



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 21 May 2019 – Afternoon

A Level History A

Y314/01 The Challenge of German Nationalism 1789–1919

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet
(OCR12 sent with general stationery)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and any **two** questions in Section B.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended responses will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

SECTION A

Read the two passages and then answer Question 1.

- 1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages and explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the nature of the constitutional developments within the German state 1867–71. [30]

Passage A

Unification has often been presented as a more or less willing liberal capitulation. But that is one-sided and ignores those aspects of the process that liberals could welcome. After all, anything that was disliked by conservative ultras, particularists and Catholics was bound to have positive features in liberal eyes. Unification finally ended the question of where Germany was located, a question that the Confederation fudged. It created a sovereign, territorially defined national state, with a constitution, a parliament and a German chancellor. Nor did the liberal nationalists simply sacrifice 'liberal' values to the 'national' cause. The new Germany embodied much that was central to contemporary liberal programmes: the rule of law and the legal accountability of ministers, freedom of movement, a liberal commercial code, the harmonising of currency and patents. These were not trivial matters to liberals, but an institutional foundation on which they hoped to build a genuinely liberal state. They did not choose unity over freedom, but looked to extend freedom through unity. True, the centralising North German Confederation was rather closer to liberal conceptions of the modern state than the Empire of 1871 with its greater concessions to states' rights and generally looser, federal features. But the National Liberals were the most powerful political party in Germany and there was good reason to think they would place their own imprint on the state-building process.

Adapted from: D. Blackbourn, *The Fontana History of Germany 1780–1918: The Long Nineteenth Century*, published in 1997.

Passage B

The historic force of particularism was too important in Germany to allow Prussia a dominant position in the new federal structure of the North German Confederation – especially if the wary and vigilant South German states were to be coaxed into membership. Hence, legal, jurisdiction and matters of religion and education were left to the states. Bismarck also conceded the Federal Council (*Bundesrat*) a central role in the legislative process and stipulated that federal laws required only a simple majority, thus balancing Prussia's veto power: it had 17 out of 43 seats, to constitutional issues which needed a two thirds majority. The legislative accomplishments of the first North German *Reichstag* and its successor the first *Diet* of the German Empire were impressive. A national currency, a central bank, a standard set of weights and measures, a unified postal system, a liberal German industrial code and elimination of remaining toll barriers. Along with the creation of the *Reichstag* itself, these reforms and enactments were more than concession to a subdued bourgeoisie. They were, writes Lothar Gall, 'the expression in political terms of a highly realistic understanding of the way things were going economically, socially and politically'. Unlike the conservatives, Bismarck had a keen sense of the spirit of the age.

Adapted from: E. Dorn Brose, *German History 1789–1871: From the Holy Roman Empire to the Bismarckian Reich*, published in 1997.

SECTION B

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions.

- 2*** 'Intellectual forces played only a limited role in the creation and development of German nationalism throughout the period from 1789 to 1919.' How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 3*** 'Metternich was more effective in managing German nationalism than Napoleon, Bismarck or Wilhelm II.' How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 4*** 'German nationalism had mass support only at times of war.' How far do you agree with this view of the period 1789 to 1919? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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