

## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

# Reading Essentials and Study Guide Industrialization and Nationalism

## Lesson 3 *Nationalism, Unification, and Reform*

### ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How can innovation affect ways of life?

How does revolution bring about political and economic change?

### Reading HELPDESK

#### *Content Vocabulary*

**militarism** the reliance on military strength

**kaiser** German for “caesar”; the title of the emperors of the Second German Empire

**plebiscite** a popular vote

**emancipation** the act of setting free

**abolitionism** a movement to end slavery

#### *Academic Vocabulary*

**unification** the act, process, or result of making into a coherent or coordinated whole; the state of being unified

**regime** the government in power

### TAKING NOTES: Summarizing Information

1. **ACTIVITY** As you read, use the table below to list the changes that took place in the indicated countries during the nineteenth century.

Great Britain	France	Austrian Empire	Russia

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### IT MATTERS BECAUSE

*The revolutions of 1848 had failed, but the forces of nationalism and liberalism remained powerful for the rest of the nineteenth century. Both Italy and Germany were unified. Great Britain and France became more liberal, or accepting of reform.*

### Toward National Unification

**GUIDING QUESTION** What led to the unification of Italy and Germany after the revolution of 1848?

## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

The revolutions of 1848 had failed. However, both Germany and Italy would be unified by 1871. The changes that made this possible began with the Crimean War.

### **Breakdown of the Concert of Europe**

The Crimean War was the result of a long-term struggle between Russia and the Ottoman Empire. For many years, the Ottoman Empire had controlled most of the Balkans in southeastern Europe. By 1800, however, the Ottoman Empire began to lose power.

Russia was especially interested in expanding its power into Ottoman lands in the Balkans. Russian ships could then sail through the Dardanelles, the straits between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. If Russia could achieve this goal, it would become the major power in Eastern Europe. Also, Russia could challenge British naval control of the eastern Mediterranean. Other European nations feared Russian ambition. These other nations had their own interest in the decline of the Ottoman Empire.

The Russians invaded the Turkish Balkan provinces of Moldavia and Walachia in 1853. In response, the Ottoman Turks declared war on Russia. Great Britain and France feared Russia would gain power and land, so they declared war on Russia the following year. This conflict came to be called the Crimean War. The Crimean War was poorly planned and poorly fought. Eventually, heavy losses caused the Russians to seek peace. The Treaty of Paris, which was signed in March 1856, forced Russia to allow Moldavia and Walachia to be placed under the protection of all the great powers of Europe.

The Concert of Europe was a loose agreement between the major European powers to work together to maintain peace. The Crimean War destroyed this agreement. Austria and Russia had been the chief powers maintaining the status quo, or current state of affairs, before the 1850s. They were now enemies. Austria had its own interests in the Balkans, so the country refused to support Russia in the Crimean War. Russia's defeat was embarrassing, and it resulted in Russia's withdrawal from European affairs for the next 20 years. Austria was left without friends among the former Concert members. This situation opened the way for the **unification** of two new countries—Italy and Germany.

### **Italian Unification**

In 1850 Austria was the dominant power on the Italian Peninsula. The revolution of 1848 had failed. The people began to look to the northern Italian state of Piedmont for leadership. They hoped the kingdom of Piedmont, under the rule of the royal house of Savoy, would take the lead in bringing Italy under one government. The kingdom included Piedmont, the island of Sardinia, Nice, and Savoy. King Victor Emmanuel II became the ruler of the kingdom in 1849.

In 1852 the king chose Camillo di Cavour for his prime minister. Cavour worked on bringing in more money for the government to equip a large army. Cavour knew that Piedmont's army was not strong enough to defeat the Austrians, so he made an alliance with the French emperor Louis-Napoleon. Then he provoked the Austrians to declare war in 1859.

The peace settlement that ended the conflict gave Nice and Savoy to the French. Lombardy, which had been under Austrian control, was given to Piedmont. Austria kept control of Venetia. Nationalists in other Italian states were inspired by Cavour's success. The people of Parma, Modena, and Tuscany overthrew their governments and joined their states to Piedmont.

At the same time, a new Italian leader had arisen in southern Italy. Giuseppe Garibaldi, a dedicated patriot, gathered an army of a thousand volunteers. A branch of the Bourbon dynasty ruled the Two Sicilies (Sicily and Naples), and a revolt against the king had started in Sicily. Garibaldi's forces landed in Sicily, and by the end of July 1860, Garibaldi controlled most of the island. In August, Garibaldi's forces crossed over to the mainland and began a victorious march up the Italian

## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

Peninsula. The entire Kingdom of the Two Sicilies fell in early September.

Garibaldi chose to give his conquests to Piedmont. On March 17, 1861, a new state of Italy was proclaimed with King Victor Emmanuel II as the ruler. Unification of Italy was not yet complete, however. Austria still held Venetia in the north, and the pope, supported by French troops, still controlled Rome, in the central part of Italy.

