Objectives

As you teach this section, keep students focused on the following objectives to help them answer the Section Focus Question and master core content.

- Identify several events that promoted German unity during the early 1800s.
- Explain how Bismarck unified Germany.
- Analyze the basic political organization of the new German empire.

Prepare to Read

Build Background Knowledge L3

Remind students that in this period, many peoples with a shared cultural and ethnic heritage were moved by nationalist feelings to establish their own political identities. Have students predict how nationalism might contribute to the creation of a German nation.

Set a Purpose L3

- **WITNESS HISTORY** Read the selection aloud or play the audio.

  🔊 AUDIO **Witness History Audio CD,** Blood and Iron

  Ask **What's the main idea of Bismarck's speech?** *(Military force is more effective than slow political change or reform.)* **Based on the picture and speech, what kind of leader do you think Bismarck will be?** *(Sample: strong, forceful, and aggressive)*

- **Focus** Point out the Section Focus Question and write it on the board. Tell students to refer to this question as they read. *(Answer appears with Section 1 Assessment answers.)*

- **Preview** Have students preview the Section Objectives and the list of Terms, People, and Places.

- **Reading Skill** Have students use the *Reading Strategy: Recognize Sequence* worksheet.

All in One **Teaching Resources, Unit 5,** p. 27

Franco-Prussian war era helmet

WITNESS HISTORY 🔊 AUDIO

Blood and Iron

Prussian legislators waited restlessly for Otto von Bismarck to speak. He wanted them to vote for more money to build up the army. Liberal members opposed the move. Bismarck rose and dismissed their concerns:

❝ Germany does not look to Prussia's liberalism, but to her power. . . . The great questions of the day are not to be decided by speeches and majority resolutions—that was the mistake of 1848 and 1849— but by blood and iron! ❞
—Otto von Bismarck, 1862

Focus Question How did Otto von Bismarck, the chancellor of Prussia, lead the drive for German unity?

Otto von Bismarck

Building a German Nation

Objectives
- Identify several events that promoted German unity during the early 1800s.
- Explain how Bismarck unified Germany.
- Analyze the basic political organization of the new German empire.

Terms, People, and Places

Otto von Bismarck	annex
chancellor	kaiser
Realpolitik	Reich

Note Taking

Reading Skill: Recognize Sequence Keep track of the sequence of events that led to German unification by completing a chart like the one below. Add more boxes as needed.

Napoleon raids German lands.

Otto von Bismarck delivered his "blood and iron" speech in 1862. It set the tone for his future policies. Bismarck was determined to build a strong, unified German state, with Prussia at its head.

Taking Initial Steps Toward Unity

In the early 1800s, German-speaking people lived in a number of small and medium-sized states as well as in Prussia and the Austrian Hapsburg empire. Napoleon's invasions unleashed new forces in these territories.

Napoleon Raids German Lands Between 1806 and 1812, Napoleon made important territorial changes in German-speaking lands. He annexed lands along the Rhine River for France. He dissolved the Holy Roman Empire by forcing the emperor of Austria to agree to the lesser title of king. He also organized a number of German states into the Rhine Confederation.

At first, some Germans welcomed the French emperor as a hero with enlightened, modern policies. He encouraged freeing the serfs, made trade easier, and abolished laws against Jews. However, not all Germans appreciated Napoleon and his changes. As people fought to free their lands from French rule, they began to demand a unified German state.

Napoleon's defeat did not resolve the issue. At the Congress of Vienna, Metternich pointed out that a united Germany would require dismantling the government of each German state. Instead, the peacemakers created the German Confederation, a weak alliance headed by Austria.

Vocabulary Builder

Use the information below and the following resources to teach the high-use word from this section.
All in One **Teaching Resources, Unit 5,** p. 26; **Teaching Resources, Skills Handbook,** p. 3

High-Use Word	Definition and Sample Sentence
edit, p. 695	*vt.* to make additions, deletions, or other changes to a piece of writing He **edited** his paper very carefully before handing it in to his professor.

