrain and prove their loyalty to the state.
- The appointment of clergy was to be made by the state (rather than the Pope).
- A civil marriage ceremony was made compulsory (this was then applied throughout the Empire).
- All Catholic religious orders were dissolved (this was also extended throughout the Empire in 1875).
- State financial aid to the Catholic Church was ended.
- Prussian Catholics were deprived of certain legal and civil rights.

Other actions against the Church included:

- In 1874 the responsibility for the registration of births, marriages and deaths in Prussia was removed from the Church and taken over by the state.
- All states were given the right to restrict the freedom of movement of the clergy and any banned priest caught preaching could be placed under house arrest or even expelled from Germany.
- In 1875 the Prussian government was given the power to suspend state subsidies to dioceses where the clergy were resisting the new laws.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Reichsfeinde	



Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?

LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics



PRACTICE 1

What actions did Bismarck's government take against the Catholics?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

How did Prussia's treatment of Catholics differ from the rest of the German Empire?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 10: Why did Bismarck clash with the Catholics?

LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck clashed with the Catholic Church.

LO: To be able to explain the actions Bismarck's government took against the Catholics



CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

What religion were most of the Southern States?	What religion were most of the northern states?	Name the two main northern and southern states	What is <i>the Kulturkampf</i> ?	What aroused alarm in liberal circles?
What party did the German Catholics form?	What was it by 1871?	What was the home of Bismarck's enemies?	Who was Prussian Minister of Religion and Education?	In what year was the registration of births, marriages and deaths given to the state?

APPLY

➤ Explain why Bismarck clashed with the Catholics.

- Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Success Criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate which factor was the most important reason that Bismarck clashed with Catholics.	Explain one reason why Bismarck clashed with the Catholics.	Give a precise historical example	Evaluate your reason as to why this would have made Bismarck clash with the Catholics
Sentence starters	<i>One reason why Bismarck clashed with the Catholics was... This was because...</i>	<i>For example, ...</i>	<i>This meant that</i>



Lesson 11: Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf.

LO: To be able to explain which factor was the most important in ending the Kulturkampf by 1878.



Look at the election results of **1874**. Compare these results with those for **1871**.

What do you notice?

Party	Seats
The National Liberals	125
Imperial Liberal Party	30
The Centre Party	63
The Social Democratic Party (SPD)	2
The German Conservative Party (DKP)	57
The Free Conservatives	37
The Progressives	46
National Groups	20
Others	2
Total	382

Election results: 1871

Party	Seats
National Liberal Party	155
Imperial Liberal Party	3
Zentrum (Centre Party)	91
German Conservative Party	22
Free Conservatives (German Reich Party)	33
Progressives	49
Socialist Groups	9
National Groups	30
Others	5
Total	397

Election results: 1874

- Write down three things you notice from these results.
 - Do they link in anyway to last lesson?



Lesson 11: Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf.

LO: To be able to explain which factor was the most important in ending the Kulturkampf by 1878.



The end of the Kulturkampf

Despite the repression, the Catholic Church continued to thrive in the German Empire. Persecution created martyrs and encouraged Catholics everywhere to rally to the cause of their Church and support the Zentrum in defence of their interests. Under a new leader, the able politician **Ludwig Windhorst**, the Zentrum organised meetings and 'national resistance tours' attacking the *Kulturkampf*. Their activities brought success in the 1874 elections, when they won 91 seats and were in a position to threaten Bismarck's ability to win a majority in the Reichstag. Although they had fewer seats than the Liberals, they won nearly twice as many as the next-largest party, the Progressives.

KEY PROFILE

Ludwig Windhorst (1812–1891) was the Catholic leader of the Centre Party from 1874. It was chiefly due to his skill and courage as a parliamentary debater and his tact as a leader that the party held its own and constantly increased in numbers. Windhorst was especially exposed to the attacks of Bismarck who, in the 1870s, attempted unsuccessfully to discredit him. After 1879, however, he became reconciled with and even friendly towards Bismarck.



Explain the impact of the Kulturkampf on support for the Centre Party (Zentrum)

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 11: Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf.

LO: To be able to explain which factor was the most important in ending the Kulturkampf by 1878.



Far from unifying the newly created empire, Bismarck had intensified its divisions. There were growing problems in the minority areas and a Catholic barrel-maker even tried to assassinate Bismarck in 1874. Furthermore, German Protestants began to express unease with Bismarck's attack on religious freedoms, and Jews within the dominant National Liberal party expressed concern that the campaign had increased **anti-Semitism** in Germany.

- By 1878, Bismarck had many reasons to want to end the *Kulturkampf*:
- He favoured a closer alliance with Catholic Austria and feared that his anti-Catholic policies would stand in the way.
 - After the agricultural and industrial depressions of the 1870s, Bismarck was anxious to abandon the liberal policy of **free trade**. Since this would lose him the backing of the National Liberals, he needed support from the Centre Party.
 - Bismarck's natural allies, the Protestant Conservatives, had grown increasingly opposed to the *Kulturkampf* because it had promoted hostility towards religion. He could not afford to lose their support.
 - Bismarck felt that increasing working-class support for **socialism** posed an even greater threat to German unity and his own position than the Catholic Church did. Since the Catholic Church had declared itself against socialism, Bismarck hoped to use the Centre Party against this new 'enemy'.

The death of Pope Pius IX in 1878 and the election of the more liberal Leo XIII provided Bismarck with an excuse to change policy. Leo XIII sought reconciliation and Bismarck made the Prussian Minister of Religion and Education, Dr Falk, a scapegoat, forcing his resignation. From 1880, the May Laws were gradually repealed and foreign-trained priests were again allowed to work freely. However, the law on civil marriages and the ban on the Jesuits remained.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
anti-Semitism	
Free Trade	
Socialism	



Lesson 11: Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?

LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf.

LO: To be able to explain which factor was the most important in ending the Kulturkampf by 1878.



PRACTICE 1

Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?

Write one PEEE paragraph that answers this question in your exercise books.

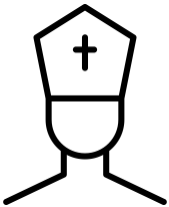
Success Criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate which factor was the most important in ending the <i>Kulturkampf</i>	Explain one reason why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf	Give a precise historical example	Evaluate your reason as to why this would have made Bismarck end the Kulturkampf
Sentence starters	<i>One main reason why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf was due to... This was because...</i>	<i>For example, in 187...</i>	<i>This meant that Bismarck would have ended the Kulturkampf by 1878 because...</i>

PRACTICE 2

How did the death of Pope Pius IX impact Bismarck's relations with the Catholics?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 11: Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf.

LO: To be able to explain which factor was the most important in ending the Kulturkampf by 1878.



The results of the Kulturkampf

The results of the *Kulturkampf* were not what Bismarck had hoped. Attempts to repress Catholicism met with considerable opposition. Pope Pius IX counterattacked, threatening to excommunicate those who obeyed the oppressive laws. Only 30 out of 10,000 Prussian Catholic priests submitted to the new legislation. Catholic communities sheltered defiant priests and fiercely maintained their religious culture and identity.

Bismarck’s hope of destroying the Centre Party backfired: the *Kulturkampf* strengthened rather than weakened his political opponents. In 1871 the Centre won 58 seats: in 1874 it won 91 seats. Bismarck’s hope of leading a popular Protestant crusade also failed to materialise. Protestants opposed some of the *Kulturkampf* legislation because it limited the influence of the Protestant – as well as the Catholic – Church in education. Many on the left disliked the violation of fundamental civil rights, not least freedom of conscience.

