



The Thomas Hardy School

Summer Preparation Task

Modern History – Germany A Level

Purpose of task:

- To understand how Germany was unified by 1871 and the role that Bismarck played in forging a modern state.
- To develop skills in research, organisation and written communication.

Task: You are going to produce a research project exploring two key questions which are fundamental to the A level history course.

Part 1: How was German unified by 1871?

You need to research:

- a) The growth of German nationalism 1815-1850
- b) The Battle of Schleswig-Holstein 1863
- c) The Austro-Prussian War 1866
- d) The Franco-Prussian War 1870-71

Part 2: Why is Otto von Bismarck remembered as ‘the Iron Chancellor’?

You need to research the life and legacy of Bismarck including:

- a) Early life
- b) Achievements
- c) Allies and enemies
- d) Death and legacy

Success criteria:

- ✓ For each war you need to explain: **what caused the conflict, which states/countries were involved** and **what the consequences of the conflict were** (with particular emphasis on German territory and power)
- ✓ You need to **provide a range of details** about each aspect of Bismarck’s life and legacy
- ✓ You should **provide a conclusion**, directly answering the two research questions
- ✓ Your project should be thoroughly researched using **at least 5 different websites/books/articles etc** and these should be listed in a **bibliography** at the end of your project
- ✓ Your project should be **written in your own words** and have a **colourful and creative layout** which engages the reader, including headings, images and annotated maps.

Prizes will be awarded for the best research projects in each class!

Recommended resources:

Websites:

BBC Bitesize, Growth of Nationalism in Germany
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zqyrqcdm/revision>

BBC Bitesize, Unification
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/higher/history/nationalism/unification/revision/1/>

German unification <http://igcse-history.weebly.com/unification-of-germany.html>

BBC History – Bismarck
http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/bismarck_otto_von.shtml

German History in Documents and Images <http://germanhistorydocs.gi-dc.org/home.cfm>

Audio:

Radio 4 In Our Time: Bismarck
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00775pm>

Radio 4 Memories of a Nation: Bismarck the Blacksmith
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04k6sd7>



Deadline for Task: First lesson in week commencing 11th September 2017

Additional Information:**Recommended reading & activities list:**

W Carr, A History of Germany 1815-1990, Hodder Murray, 1991

D Cooper, J Laver and D Williamson, Years of Ambition: European History 1815-1914, Hodder Murray, 2001

G Craig, Germany 1866-1945, Oxford University Press, 1999

I Geiss, The Question of German Unification 1806-1996, Routledge, 1997

M Kitchen, A History of Modern Germany 1800 to the Present, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012