When Austria and Prussia went to war, the Italians gave their support to Prussia. As a result, the Italians gained control of Venetia in 1866. During the Franco-Prussian War, French troops withdrew from Rome in 1870. Their withdrawal allowed the Italian army to take over Rome on September 20, 1870. Rome became the capital of the new European state of Italy.

### **German Unification**

The Frankfurt Assembly failed to unify Germany in 1848 and 1849. So, Germans looked to Prussia for leadership in the cause of German unification. Prussia had become a strong, prosperous, and authoritarian state in the course of the nineteenth century. The Prussian king had firm control over both the government and the army. Prussia was also known for its **militarism**, or reliance on military strength.

In the 1860s, King William I tried to increase the size of the Prussian army. The Prussian legislature refused to levy new taxes to build the army. So William I appointed a new prime minister. His name was Count Otto von Bismarck. Bismarck was a strong believer in the "politics of reality," or realpolitik. He made decisions based on practical matters rather than on ethics, or moral values.

Bismarck openly stated his strong dislike for anyone who opposed him. After he became prime minister, Bismarck ignored legislature's opposition to the military reforms. He proceeded to collect taxes and strengthen the army. From 1862 to 1866, Bismarck governed Prussia without the approval of the parliament. At the same time, he followed an active foreign policy, which soon led to war.

Prussia defeated Denmark with Austrian help in 1864. As a result, Prussia gained control of the duchies (lands ruled by a duke or duchess) of Schleswig and Holstein. Bismarck then goaded the Austrians into war on June 14, 1866. The Austrians were no match for the well-disciplined Prussian army. Austria was defeated on July 3.

Prussia now controlled the German states north of the Main River. These states were organized into the North German Confederation. The southern German states were largely Catholic, and they feared Protestant Prussia. However, they feared France, their western neighbor, more. So, they agreed to sign military alliances with Prussia. In turn, they received protection against France.

Prussia now dominated all of northern Germany. The growing power and military might of Prussia worried France. In 1870 a relative of the Prussian king became a candidate for the throne of Spain. Prussia and France argued over whether he had the right to rule. Bismarck took advantage of this situation. He pushed the French into declaring war on Prussia on July 19, 1870. This conflict became the Franco-Prussian War.

Prussian armies moved into France. On September 2, 1870, at Sedan, an entire French army and the French ruler, Napoleon III, were captured. Paris finally surrendered on January 28, 1871. An official peace treaty was signed in May. France had to pay 5 billion francs (about \$1 billion). In addition, the country had to hand over the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine to the new German state. The French were angry about the loss and wanted revenge.

Before the war had ended, the southern German states agreed to enter the North German

## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

Confederation. On January 18, 1871, Bismarck and 600 German princes, nobles, and generals filled the Hall of Mirrors in the palace of Versailles, 12 miles (19.3 km) outside Paris. William I of Prussia was proclaimed **kaiser**, or emperor, of the Second German Empire. (The first was the medieval Holy Roman Empire.)

The Prussian monarchy and army had unified Germany. The new German state gladly accepted the authoritarian and militaristic values of Prussia. The unified Germany had abundant industrial resources and military might. As a result, Germany became the strongest power in Europe.

### PROGRESS CHECK

2. **Explaining** How did the Crimean War destroy the Concert of Europe?

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### Nationalism and Reform in Europe

**GUIDING QUESTION** What were the political climates in Great Britain, France, Austria, and Russia?

While Italy and Germany worked for unification, other European states were also experiencing changes.

#### Great Britain

Europe saw many revolutionary upheavals in the first half of the nineteenth century. Great Britain, on the other hand, managed to avoid revolution. In 1815 aristocrats who owned land dominated both houses of Parliament. In 1832 that changed. Parliament passed a bill that increased the number of male voters. The new voters were chiefly members of the industrial middle class. This law allowed industrial middle class members to participate in government. As a result of this change, Britain avoided revolution in 1848. In the 1850s and 1860s, Parliament made several social and political reforms. These reforms helped the country remain stable. In addition, Britain's economy was growing. By 1850, the British middle class was prosperous as a result of industrialization. After 1850, real wages of workers also rose significantly.

Queen Victoria ruled from 1837 to 1901, which was the longest reign in English history. Her dedication to her country perfectly reflected the national pride of the British. She was a dutiful and morally respectable queen. Her character came to define the values and attitudes of her age. Later that time period was named the Victorian Age.

#### France

After the revolution of 1848, Louis-Napoleon was elected president of France. From that time on, the French moved toward restoring the monarchy. Four years later, Louis-Napoleon asked the people to restore the empire. He put the question to vote. In this **plebiscite**, or popular vote, 97 percent answered yes. On December 2, 1852, Louis-Napoleon became Emperor Napoleon III. (Napoleon II was the son of Napoleon Bonaparte, but he never ruled France.) The Second Empire had begun.