The ending of the Kulturkampf led to the following main outcomes:

- Relations with the Papacy improved and Bismarck was able to make his alliance with Austria in 1879.
- The Zentrum transformed itself into a purely religious party, supporting the Empire and thus, in the long-term, strengthening unity.
- Bismarck was freed from dependence on the National Liberals and was able to make the policy changes he desired.



Summarise the main outcomes of the Kulturkampf in your own words below:

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 11: Why did Bismarck end the Kulturkampf?



LO: To know the different reasons why Bismarck ended the Kulturkampf.

LO: To be able to explain which factor was the most important in ending the Kulturkampf by 1878.



Key Knowledge Check

Who was the new leader of the Zentrum?	How many seats had they won by 1874?	By 1878 who was Bismarck trying to form an alliance with?	What did domestic policy did Bismarck want to abandon?	Who had started to oppose the Kulturkampf?
What was a bigger threat according to Bismarck?	What did Pope Pious IX threaten to do to German Catholics?	Why did some Protestants dislike the Kulturkampf?	Who did Bismarck make an alliance with in 1879?	What did the Zentrum transform themselves into?



How effectively did Bismarck solve his problem with the Catholics?

Mark an 'x' by the number that you think best answers this question (1 being very ineffective).



Sentence starters:

To a larger extent, Bismarck was effective/ineffective in solving his problem with the Catholics. This was because in the 1870s Bismarck had attacked the Catholics due to the domestic policy of the Kulturkampf but was forced to end it by the end of the 1870s. For example, by 1878... Therefore, Bismarck had been very effective/ineffective in dealing with the Catholics because...



Lesson 12: How did Bismarck treat national minorities?

LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in dealing with national minorities.

LO: To be able to explain how Bismarck dealt with the Danes, French and Poles.



NEW INFO



My name is Pierre and I am from Alsace Lorraine. This territory was taken from France after the Franco-Prussian War in 1871. That 'Iron Chancellor' Bismarck seems to fear us. This is because some inhabitants in this region speak French, but also even those who do speak German as a first language still consider themselves French rather than German. Bismarck does not like this mon frère.

How has Bismarck dealt with us you ask? Well, Alsace-Lorraine has been administered by the Reich government, and until 1911, has been without representation in the Federal Council. Highly unfair that we cannot be represented!

The outcome of Bismarck's harsh and unfair treatment is that we hate the Germans! We do not want to be a part of the Reich at all. We do not consider ourselves German anyway. Another outcome was in 1913, the awful Zabern Affair occurred. The bloody German soldiers have attacked us Alsatian citizens, further showing how the people of this Germany are not united.

PRACTICE

Use the reading you have done to complete the table below.

Where in the Reich did they live?	Why were they feared by Bismarck?	How were they dealt with?

Lesson 12: How did Bismarck treat national minorities?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in dealing with national minorities.

LO: To be able to explain how Bismarck dealt with the Danes, French and Poles.



NEW INFO



My name is Albert and I am a Pole from East Prussia. This was an area that was acquired by Germany after the dismemberment of Poland in the 18th century. That Chancellor Bismarck fears us the most out of every ethnic minority in this new Reich of his. Why you ask? Well for one, we Poles speak Polish and we increasingly felt a common bond with each other and our relatives under Russian and Austrian rule. Bismarck also fears us because we constitute by far the largest non-German minority in the Reich. He fears that if we make an independent Polish national state then we will claim many Prussian territories and make Germans living there a foreign minority.

The way Bismarck has dealt with us has been beyond terrible. He has outlawed the Polish language in education and the law courts. Bismarck has also tried to 'Germanize' us in Prussia by encouraging internal colonization by Germans of the Polish areas.

The outcome of all of this is that there is so much discrimination against us Poles within Germany that we are seen as separate and lesser people. Between 1885 and 1890 Bismarck even went so far as deporting Poles by force which has affected over 30,000 of us. Overall, the outcome of all of these actions is that we feel extremely isolated and disunited from the empire. We hate the Kaiserreich!

PRACTICE

Use the reading you have done to complete the table below.

Where in the Reich did they live?	Why were they feared by Bismarck?	How were they dealt with?

Lesson 12: How did Bismarck treat national minorities?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in dealing with national minorities.

LO: To be able to explain how Bismarck dealt with the Danes, French and Poles.



My name is Georgia and I am a Danish woman from Schleswig Holstein, the province Prussia had occupied in 1864 (northern part of German Empire). Bismarck has feared us ever since we joined the empire. This is because the Danes formed their own party in the Reichstag but we have resented being governed by Berlin, so we constantly try and veto any laws Bismarck tries to put through the Reichstag.

Bismarck has tried to deal with us harshly since he became Chancellor in 1871. He has refused to hold a plebiscite on Schleswig-Holstein's future, so we do not have a chance to have our own autonomy and independence from the Imperial government.

The outcome of his harsh treatment is that we resent the German Empire and we have no commitment to the Kaiser or the Chancellor. Bismarck should have held a plebiscite for us – although this would have reduced Germany's borders, it would have resulted in a more homogenous society within Germany and just simply made us not hate being part of this Imperial Empire.



Use the reading you have done to complete the table below.

Where in the Reich did they live?	Why were they feared by Bismarck?	How were they dealt with?



Lesson 12: How did Bismarck treat national minorities?

LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in dealing with national minorities.

LO: To be able to explain how Bismarck dealt with the Danes, French and Poles.



CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

What was Bismarck's nickname?	What nationality do the people of Alsace Lorraine consider themselves?	When did Alsace Lorraine get Reich Representation?	When was the Zabren affair?	Who were the largest non German group in Germany?
What did Bismarck ban in East Prussia?	How many Poles did Bismarck deport?	Why did Bismarck fear the Danes?	What has Bismarck refused to do?	What was the name of Danish Provence in Prussia?

APPLY

How successful was Bismarck in dealing with the national minorities?

Mark an 'x' by the number that you think best answers this question (1 being very unsuccessful).

In your exercise books, write a summary paragraph in your own words explaining your view.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Success

Sentence starters:

To a larger extent, Bismarck was successful/unsuccessful in dealing with the national minorities in the German Empire. This was because... For example, with the Danes/Poles/French he... Therefore, Bismarck was very successful/unsuccessful in his domestic policies towards the ethnic minorities in the Reich because...



Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.

NEW INFO

The Zollverein

In 1834 Bavaria and Wurttemberg joined the Prussians. This new enlarged Customs Union – the **Zollverein** – now covered eighteen states with 23 million people. In 1836, when Baden and Frankfurt joined, it included 25 states with a population of 26 million. The organisation and supervision of the **Zollverein** was carried out by a specially appointed body, the **Zollverein** Congress. All **Zollverein** member states had a common system of tariffs and abolished all internal customs barriers.

In the early 1870s Bismarck left economic matters in the hands of Rudolf Delbruck, a capable administrator who continued the free trade policies of the **Zollverein**. Support for free trade was an essential principle of most National Liberals. In 1879, however, Bismarck ditched both free trade and the National Liberals. Aligning himself with the Conservative and Centre parties, he supported the introduction of tariffs to protect German industry and farming.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Zollverein	

PRACTICE

Summarise the economic context of Germany up to the 1870s below:

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.



