

Option A: 19th century, The Development of  
Modern Nation States, 1848-1914

## 1 Were the Revolutions of 1848 important?

### Focus Points

- Why were there so many revolutions in 1848?
- Did the revolutions have anything in common?
- Why did most of the revolutions fail?
- Did the revolutions change anything?

### Specified Content

- The nature of revolutions in 1848, influence of liberalism and nationalism.
- The causes and events of revolutions in France, Italy, Germany and the Austrian Empire.
- Reasons for the failure of the revolutions.

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### 2 How was Italy unified?

#### Focus Points

- Why was Italy not unified in 1848-9?
- How important was Garibaldi's contribution to unifying Italy?
- Did Cavour help or hinder the unification of Italy?
- How important for other European countries were moves towards Italian unification?

#### Specified Content

- Austrian influence over Italy.
- Italian nationalism and the role of Mazzini.
- The events of 1848-9.
- Victor Emmanuel II and Cavour: Plombieres, war with Austria in 1859. Garibaldi and the invasion of Sicily and Naples.
- Creation of the Kingdom of Italy, completion of unification by 1870.

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### 3 How was Germany unified?

#### Focus Points

- Why was Germany not unified in 1848-50?
- How did Bismarck bring about Austria's defeat of 1866?
- How did Bismarck bring about France's defeat of 1870?
- How far was Bismarck responsible for the unification of Germany?

#### Specified Content

- German nationalism, the Zollverein, the 1848 revolution in Prussia, the setting up and eventual failure of the Frankfurt Parliament, re-establishment of Austrian influence in Germany by 1850.
- Bismarck as Prussian Minister President: his foreign policy to 1871: Schleswig-Holstein, the Austro-Prussian War and its consequences, relations with France, the Spanish Succession and the Franco-Prussian War, the creation of the German empire.

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## 4 Why was there a civil war in the United States?

### Focus Points

- How far did slavery cause the Civil War?
- What was the significance of Lincoln's election as President?
- Why was the North able to win the war?
- Did the war change anything?

### Specified Content

- Causes and consequences of the American Civil War, 1820-77: differences between North and South;
- slavery, slave states and free states; abolitionism;
- the 1860 election and secession of the Southern states;
- reasons for the North's victory, the role of Lincoln; reconstruction.

(Coverage of the events of the war is not required except insofar as they help to explain the North's victory.)

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## 5 How effectively had Japan modernised itself by 1914?

### Focus Points

- What was the impact of Perry's missions on Japan?
- Why did the Meiji Restoration occur?
- How westernized was Japan by 1914?
- Was Japan a Great Power by 1914?

### Specified Content

- Perry's missions and the unequal treaties.
- The Meiji Restoration and modernization.
- Japan's relations with her neighbors to 1914.

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## 6 What caused the First World War?

### Focus Points

- Did the Alliance System make war more likely or less likely?
- How far did colonial problems create tensions between the Great Powers?
- Why were problems in the Balkans so difficult for the Great Powers to solve?
- How did the assassination of Franz Ferdinand lead to war?

### Specified Content

- The origins of the First World War, 1890-1914:
  - the Alliance System,
  - colonial rivalries,
  - developments in the Balkans,
  - the crisis of June-July 1914 and the outbreak of war.