

473/08

HISTORY – HI3

UNIT 3

IN-DEPTH STUDY 8

THE UNIFICATION OF ITALY, c. 1856-1871

A.M. THURSDAY, 12 January 2006

(1 hour 30 minutes)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources or quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

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IN-DEPTH STUDY 8

THE UNIFICATION OF ITALY, c. 1856-1871

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question.

1. Garibaldi and Italian unification, 1859-1871.

Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.

‘The mere news that the Piedmontese were on their way caused great confusion in Naples. Garibaldi lacked the ability or the will to organize an effective opposition to the Piedmontese and most people therefore felt that they had no alternative but to bow to the inevitable. After all, Garibaldi had always proclaimed himself the loyal servant of Victor Emmanuel. The alternative to his abdication of authority was civil war and for Garibaldi that was unthinkable. Garibaldi’s
5 abandonment of his authority in 1861 ought in itself to have disposed of the criticism that he was merely a wild man. He was a great soldier and an inspiring leader of men. Yet the Italian politicians, Cavour and his successors, may be forgiven much of their mistrust of Garibaldi. It was much easier to retire to Caprera with a bag of seed corn than to have to deal with the Italian
10 situation his zeal had created. If Cavour and the Piedmontese must bear a large proportion of the blame for the disappointments that mark the early history of the Italian kingdom, Garibaldi has his responsibilities also. Garibaldi forced the pace in 1860, but it was a pace that all but killed the spirit of the Risorgimento in Italy.’

[L.C.B. Seaman, writing in a general history of Europe, *From Vienna to Versailles* (1955)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the phrase ‘the Risorgimento’ (line 13). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Garibaldi’s commitment to the new Italian kingdom? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of Garibaldi and Italian unification, 1859-1871? (You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source). [20]

2. Piedmont and the Rise of Cavour.

Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.

‘Cavour’s domestic administration of Piedmont between 1852 and 1859 had as its aim the creation of a state stable and prosperous enough to dominate Italy. In some respects stability was achieved by methods that would not have been approved by the English liberals he so much admired. Mazzinian democrats were persecuted, the Mazzinian press was suppressed, and Parliament was
5 blatantly overridden when it did not serve the purposes of the Prime Minister. Cavour seized upon a series of dubious technicalities to unseat a number of the successful candidates and reduce the right wing to manageable proportions. In January 1855, Cavour held all three of the main posts of the administration, Prime Minister, foreign minister and finance minister.

10 Cavour’s most important contribution to the liberation of Italy was that he was able to place the “Italian question” firmly into the general context of European diplomacy. Whatever the process by which the decision was reached, by the end of 1854, Piedmont had concluded an agreement with the allies by which 18,000 Piedmontese troops would travel to the Crimea. Ironically, neither the military intervention nor the Congress of Paris were successful for the Italian cause.’

[T.A. Morris, writing in a general history of Europe, *European History 1847-1945* (1995)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** what is meant by the phrase “Congress of Paris” (line 13). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about Cavour’s diplomatic skills? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of Piedmont and the rise of Cavour?
(*You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.*) [20]

SECTION B

Answer **one** question.

3. Franco-Piedmontese negotiations and the war with Austria, 1859.

Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.

Source A

‘The Emperor readily agreed that it was necessary to drive the Austrians out of Italy once and for all. After we had settled the fate of Italy, the Emperor asked whether your Majesty would give up Savoy and Nice. He merely remarked that this was a secondary question which we could discuss later.’

[Cavour’s report to Victor Emmanuel of his meeting with Emperor Napoleon III at Plombieres (July 21st 1858)]

Source B

‘Napoleon wanted to wage war against Austria, as a means of improving diplomatic relations. There had been an improvement in relations between France and Russia after the Crimean War of 1856, and Napoleon saw no reason why this might not be the case after a war with Austria.’

[A.J.P. Taylor, a British historian, writing in an article in *English Historical Review* (1936)]

Source C



[A cartoon from *Punch*, a British satirical magazine. The cartoon reveals Napoleon III and the Austrian Emperor, fighting to settle the fate of the Babes in the Wood, [Italy and Victor Emmanuel II of Piedmont – Sardinia] (May 1859)]

Source D

‘Finally, His Majesty Victor Emmanuel expressed himself as quite taken aback by Napoleon’s sudden peacemaking at Villafranca, with all its attendant circumstances, but explains it by the only fact in this account which may be considered important if true, that Napoleon III is unable to continue the war because he was in reality anything but prepared to fight it.’