Economic and financial factors

There were strong economic and financial reasons for introducing protective tariffs. In the late 1870s German agriculture suffered from the effects of a series of bad harvests and from the importation of cheap wheat from the USA and Russia. As the price of wheat fell, German farmers suffered. As a landowner himself, Bismarck understood the dangers of a prolonged agrarian depression. He also feared that if Germany was reliant on foreign grain, it would be seriously weakened in time of war. Protectionism would aid German self-sufficiency.

A slowdown in industrial growth after 1873 helped to produce a crisis of confidence in free trade. Industrialists and workers looked to the government to protect their interests and alleviate their distress. The adoption of protective tariffs by France, Russia and Austria in the late 1870s seemed to make it all the more desirable to follow suit.

Finally, the federal government's revenue, raised from customs duties and **indirect taxation**, was proving woefully inadequate to cover the growing costs of armaments and administration. In order to make up the deficit, supplementary payments were made by individual states, a situation that Bismarck found distasteful. He hoped that new tariffs would give the federal government a valuable extra source of income, ensuring that it was financially independent of both the states and the *Reichstag*.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Indirect Taxation	



Explain the economic and financial factors as to why Bismarck introduced protective tariffs:

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.

NEW INFO

Political factors

Bismarck realised there were political advantages in abandoning free trade. By the late 1870s landowners and industrialists were clamouring for protective tariffs. By espousing protectionist policies, Bismarck could win influential support. Bismarck had grown increasingly irritated by the National Liberals. They constantly demanded more power for the Reichstag and in 1874 they forced him to allow the Reichstag to vote for the army budget every seven years. Bismarck tried to show his independence the same year by pushing through a Press Law that allowed for the prosecution of editors who published material that he did not approve of. This undermined the liberal principle of freedom of the press and was passed with conservative support.

Bismarck believed that tariffs could provide the government with much-needed revenue, which would not be dependent on an annual Reichstag vote. In the 1877 elections the National Liberals lost seats, whilst the pro-protection Conservative parties did rather better. Bismarck saw an opportunity to rid himself of what had become an increasingly troublesome reliance on the liberals.

Election results, 1877 and 1878

In June 1878, Bismarck called an election aimed at depriving the National Liberals of more seats. His gamble paid off when they lost 29 seats and the Conservatives and Zentrum emerged with the overall majority. The combined strength of the two Conservative parties was now sufficient to outvote them in the *Reichstag*. In pursuing the protectionist case, popular with the Conservatives, Bismarck saw his chance to break with the National Liberals and broaden his political support.

Party	1877	1878
The National Liberals	128	99
Zentrum (Centre Party)	93	94
German Conservative Party	40	59
Free Conservatives	38	57
Progressives	52	39
Socialist SPD (Social Democratic Party)	12	9



Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?

LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.



PRACTICE 1

What were the political factors as to why Bismarck introduced protective tariffs?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

What was Bismarck's approach to the National Liberals and did it work?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.



The 1879 Tariff Act

By 1879, protectionists, made up mostly of Conservatives and Centre Party members, had a majority in the *Reichstag*. Bismarck now introduced a general tariff bill.

In July 1879 a tariff bill passed through the *Reichstag* and duties were imposed on imports. The political results were far-reaching. Bismarck had now firmly committed himself to the Conservative camp. The National Liberal Party splintered. Those who still believed in free trade and parliamentary government broke away, eventually uniting with the Progressives to form a new radical party in 1884. Other National Liberals remained loyal to Bismarck but he was no longer dependent on their backing. In that sense the 'liberal era' was effectively at an end.

The political results of the changes of 1878-79

- The National Liberal Party split and lost influence.
- Bismarck was strongly supported by the conservatives and by the landowners and big industrialists, some of whom had formerly supported the liberals. This was the beginning of an **'alliance of steel and rye'**.
- The Reich became more united in its support of protection, since Bismarck presented tariffs as a patriotic necessity, essential for the defence of the fatherland.
- Tariffs raised the cost of living for workers, making them more inclined to support the Socialists.
- Bismarck had demonstrated his political skill and opportunism, his control over the Reichstag, and his ability to make and break alliances.



Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Tariffs	



What was the 1879 Tariff Act? What were the political results of the Tariff Act?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?

LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.



The economic effects of the Tariff Act

Historians continue to debate the economic effects of the abandonment of free trade. Arguably, protective tariffs consolidated the work of unification by drawing north and south Germany closer together and accelerated the growth of a large internal market. Protection might have meant higher bread prices, but this did not mean that workers had lower living standards. Tariffs did serve to protect German jobs.

The Centre Party and the National Liberals determined to frustrate Bismarck's attempt to make the government less dependent on the states and *Reichstag*. A Centre Party deputy, Count George von Frankenstein put forward a scheme whereby all revenues coming to the federal government in excess of 130 million marks were to be divided up among the states, and would then be returned as part of the state payments. As a result of the 'Frankenstein Clause' the budgetary rights of the *Reichstag* and the state parliaments were preserved. Bismarck thus failed to secure the financial independence he sought.



What were the economic effects of the Tariff Act?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 13: Why did Bismarck come to support protectionist policies?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck's economic policies were for Germany.

LO: To be able to explain why Bismarck came to support protectionist policies.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

What was the name of the enlarged Customs Union?	Who supported free trade?	When did Bismarck ditch free trade and the National Liberals?	Who suffered with the drop in the price of wheat?	Who adopted protective tariffs in the late 1870s?
Who wanted protective tariffs?	What did Bismarck pass that restricted freedom of speech?	How many seats did the Liberals lose in the 1878 election?	Who made up the alliance of steel and rye?	Who did the workers begin to support when the cost of living increased?

APPLY

How successful were Bismarck's economic policies?

Mark an 'x' by the number that you think best answers this question (1 being very unsuccessful).

In your exercise books, write a summary paragraph in your own words explaining your view.



Sentence starters:

To a larger extent, Bismarck's economic policies were very successful/ unsuccessful. This was because... For example, in 1879... Therefore, Bismarck's economic policies were a huge success/failure politically/ economically for Germany because...



Lesson 14: Why did Bismarck see the Socialists as a threat?

LO: To know the actions Bismarck took against the Socialists and their outcomes.

LO: To be able to explain the different reasons why Bismarck disliked the Socialists.



NEW INFO

Bismarck and socialism

In 1875 moderate and revolutionary socialists united to form the Social Democratic Party (or SPD). The Party's declared aim was the overthrow of the existing order. But it also declared that it would use only legal means in the struggle for economic and political freedom. The new Party called for **nationalisation** of banks, coal mines and industry, and for social equality.

The socialist threat

Bismarck was hostile to socialists, regarding them as dangerous revolutionaries. Rather than underestimating the enemy, as with the *Kulturkampf*, it may be that he overestimated the socialist threat. Socialists were not as strong or as revolutionary as he feared and they liked to appear. However, Bismarck's fears were rational. Socialism was a threat to the kind of society he intended to maintain. Socialists did preach class warfare and did talk of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Moreover, as Germany became more industrialised, swelling the ranks of the proletariat, socialist support increased. In 1877 the SPD won nearly 500,000 votes giving them twelve seats in the *Reichstag*.

Assassination attempts

In 1876 Bismarck tried to pass a bill preventing the publication of socialist propaganda. It was defeated. Other measures to prosecute the SPD also failed to get through the *Reichstag*.

In May 1878 an **anarchist** tried to assassinate Emperor William I. The would be assassin had no proven association with the SPD, but Bismarck, like many of his contemporaries, drew no clear distinction between anarchism and socialism and saw the murder attempt as part of a 'red' conspiracy. However, his efforts to push through a bill against socialism were defeated by National Liberal members, concerned about civil liberties.

