

TEACHER NOTES PART #2

UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

VI. Austro-Prussian War:

- A. Austria vs. Prussia and some smaller German states (1866)
- B. Underlying Causes:
 - 1. Bismarck asks for some reforms in the German Confederation.
 - a. He wants universal suffrage.
 - 2. Austria kept pushing for unification of Schleswig and Holstein.
 - 3. Bismarck needed to get rid of Austrian influence in order to make a unified Germany.
- C. Immediate Cause:
 - 1. Prussia sends its army into Austrian-held Holstein.
- D. Bismarck's preparations for war
 - 1. Treaty with Italy in 1866
 - a. If Italy stays neutral in a war between Prussia and Austria, Prussia promises to give Italy some Austrian territory when the war is over.
 - 2. Tricks France into staying neutral
 - a. Bismarck claims that he has now aggressive intentions towards France.
 - b. Gives France a dubious promise about getting some territory.
- E. The decisive battle of the war is at **Sadowa**.
 - 1. Prussia wins, and the Prussian breech-loaded gun made the difference.

VII. The Peace at Prague:

- A. Results of the Prussian victory:
 - 1. The German Confederation is dissolved (Austria is kicked out).
 - 2. Schleswig and Holstein go to Prussia.
 - 3. The city of Venice goes to Italy because she stayed neutral along with the province of Venetia.
 - 4. The cities of Frankfurt A/M and Hanover go to Prussia.
 - 5. Austria pays some **reparations** to Prussia.

6. Austria loses no territory to Prussia and only a city to Italy.
 - a. This lessens the hard feelings, and Austria and Prussia (Germany) never go to war against each other again.

VIII. Why the Austro-Prussian War is important:

- A. Establishes a **North German Confederation.**
- B. Austria is forever kicked out of German affairs.
- C. The battle of Sadowa is also a defeat for France.
 1. France gets no compensation for remaining neutral.
 2. Prussia is now stronger than France.
 - a. The balance of power shifts in Europe.

QUESTIONS FOR UNIFICATION OF GERMANY (PART #2)

1. What was the decisive battle of the Austro-Prussian War of 1866?
2. What two European nations stayed neutral during the Austro-Prussian War of 1866?
3. Why was it important that the two nations in question #2 stayed neutral?
4. What are reparations?
5. After the Austro-Prussian War of 1866, what nation had the strongest army in Europe?

ANSWER KEY

1. Sadowa
2. Italy and France
3. It was important to Prussia because without interference, Prussia could win.
4. Payments made by the loser of a war to the winner of the war.
5. Prussia