The government of Napoleon III was clearly authoritarian. As chief of state, Napoleon III controlled the armed forces, police, and civil service. He was the only one who had the power to introduce legislation and declare war. The Legislative Corps appeared to represent the people because

## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

members of the group were elected by universal male suffrage for six-year terms. However, they could not suggest new laws or influence the budget, or the government's plan for spending.

Napoleon III completely controlled the government and limited civil liberties. He needed to distract the public from their loss of political freedom. As a result, he focused on expanding the economy. The government gave money to companies to support the construction of railroads, harbors, roads, and canals.

At the same time, Napoleon III also invested in the rebuilding of Paris. Paris was a city with narrow streets and stone walls. After Napoleon's changes were finished, Paris was a modern city. It contained broad boulevards, spacious buildings, public squares, an underground sewage system, a new public water supply system, and gaslights.

In the 1860s, the French began to oppose some of Napoleon's economic and governmental policies. In response, Napoleon III began to liberalize his **regime**, or government. He gave the legislature more power. After the French were defeated in the Franco-Prussian War, Napoleon's Second Empire fell.

### The Austrian Empire

Nationalism was a major force in nineteenth-century Europe. However, one of Europe's most powerful states—the Austrian Empire—was a multinational empire. Its government kept control even though its ethnic groups desired independence.

The Hapsburg rulers crushed the revolutions of 1848 and 1849. They then brought back centralized, autocratic government to the empire. In 1866 Austria was defeated by the Prussians. As a result, the government was forced to make concessions to the fiercely nationalistic Hungarians. The Compromise of 1867 created the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary. Each of these two parts of the empire now had its own constitution, its own legislature, its own government bureaucracy, and its own capital (Vienna for Austria and Budapest for Hungary). A single monarch ruled both. Francis Joseph was emperor of Austria and king of Hungary. Also, the two states shared a common army, foreign policy, and system of finances.

### Russia

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, Russia was still mostly rural. Its economy heavily depended on agricultural. Its government was autocratic. The Russian czar was seen as a divine-right monarch. That is, the people believed he had a god-given right to rule. He had unlimited power. In 1856 the Russians were overwhelmingly defeated in the Crimean War. Even conservative Russians realized that the country had fallen hopelessly behind the western European states. Czar Alexander II decided to make some reforms.

Serfdom was the largest problem in czarist Russia. On March 3, 1861, Alexander issued an **emancipation** edict, which freed the serfs. Peasants could now own property. The government bought land from landlords to give to the peasants. The new land system, however, was not very helpful to the peasants. The landowners often kept the best lands for themselves. As a result, the Russian peasants had little good land to farm to support themselves. In the end, emancipation failed to create a free, landowning peasantry. Instead, the reform created unhappy, landstarved peasants who largely followed old ways of farming.

Alexander II tried other reforms as well. Even with the changes, he seemed to please no one. Reformers wanted more changes while conservatives thought the czar was destroying Russia's basic institutions. In 1881 radicals assassinated Alexander II. His son, Alexander III, turned against reform. He returned to the old methods of oppression.

### PROGRESS CHECK

## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

3. **Examining** What concessions did the Hungarians gain from the Compromise of 1867?

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### Nationalism in the United States

**GUIDING QUESTION** How did nationalism influence events in the United States during the 1800s?

Nationalism and liberalism were key ideas of the United States Constitution. However, the new nation found it difficult to act in a united way. A major issue was the division of power in the new government. Federalists wanted a strong central government, while Republicans wanted the federal (central) government to be less powerful than the state governments.

By the mid-nineteenth century, another dividing issue arose. Four million enslaved African Americans were in the South by 1860, compared with one million in 1800.

The South's economy was based on growing cotton on plantations. Enslaved Africans worked on them. The South was determined to maintain the cotton economy and plantation-based slavery. In the North, **abolitionism**, a movement to end slavery, arose and challenged the Southern way of life.

Opinions about slavery grew more and more divided and compromise seemed impossible. In 1858, Abraham Lincoln addressed the issue in a speech. He expressed his belief that the U.S. government would not survive "half slave and half free." When Lincoln was elected president in November 1860, war became certain. In April, fighting arose between North and South—the Union and the Confederacy.

The American Civil War (1861–1865) was a bloody struggle. Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation declared most of the nation's enslaved people "forever free." The Confederate forces surrendered on April 9, 1865. The United States remained united, "one nation, indivisible."

### PROGRESS CHECK

4. **Identifying** What issues divided Americans in the 1800s?

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## Industrialization and Nationalism: Reading Essentials and Study Guide: Lesson 3

### **Answer Key**

1. Great Britain: Vote extended, social and political reforms; France: Economic expansion, Paris rebuilt, war with Prussia; Austrian Empire: dual monarchy; Russia: serfs freed.
2. Russia and Austria became enemies. Russia withdrew from world affairs for 20 years. Italy and Germany pursued unification.
3. They gained their own constitution, legislature, government bureaucracy, and capital.
4. The balance of power between the federal government and state governments, and slavery.