A week later there was a second attempt on William's life that resulted in the Emperor being seriously wounded. Again the failed assassin had no direct SPD link, but Bismarck criticised the National Liberals for failing to pass the anti-socialist bill that might have protected the Emperor. Scanting political advantage, he dissolved the *Reichstag*.

His manoeuvre succeeded. The electorate, deeply shocked by the murder attempts, blamed the SPD and the National Liberals. The SPD vote fell from 493,000 in 1877 to 312,000 while the National Liberals lost 130,000 votes and 29 seats.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Nationalisation	
Anarchist	



Lesson 14: Why did Bismarck see the Socialists as a threat?

LO: To know the actions Bismarck took against the Socialists and their outcomes.
LO: To be able to explain the different reasons why Bismarck disliked the Socialists.



PRACTICE 1

Why did Bismarck fear the socialists so much?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

How did Bismarck use the assassination attempts to his advantage?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 14: Why did Bismarck see the Socialists as a threat?

LO: To know the actions Bismarck took against the Socialists and their outcomes.

LO: To be able to explain the different reasons why Bismarck disliked the Socialists.



NEW INFO

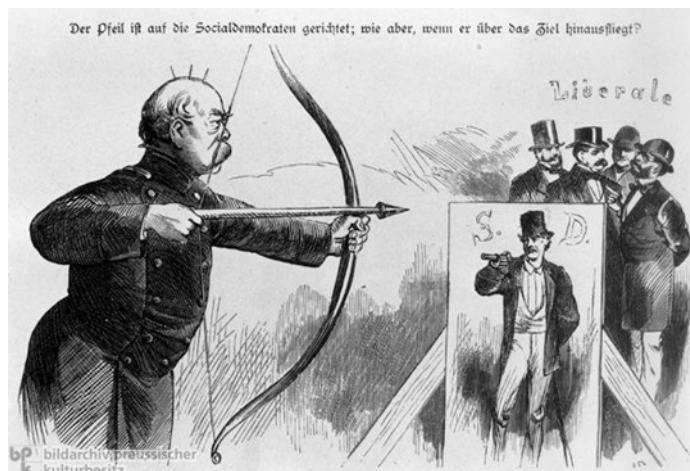
Bismarck's actions against socialism

Bismarck now got his way in the new *Reichstag*. An anti-socialist bill, supported by Conservatives and most National Liberals, was passed in October 1878. This law did not actually ban the SPD as such; members could still take part in elections and sit in the Reichstag and federal governments. Nevertheless, by its terms:

- Socialist organisations, including trade unions, were banned.
- Socialist meetings were to be broken up.
- Socialist publications were outlawed.
- Police powers were increased, meaning the police could search houses, arrest on suspicion, break up meetings, processions and festive gatherings, censor publications, and seize the property of organisations perceived to be a danger to the state.
- Penalties including fines, imprisonment, hard labour and exile from Germany were established.

PRACTICE 2

Around the cartoon, summarise Bismarck's actions against Socialism:





Lesson 14: Why did Bismarck see the Socialists as a threat?



LO: To know the actions Bismarck took against the Socialists and their outcomes.

LO: To be able to explain the different reasons why Bismarck disliked the Socialists.

NEW INFO

Outcomes of the Anti-Socialist legislation

The anti-Socialist measures hit hard at the SPD. The cabinet, civil service and Prussian Landtag were all purged in 1880 to remove liberal sympathisers, around 15,000 socialist activists were imprisoned, and others were exiled. The SPD struggled to find candidates to contest the 1881 elections, and one candidate, August Bebel, stood in 35 different constituencies.

Other negative outcomes included:

- 1,350 publications and 45 out of 47 socialist newspapers were suppressed.
- The Prussian police expelled 67 leading socialists from Berlin (1879) and prominent socialists were driven from Breslau (1879), Hamburg (1880) and Leipzig (1881).
- Trade unions were crushed.
- Between 1878 and 1890 some 1,500 socialists were imprisoned and a great many emigrated.

However, the Anti-Socialist Law, far from eliminating socialism, served to rally the faithful and fortify them in their beliefs. Moreover, the law, which was differently implemented in different German states, did not prevent SPD members from standing for election and speaking freely in both the *Reichstag* and state legislatures. After the dip in 1878, the SPD won increasing support. By 1890 it had over a million votes and 35 seats. Within a few years, trade unionism revived. There were a series of strikes in the industrial and mining areas and by 1890 membership had reached 278,000. Socialist groups also continued to meet in secret to discuss policy developments and collect financial contributions. Secret conferences were organised on foreign soil including Switzerland in 1880 and Denmark in 1883.

In short, Bismarck's attack on socialism was no more successful than his attack on the Catholic Church. His repressive measures may have helped to increase support for the SPD and ensured that moderate and revolutionary socialist factions remained united.

PRACTICE

What were the outcomes of his anti-Socialist laws?

Positive Outcomes	Negative Outcomes



Lesson 14: Why did Bismarck see the Socialists as a threat?

LO: To know the actions Bismarck took against the Socialists and their outcomes.

LO: To be able to explain the different reasons why Bismarck disliked the Socialists.



CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

What was formed in 1875?	In 1877 who many votes did the SPD win	Who did Bismarck blame for the attempted assassination of Wilhelm I	What did Bismarck do after the 2 nd attempt on Wilhelm I's life?	Who did the electorate blame?
Who supported the anti-Socialist bill?	Name one term of the bill	How many socialist activists were imprisoned in 1880?	By 1890 how many votes and seats did the SPD have?	What had Bismarck's anti socialist measures result in?

APPLY

➤ Why did Bismarck see the Socialists as a threat?

- Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Success Criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate which factor was the most important reason why Bismarck saw socialism as a threat..	Explain one reason why Bismarck saw socialism as a threat	Give a precise historical example	Evaluate your reason as to why this would have made Bismarck saw socialism as a threat.
Sentence starters	<i>One reason why Bismarck saw socialism as a threat was... This was because...</i>	<i>For example, ...</i>	<i>This meant that</i>



Lesson 15: How successful was Bismarck's State Socialism?

- LO: To know how successful Bismarck's policy of State Socialism was.
- LO: To be able to explain the successes and failures of State Socialism.



DO NOW 



- Look at the cartoon
- Write a list of words/adjectives that come to mind when you look at these pictures.



Lesson 15: How successful was Bismarck's State Socialism?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck's policy of State Socialism was.

LO: To be able to explain the successes and failures of State Socialism.

NEW INFO

State socialism

Bismarck did not use only repression in his efforts to destroy socialism. He hoped to wean the working classes from socialism by introducing various welfare (state socialism) measures, designed to assist German workers. These measures may not have been as cynical as some of Bismarck's critics have implied. A devout Christian, Bismarck was conscious of a moral obligation to aid those in need. There was a strong tradition in Prussia and other parts of Germany, and a general belief, held by most parties, **right** and **left**, that one of the state's most important moral objectives was the promotion of the material well-being of its citizens.

In 1883 the first of his proposals for state socialism became law. The Sickness Insurance Act provided medical treatment and up to thirteen weeks' sick pay to three million low-paid workers. The workers paid two-thirds of the contribution and the employers one-third. A worker who was permanently disabled or sick for more than thirteen weeks was given protection by the Accident Insurance Act of 1884. This was financed wholly by the employers. Finally in 1889 came the Old Age and Disability Act which gave pensions to those over 70, and disablement pensions for those who were younger. This was paid for by workers, employers and the state.