[A dispatch from the British military attaché in Milan, George Cadogan, to the British foreign secretary (July 14th 1859)]

Source E

‘A lack of popular enthusiasm in Lombardy and insufficient support from the Piedmontese army were two reasons given by the Emperor Napoleon III when in July 1859, without so much as consulting his ally and before proceeding to attack Venice, he unexpectedly signed an armistice at Villafranca.’

[Denis Mack Smith, an academic historian, writing in an historical biography, *Mazzini*, (1994)]

- (a) Compare Sources D and E. How do Sources D and E show contrasting views of the truce of Villafranca, July 1859? [8]
- (b) Study Sources B and C. How reliable are Sources B and C as evidence to an historian studying the war with Austria 1859? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources for an understanding of Franco-Piedmontese negotiations and the war with Austria, 1859?
(*You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.*) [24]

4. The final unification of Italy, 1861-1871.

Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.

Source A

‘It is my duty to stress Italy’s rights very firmly: her right to complete her unity, to assure her independence and peace. We claim Rome as our natural capital and Venetia as an integral part of our natural soil. If only these rights were generally admitted, if only the Powers instead of opposing them would make them a priority in the councils of Europe, then our problems would be simplified and many possible uncertainties and dangers would be removed.’

[From Italian Prime Minister, Baron Ricasoli, to Count De Launay, Italian ambassador in Berlin
(July 15th 1861)]

Source B

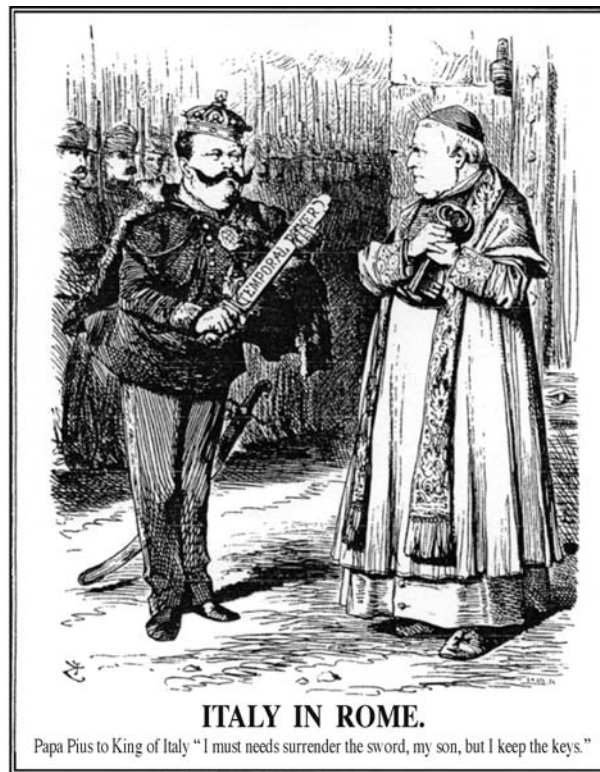
‘What the Italian government won, was won for them by Prussia, and it was necessary for the government to find a victim to throw to the wolves, so that they might escape. The real causes of the non-success of Italians was the government’s lack of preparation, the shortage of necessities of clothing, of arms for the troops, for the volunteers, for the sick, all these things must be hushed up and slurred over, and Admiral Persano was the most convenient victim.’

[From *The Spectator*, a London magazine sympathetic to the cause of Italian unification (1867)]

Source C

‘When war broke out, the advantage of greatly superior numbers was thrown away by unbelievably inept military leadership. Two disastrous defeats followed. One of them at Custoza within a few hours of the war commencing, and then a naval battle off the island of Lissa in the Adriatic. The Italian fleet was in the hands of Admiral Persano, who was politically reliable but totally incompetent.’

[Denis Mack Smith, an academic historian, writing in an historical biography, *Mazzini* (1996)]

Source D

[A cartoon from *Punch*, a British satirical magazine. The inclusion of Rome in the Italian Kingdom ended the Pope's temporal power, but left his spiritual power untouched. (October 1870)]

Source E

'October 2nd was the day fixed when the people of Rome were called on to answer by yes or no whether they would accept the domination of Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy. We will not now go into the question as to whether Piedmont, having won Rome by force, had any right to legalize the outrage.'

[Le Comte de Beaufort, a critic of the new Italy and supporter of the Papacy, reflecting in his journal upon the plebiscite of Rome (1870)]

- (a) Compare Sources B and C. How do Sources B and C show contrasting views of Italy's lack of success in the war of 1866? [8]
- (b) Study Sources D and E. How reliable are Sources D and E as evidence to an historian studying the Roman question? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of the final unification of Italy, 1861-1871? (You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.) [24]