PRACTICE

Read the information about and complete the table below:

Act	Year	Details
The Sickness Insurance Act		
The Accident Insurance Act		
The Old Age and Disability Act		



Lesson 15: How successful was Bismarck's State Socialism?

LO: To know how successful Bismarck's policy of State Socialism was.

LO: To be able to explain the successes and failures of State Socialism.



NEW INFO

How successful was state socialism?

Bismarck's hopes that the working class could be won over by state socialism were not fully realised. Many workers thought the measures a 'sham', particularly as the government still opposed the formation of trade unions. The welfare legislation was not particularly generous. Nor did Bismarck grant unemployment insurance. Moreover, many workers continued to labour under harsh conditions and while such conditions persisted, the SPD was assured of a future. Bismarck, believing that employers must control their factories, opposed demands for state intervention to regulate working hours and limit child and female employment.

Nevertheless, Bismarck's measures laid the foundations of the welfare state in Germany. They were also the first of their kind in the world and became a model of social provision for other countries.

PRACTICE

Read the information about and complete the table below:

Successes of Bismarck's State Socialism	Failures of Bismarck's State Socialism



Lesson 15: How successful was Bismarck's State Socialism?

LO: To know how successful Bismarck's policy of State Socialism was.
LO: To be able to explain the successes and failures of State Socialism.



CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

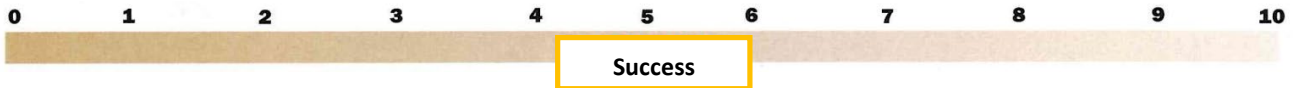
What did Bismarck introduce to keep the working classes from socialism?	What was a moral belief of most Germans?	What did the first state socialism proposal become law?	What did the Sickness Insurance Act provide?	Who did the Accident Insurance Act protect?
What did many workers think?	What did the government still oppose?	What did Bismarck oppose?	What did Bismarck's measures help create?	Why were the measures important?

APPLY

How successful was Bismarck's State Socialism?

Mark an 'x' by the number that you think best answers this question (1 being very unsuccessful).

In your exercise book, write a summary paragraph in your own words explaining your view.



Sentence starters:

To a larger extent, Bismarck's State Socialism was very successful/ unsuccessful. This was because... For example, in 188... Therefore, Bismarck's State Socialism was a huge success/failure because...



Lesson 16: How much control did Bismarck have over the Reichstag?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in controlling the Reichstag during his reign.

LO: To be able to explain which periods saw Bismarck having the most and least political control over the Reichstag.

DO NOW



- **Bismarck appears before the Reichstag in 1886.**
- **What can this painting tell you about Bismarck's reception in the Reichstag?**



Lesson 16: How much control did Bismarck have over the Reichstag?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in controlling the Reichstag during his reign.

LO: To be able to explain which periods saw Bismarck having the most and least political control over the Reichstag.



The role of the Reichstag and the struggle between autocracy and democracy

Bismarck’s relationship with the Reichstag could be stormy. Although the constitution offered a form of democratic government, this had only been granted because Bismarck had believed the mass of conservative German peasantry would be loyal to the monarchy and state. What he had not bargained for was the rise of industry and the economic shifts that led to an increasingly urban and industrial population who, through their elected representatives, wanted a real democracy in which their voice was heard and acted upon.

Bismarck hated having to take account of anyone else’s views (even the Kaiser’s). He never shared power with other ministers, who were known simply as ‘secretaries’ and were not allowed to develop into a responsible cabinet. Since Reichstag approval was necessary for legislation, Bismarck was forced into aligning himself with different political groups; however, his personal preference in the conduct of politics leaned towards autocracy, rather than democracy and he had little patience with the demands of political parties.

During the 1870-78 period when Bismarck relied on the National Liberals, his Junker supporters expressed concern about this ‘unnatural’ alliance. They were jealous of the growing power of the merchants, businessmen and factory owners and feared that the liberal domination would harm the interests of the Prussian landowners. Clashes over the Press Law, the military budget, economic protection, and measures to curb socialism eventually brought the alliance with the National Liberals to an end.



Read the information about and complete the table below:

Time period	Who was Bismarck aligned with in the Reichstag?	What was his relationship like with the Reichstag?
1870-78		



Lesson 16: How much control did Bismarck have over the Reichstag?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in controlling the Reichstag during his reign.

LO: To be able to explain which periods saw Bismarck having the most and least political control over the Reichstag.

NEW INFO

The role of the Reichstag and the struggle between autocracy and democracy

After the policy changes of 1878-79, Bismarck turned to his more natural supporters – the Conservatives – and, less obviously, to the Zentrum, playing on fears of socialism. However, Bismarck’s relationship with the Reichstag was little better after 1879 than before it. Indeed, it worsened as the SPD deputies grew more vociferous in opposition. In 1880 Bismarck even considered setting up an alternative ‘Reich Council’, which would ‘bypass’ the Reichstag. As an experiment, he tried this out in Prussia, establishing a Prussian Council with representatives from commerce, industry and agriculture. Unsurprisingly, the scheme was rejected by the imperial Reichstag.

From 1881, when the Progressives (left Liberals) gained the most seats in the Reichstag elections, probably as many as 75% of the Reichstag deputies were hostile to Bismarck’s government and challenged almost every measure. Between 1881 and 1886, neither a Conservative-Centre coalition nor a Conservative-National Liberal one could command a majority in the Reichstag. This meant that Bismarck had to try to create majorities from various disparate groups according to the measure he wanted accepted. Opposition was such that the pace of legislation was slowed down.

PRACTICE

Read the information about and complete the table below:

Time period	Who was Bismarck aligned with in the Reichstag?	What was his relationship like with the Reichstag?
1878-80		
1881-86		



Lesson 16: How much control did Bismarck have over the Reichstag?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in controlling the Reichstag during his reign.

LO: To be able to explain which periods saw Bismarck having the most and least political control over the Reichstag.

NEW INFO

The role of the Reichstag and the struggle between autocracy and democracy

In 1886, Bismarck sought the Reichstag's support for a 10% increase in taxation, to finance army growth. Meeting hostility, he had the Reichstag dissolved in January 1887 and artificially contrived a war scare crisis in order to get the support he needed in the new Reichstag. The war scare crisis was when in 1886, General Georges Boulanger was appointed French Minister of War. Boulange wanted revenge for the French defeat of 1871 and the return of Alsace-Lorraine. When the Germans arrested a French official on the border of Alsace in April 1887, Boulanger made some war-like threats. Bismarck used these as evidence of an imminent war with France. The elections of 1887 produced a pro-Bismarck combination of the two Conservative parties and the National Liberals, and taxation was duly granted. However, government remained unstable and unreliable.

In October 1890, Bismarck proposed a new permanent Anti-Socialist Bill, which would permit strong police action. This provoked heated debate and Bismarck rashly suggested that he should, perhaps, allow the Socialists to rise in rebellion so that the army could be called upon to crush them once and for all. The Reichstag rejected the bill and another General Election was held. It increased the representation of the SPD and Progressive Party and was to be Bismarck's last as Chancellor.

PRACTICE

Read the information about and complete the table below:

Time period	Who was Bismarck aligned with in the Reichstag?	What was his relationship like with the Reichstag?
1886-87		
1890		



Lesson 16: How much control did Bismarck have over the Reichstag?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in controlling the Reichstag during his reign.

LO: To be able to explain which periods saw Bismarck having the most and least political control over the Reichstag.

PRACTICE 1

Which period saw Bismarck having the most political control over the Reichstag?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



PRACTICE 2

Which period saw Bismarck having the least political control over the Reichstag?

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.





Lesson 16: How much control did Bismarck have over the Reichstag?



LO: To know how successful Bismarck was in controlling the Reichstag during his reign.

LO: To be able to explain which periods saw Bismarck having the most and least political control over the Reichstag.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

What was the relationship like between the Reichstag and Bismarck?	Why did the rise of industry change the Reichstag?	Who oppose Bismarck's alliance with the liberals?	In 1880 what did Bismarck consider creating?	In 1881 who had the most seats in the Reichstag?
Why did Bismarck have to try to create majorities from different groups?	In 1886 what did Bismarck try to introduce?	What did Bismarck use to form a coalition in 1887?	In 1890 what did Bismarck propose?	What was the consequence?

APPLY

How successful was Bismarck in controlling the Reichstag between 1871 and 1890?

Mark an 'x' by the number that you think best answers this question (1 being very unsuccessful).

In your exercise book, write a summary paragraph in your own words explaining your view.



Sentence starters:

To a larger extent, Bismarck was very successful/unsuccessful in controlling the Reichstag between... This was because he was able/unable to... For example, in 18... Therefore, Bismarck was very successful/unsuccessful in controlling the Reichstag during this time period because...

Lesson 17: Why did Bismarck fall from power?

LO: To know different reasons why Bismarck fell from power.

LO: To be able to explain different reasons why Bismarck fell from power by 1890.

DO NOW



- Look at the cartoon
- Write a list of words/adjectives that come to mind when you look at these pictures.

Lesson 17: Why did Bismarck fall from power?

LO: To know different reasons why Bismarck fell from power.

LO: To be able to explain different reasons why Bismarck fell from power by 1890.

NEW INFO

Why did Bismarck fall from power?

By the late 1880s Bismarck's position seemed in jeopardy. Emperor William I was in his eighties. If William died, Crown Prince Frederick, a man of liberal views, would ascend the throne. It seemed likely that Frederick would dismiss Bismarck and appoint a liberal chancellor.

Wilhelm II and Bismarck

While William I lived, Bismarck's hold on power was never in question. Their meetings were often stormy and emotional. They shouted, threw things and often quarrelled. But they understood each other. 'It is not easy to be the Emperor under such a Chancellor', William remarked, but he managed it successfully, mainly by letting Bismarck have his own way.

When William died (aged 90) in March 1888 he was succeeded by his son Frederick. Frederick, however, died from cancer only three months later. Frederick's 29-year-old son Wilhelm then became Emperor. A convinced German nationalist, Wilhelm was committed to the belief that he ruled by the **divine right of kings**. Wilhelm's character was complex. On the positive side, he was intelligent and energetic. On the negative, he was overbearing, arrogant and erratic.

After Frederick's death, Bismarck's position seemed secure again. He had cultivated Wilhelm's friendship for several years and in public the new *Kaiser* expressed his admiration for Bismarck. But a great gulf separated the two, not least in terms of age. Bismarck, assuming that Wilhelm would not involve himself much in matters of government, tended to treat him in a condescending manner. But Wilhelm was determined to rule as well as to reign. 'I'll let the old boy [Bismarck] potter along for another six months', he told his cronies, 'then I'll rule myself'.

KEY TERMS

Complete the table below, explaining what each key phrase means

Key Term	Definition
Divine right of kings	

PRACTICE

Explain how Kaiser Wilhelm II came to the throne:

Lesson 17: Why did Bismarck fall from power?

LO: To know different reasons why Bismarck fell from power.

LO: To be able to explain different reasons why Bismarck fell from power by 1890.

NEW INFO

Bismarck and Wilhelm in conflict

Wilhelm and Bismarck were soon at odds. Wilhelm questioned the need to maintain the Reinsurance Treaty with Russia. The two also disagreed over social policy. Unlike Bismarck, Wilhelm was confident that he could win over the working class by a modest extension of the welfare system, including an end to child labour and Sunday working. Bismarck, by contrast, favoured further repression. Thus, in 1889 he proposed to make the Anti-Socialist Law permanent. Wilhelm was not against renewing the law (he too feared socialism), but he wanted the measure watered down. Bismarck refused. He was then let down by the *Reichstag*, which rejected his entire bill in January 1890. This was a sign that his political power was crumbling.

In February 1890, with new *Reichstag* elections underway, Wilhelm issued a proclamation promising new social legislation. The absence of Bismarck's counter-signature on this proclamation caused a sensation. The election was a disaster for Bismarck. His Conservative and National Liberal allies lost 85 seats while the Radicals gained 46 seats and the Socialists won 24 seats.

Bismarck was trapped between an Emperor bent on having his own way and a hostile *Reichstag*. In an attempt to recover his position, he proposed an extraordinary scheme: the *Reichstag* would be asked to agree to a large increase in the army and a new and extremely repressive anti-socialist law. If, as was probable, they refused, an assembly of German Princes would meet, alter the constitution and drastically curtail the *Reichstag's* powers. Wilhelm refused to support Bismarck's plan and relations between the two men became even worse.

PRACTICE

Explain the role of the Reichstag in Bismarck's fall from power:

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Lesson 17: Why did Bismarck fall from power?

LO: To know different reasons why Bismarck fell from power.

LO: To be able to explain different reasons why Bismarck fell from power by 1890.

NEW INFO

Bismarck dismissed

In March 1890 Wilhelm and Bismarck quarrelled about the right of ministers to advise the monarch. Bismarck had revived an old order first issued in 1852, which forbade ministers to approach the Prussian King except through the Minister President of Prussia. Bismarck interpreted this to mean that all ministers must obtain permission from him as Chancellor, before they could discuss any government business with the Emperor. Wilhelm was not prepared for such restrictions and commanded that the 1852 order be withdrawn. At a stormy interview Bismarck nearly threw an inkpot at Wilhelm and then enraged him by letting him see a letter from Tsar Alexander III, which was very disparaging of his talents.

Wilhelm now sent Bismarck an ultimatum: resign or be dismissed. Three days later Bismarck sent a letter of resignation in which he justified his actions, claiming (wrongly) that the real difference between Wilhelm and himself lay in the *Kaiser's* pursuit of an anti-Russian policy. This letter was not made public until after Bismarck's death. The official announcement implied that he had resigned for health reasons and that Wilhelm had made every effort to persuade him to change his mind.

In reality Bismarck retired with ill grace to write his memoirs and innumerable newspaper articles, invariably critical of Wilhelm. Failing to exert any influence on policy, he was even heard to speak in favour of republicanism: kings, he said, were dangerous if they had real power. He died in July 1898. On his grave were the words, 'Here lies a true servant of the Emperor William I'.

PRACTICE

Describe the events surrounding Bismarck's dismissal as Chancellor:

In the outline of the icon write key words to remind you.



Lesson 17: Why did Bismarck fall from power?

LO: To know different reasons why Bismarck fell from power.

LO: To be able to explain different reasons why Bismarck fell from power by 1890.

PRACTICE 1

Collect evidence to support each of the following factors:

Wilhelm II's personality/beliefs	Disagreements with Wilhelm II	Loss of control of Reichstag

PRACTICE 2

Sort the reasons for Bismarck's fall from power using the table below:

Long-Term Factors	Short-Term Factors

Lesson 17: Why did Bismarck fall from power?

LO: To know different reasons why Bismarck fell from power.

LO: To be able to explain different reasons why Bismarck fell from power by 1890.

CONSOLIDATE

📍 Key Knowledge Check 📍

When did William die?	What happened to Williams' successor?	What did Wilhelm II believe in?	What did Wilhelm question?	What did he propose in 1889?
What caused a sensation on the new social legislation?	How many seats did the Conservative-liberals lose in 1890?	What did Bismarck blame for his resignation?	What did the Kaiser blame for his resignation?	When did Bismarck die?

APPLY

➤ **Why did Bismarck fall from power?**

- Answer the question in your exercise books using the keyword box below to help you.

Success Criteria:

Learning Outcome	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
I can evaluate the most important reason why Bismarck fell from power by 1890	Identify and explain one reason why Bismarck fell from power	Give a precise historical example	Evaluate your reason as to why this led to Bismarck falling from power
Sentence starters	<i>A main reason why Bismarck fell from power was due to the long/short term factor of... This was because...</i>	<i>For example in 18...</i>	<i>Therefore, Bismarck fell from power by 1890 because...</i>



Lesson 18: How successful was Bismarck?



LO: To know the key achievements of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

LO: To be able to explain key successes and failures of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

PRACTICE

How successful was Bismarck as Chancellor of Germany from 1871-1890?

Sort the information below to complete the table on the follow pages

In the **first column**, give **details** about **Bismarck's policies/aims** for each policy.

In the **second column**, **evaluate** how **successful** Bismarck was in achieving his **original aim**.

Bismarck wanted further economic development & trade and so wanted to work with the National Liberal leader, Rudolf von Bennigsen to achieve further unification. He wanted a strong German Empire.

The Zentrum had been set up to protect Catholic interests in 1870 and had become the second-largest party in the Reichstag by 1871, with 63 deputies. Bismarck feared the party might oppose his measures to strengthen and unify the state. He also hoped that an attack on the Catholic Church would win him stronger support from Protestants throughout the Reich. He thought Centre politicians would encourage civil disobedience among Catholics whenever policies of state conflicted with Church.

July 1879 Tariff Bill meant duties were imposed on imports. Bismarck had firmly committed himself to the Conservative camp and no longer needed the National Liberals. Protective tariffs consolidated the work of unification by drawing north and south Germany closer together and accelerated the growth of a large internal market.

Bismarck was hostile to socialists, regarding them as dangerous revolutionaries as they were a threat to the kind of society he intended to maintain. In October 1878 Bismarck push through Anti-Socialist Bills.

Bismarck's hope of destroying the Centre Party backfired: the Kulturkampf strengthened rather than weakened his political opponents. In 1871 the Centre won 58 seats; in 1874 it won 91 seats.

Bismarck's repressive measures increased support for the SPD and ensured that moderate and revolutionary socialist factions remained united. Even with the introduction of State Socialism Bismarck was unable to win over the working class who thought the measures a 'sham', particularly as the government still opposed formation of trade unions.

Bismarck was able to work with the unnatural alliance of the Liberals and managed to pass through much legislation such as the creation of the Reichsbank in 1876 which controlled a new currency for the new Empire called the Mark and a national postal and telegraph system.

In 1879, Bismarck supported the introduction of tariffs to support German industry and farming. One motive was Bismarck realised political advantages in abandoning free trade. By late 1870s landowners and industrialists were clamouring for protective tariffs. By espousing protectionist policies, Bismarck could win influential support.

One '**Reichsfeinde**' Bismarck targeted were the national minorities within Germany's borders. These minorities totalled several million, and Bismarck was seriously worried about the security implications of having minorities around Germany's borders. Bismarck therefore embarked on a policy of '**negative integration**' or repression, of these groups.

By the 1880s he was finding it increasingly difficult to maintain the political system he had forged in 1871. Bismarck had denied the Reichstag a positive role in the making of laws and seemed to thrive on confrontation. This left a weakened Reichstag to face an ambitious and interfering new Emperor.

As with his attacks on the other "**Reichsfeinde**" (The Catholic Centre Party) **Bismarck failed** in his handling of the national minorities. Although there were few major rebellions in these areas, integration never occurred. Instead, the restrictions resulted in minorities looking to their 'fatherlands' even more, and keeping their culture alive.

Bismarck hated having to take account of anyone else's views (even the Kaiser's). He never shared power with other ministers, who were known simply as 'secretaries' and were not allowed to develop into a responsible cabinet. Since Reichstag approval was necessary for legislation, Bismarck was forced into aligning himself with different political groups; however, his personal preference in the conduct of politics leaned towards autocracy, rather than democracy and he had little patience with the demands of political parties.

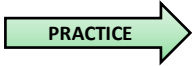


Lesson 18: How successful was Bismarck?



LO: To know the key achievements of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

LO: To be able to explain key successes and failures of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.



How successful was Bismarck as Chancellor of Germany from 1871-1890?

Policy	Details of Bismarck's policies and dealings	Evaluation: Level of success (Rating 1-5)
Domestic & political: The new German constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Liberals during the nineteenth century had pushed for a more democratic and liberal form of government 1871 elections National Liberals held the majority of seats in Reichstag (125 seats) so Bismarck relied on National Liberals to push through legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 = Bismarck was successful in keeping the National Liberals happy and on his side in the Reichstag as he made the constitution appear far more democratic than it supposedly was he was able to keep the National Liberals on side whilst also simultaneously increasing his own personal power within the constitution. Bismarck could only be appointed and dismissed by the Kaiser and was thus only responsible to him
Political: Moves to further unification		
Domestic: The struggle against the Catholic Church		



Lesson 18: How successful was Bismarck?



LO: To know the key achievements of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

LO: To be able to explain key successes and failures of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

PRACTICE

How successful was Bismarck as Chancellor of Germany from 1871-1890?

Policy	Details of Bismarck's policies and dealings	Evaluation: Level of success (Rating 1-5)
Domestic economics: Economic protection		
Domestic: The struggle against Socialism		

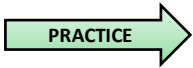


Lesson 18: How successful was Bismarck?



LO: To know the key achievements of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

LO: To be able to explain key successes and failures of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.



How successful was Bismarck as Chancellor of Germany from 1871-1890?

Policy	Details of Bismarck's policies and dealings	Evaluation: Level of success (Rating 1-5)
<p>Domestic: Control of the national minorities</p>		
<p>Political: Control of the Reichstag</p>		



Lesson 18: How successful was Bismarck?



LO: To know the key achievements of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

LO: To be able to explain key successes and failures of Bismarck's reign as chancellor.

CONSOLIDATE

Key Knowledge Check

What was introduced in July 1879?	Who was Bismarck hostile to?	What was set up to protect Catholic interests?	Who was the National Liberal Leader?	In 1879 what was introduced to support Germany industry and farming?
What did Bismarck embarked upon a policy of which was aimed at minority groups?	In 1871 who had the most seats in the Reichstag?	Who was the main socialist party?	What did Bismarck try to push through in October 1878?	Which two groups wanted protective tariffs?

APPLY

How successful do you think Bismarck was as Chancellor of Germany from 1871 to 1890?



Sentence starters:

To a larger extent, Bismarck was...as Chancellor of Germany from 1871 to 1890. This was because... For example, in 18... Therefore, Bismarck was largely successful/failure as a Chancellor because...



Lesson 19: Assessment: Exam Lesson – Section B Question



LO: To know how to answer a Section B Essay Question.

LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's reign as chancellor of Germany.

A Level History Exam – Section B

AQA History examinations will test your ability to:

Assessment Objective	You need to...
AO1	<i>Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.</i>

A Level practise Section B question:

How accurate is it to say that Bismarck had little success in domestic affairs from 1871 to 1890? [25 marks]

Highlight the **key words or phrases** you think are **important** in this essay question.

Remember, you have **40 minutes** to answer this exam question.

You will have a **choice** of **THREE questions** in Section B.

You **must** answer two of the essay questions.

a) Focus & structure:

- A **clear structure** makes for a much more effective essay.
- In **each paragraph** you will deal with **one factor** – a domestic affair Bismarck faced.
- You will first have to decide the **order of your paragraphs**.
- Deal with the domestic affairs in **chronological order** – in the order that Bismarck faced them.
- Remember that you also need a **short but clear introduction** that briefly explains your **argument** in relation to the question and a **conclusion** that provides a summary.



Lesson 19: Assessment: Exam Lesson – Section B Question



LO: To know how to answer a Section B Essay Question.

LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck’s reign as chancellor of Germany.

- This question will enable you to practise the skill of **balanced essay writing**. Before you begin, draw up a **two-column plan**.
- On **one side** jot down the ways in which Bismarck had **little success** in **domestic affairs** during his reign and **on the other** where he had **greater success**.
- Decide whether you will **agree or disagree** with the view overall and make your **judgement** clear in your **introduction** and again – having argued the case with reference to both sides – in your **conclusion**.
- **Copy** the **key arguments** and evaluations from the **table below**.
- Can you **add an argument** to the **right-hand column**: that Bismarck was **largely successful** with domestic affairs?
- Can you add **one more argument** to **either** of the columns to show which side you will be arguing?

Bismarck had little success in domestic affairs	Bismarck had large success in domestic affairs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kulturkampf, 1871-78 – a major blunder. Bismarck saw Kulturkampf as a war against internal opponents of unification; Zentrum would encourage civil disobedience among Catholics whenever the policies of the state conflicted with those of Church. May 1873 Falk Laws – all candidates for priesthood had to attend secular university before commencing training. Evaluation = Bismarck’s hope of destroying the Centre Party backfired: the Kulturkampf strengthened rather than weakened his political opponents. In 1871 the Centre won 58 seats: in 1874 it won 91 seats. Bismarck’s hope of leading popular Protestant crusade failed to materialise. • Socialist threat - Bismarck was hostile to socialists, regarding them as dangerous revolutionaries as they were a threat to the kind of society he intended to maintain. In October 1878 Bismarck push through Anti-Socialist Bills. Evaluation = Bismarck’s repressive measures increased support for the SPD and ensured that moderate and revolutionary socialist factions remained united. Even with the introduction of State Socialism Bismarck was unable to win over the working class who thought the measures a ‘sham’ particularly as the government still opposed formation of trade unions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moves to further unification - Bismarck wanted further economic development & trade and so wanted to work with the National Liberal leader, Rudolf von Bennigsen to achieve further unification. He wanted a strong German Empire. Bismarck was able to work with the unnatural alliance of the Liberals and managed to pass through much legislation such as the creation of the Reichsbank in 1876. Evaluation = Bismarck had been able to appease the Liberals with the democratic aspects of the 1871 constitution and so was able to utilise and rally their support to achieve his own goals of further German unification



Lesson 19: Assessment: Exam Lesson – Section B Question



LO: To know how to answer a Section B Essay Question.

LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's reign as chancellor of Germany.

a) Writing a focused introduction

- It is vital that you maintain focus on the question from the beginning of your essay.
- One way to do this is to use the wording of the question to help you write your argument.

What do you think we need to include in our introduction?

How would we write our introduction?

- For example, your first few sentences could look like this:

Having created the German Empire in 1871, Bismarck had to deal with a number of different domestic affairs during his reign as Chancellor. Inevitably, over the course of nearly two decades, Bismarck tackled some of the affairs more successfully than others. Bismarck was Chancellor of Germany from 1871 to 1890.

- These opening sentences provide a clear focus on the demands of the question, recognising that you have to highlight the domestic affairs Bismarck faced and adjudge his success.
- Now that we have set the scene and explained who Bismarck was and some background historical context, we now want to **make our argument** very clear to the examiner.
- We need to decide if we **agree or disagree** with the statement in the question from the very beginning.
- Come to a yes or no answer in your head – ***was Bismarck a failure in domestic affairs?*** Yes or no!
- You will need to make your argument clear in your next few sentences then briefly **foreshadow** what will be included in your main paragraphs i.e. **each factor you will be explaining**.
- Let us **jointly construct** what it will look like next.

b) Deploying detail

- **Detailed essays** are more likely to do well than essays which are vague and generalised.
- There are several different kinds of evidence you could use that might be described as detailed.
- This includes **correct dates, views of relevant people, statistics and events**.
- You can also make your essays more detailed by using the **correct technical vocabulary**.
- Here you could use words and phrases such as ***'Reichstag', 'Bundesrat', 'realpolitik' and 'Kulturkampf'*** that you have learned while studying this topic.



Lesson 19: Assessment: Exam Lesson – Section B Question



LO: To know how to answer a Section B Essay Question.

LO: To be able to evaluate Bismarck's reign as chancellor of Germany.

a) Writing up your answer

- Now it is time to write your answer.
- This must be **balanced** throughout.
- There must be **at least five paragraphs** in the main body.
- This must be a **3:2 answer** (either 3 arguments that Bismarck had little success in domestic affairs and 2 arguments that he had large levels of success or vice versa).
- Use your **planning grid** to write **PEEE paragraphs**. (Point, Explanation, Evidence and Evaluation).

One way that Bismarck had little success in domestic affairs were his policies surrounding the struggle against the Catholic Church. This was because he carried out a policy of *Kulturkampf* as he saw Catholics as '*Reichsfeinde*' insofar as those Centre politicians (who were Catholic) would encourage civil disobedience among Catholics whenever policies of state conflicted with those of the Church. For example, in May 1873 Dr. Adalbert Falk, the Prussian Minister of Religion and Education, introduced a package of measures known as the May Laws. These aimed to bring the Catholic Church under state control such as all candidates for the priesthood having to attend a secular university before commencing training. Therefore, Bismarck ended up having little success with his policy of the *Kulturkampf* because by 1878 he had to end it. Bismarck's hope of destroying the Centre Party backfired: the *Kulturkampf* strengthened rather than weakened his political opponents. In 1871 the Centre won 58 seats: in 1874 it won 91 seats. Bismarck had underestimated the enemy; the Catholic Church had more popular support than he had expected. By opening up a rift between the Reich and its Catholic subjects, the *Kulturkampf* had increased disunity, not removed it.

- **Paragraph 2 – balance** your answer by evaluating how Bismarck had large success with domestic affairs concerning further reunification
- **Paragraph 3 – your own argument**. Evaluate how Bismarck had little success with domestic affairs concerning socialism and the socialist threat
- **Paragraph 4 – balanced response**. Evaluate how Bismarck had large success in attempting to deal with the workers by introducing State Socialism
- **Paragraph 5 – your own argument**. Evaluate how Bismarck had little success with domestic affairs concerning his handling of national minorities
- **Conclusion – summarise** your arguments. Evaluate why Bismarck had little success with domestic affairs from 1871 to 1890. Was a particular domestic affair more unsuccessful/successful than another? If so explain and evaluate why.