Economic Changes Promote Unity In the 1830s, Prussia created an economic union called the *Zollverein* (TSAWL fur yn). It dismantled tariff barriers between many German states. Still, Germany remained politically fragmented.

In 1848, liberals meeting in the Frankfurt Assembly again demanded German political unity. They offered the throne of a united German state to Frederick William IV of Prussia. The Prussian ruler, however, rejected the notion of a throne offered by "the people."

✔ **Checkpoint** What was the German Confederation?

Bismarck Unites Germany

Otto von Bismarck succeeded where others had failed. Bismarck came from Prussia's Junker (YOONG kur) class, made up of conservative landowning nobles. Bismarck first served Prussia as a diplomat in Russia and France. In 1862, King William I made him prime minister. Within a decade, the new prime minister had become **chancellor,** or the highest official of a monarch, and had used his policy of "blood and iron" to unite the German states under Prussian rule.

Geography *Interactive*
For: Audio guided tour
Web Code: nap-2211

Unification of Germany, 1865–1871

Royal house medal of the Hohenzollerns

Legend:
- Prussia, 1865
- Added to Prussia, 1866
- Added to form North German Confederation, 1867
- Added to form German empire, 1871
- Boundary of German empire, 1871
- ★ Battle sites
- Route of Prussian armies in Austro-Prussian War
- Route of German armies in Franco-Prussian War

Conic Projection
0   100   200 mi
0   100   200 km

Map Skills In the early 1800s, people living in German-speaking states had local loyalties. By the mid-1800s, however, they were developing a national identity.

1. **Locate:** (a) Prussia (b) Silesia (c) Bavaria (d) Schleswig
2. **Region** What area did Prussia add to its territory in 1866?
3. **Analyzing Information** Why do you think Austrian influence was greater among the southern German states than among the northern ones?

History Background

Bismarck's Appointment The decision to make Bismarck prime minister came in the midst of a government crisis. Liberals in Prussia's parliament had blocked King William I's plans to reorganize and increase the army. After months of disagreement between king and parliament, the king was about to abdicate his throne in favor of his son. Then advisors suggested he turn to Bismarck. The two met and discussed the situation. Bismarck told the king that, in his view, parliamentary government "must be avoided at all costs, even if by a period of dictatorship." He went on: "I will rather perish with the King than forsake your Majesty in the contest with parliamentary government." Convinced that Bismarck would support his claims to royal power, William named him prime minister.

Teach

Steps Toward Unity

Instruct L3

■ **Introduce** Have students read the first paragraph under the red heading. Ask them to predict how a foreign invasion by Napoleon led to the rise of nationalist feelings among Germans.

■ **Teach** Ask **In what ways did Napoleon's rule bring about a desire for German unity?** (*The Rhine Confederation probably encouraged people to believe that German states could unite. Also, many Germans wanted to free themselves from French rule and unite into a strong German state.*) **What was the *Zollverein* and how did it encourage German unification?** (*It was a German economic union created by Prussia that did away with trade barriers; however, the states still remained politically divided.*)

Independent Practice

Have students write a letter from the perspective of someone who lived in a German state in the early 1800s to a cousin in another country, explaining what has changed since Napoleon invaded.

Monitor Progress

As students fill in their flowcharts, make sure that they understand that the German Confederation and the *Zollverein* were steps towards unification. For a completed version of the flowchart, see **Note Taking Transparencies,** 151

Answers

✔ a weak alliance headed by Austria that was created after the defeat of Napoleon

Map Skills
1. Review locations with students.
2. Schleswig, Holstein, Hanover, and parts of central Germany
3. Austria was geographically closer to many of the southern German states than was Prussia.

Bismarck Unites Germany/Birth of the German Empire Ⓛ3

Instruct

- **Introduce: Key Terms** Ask students to find the key term *Realpolitik* (in blue) in the text and explain it. Ask students whether they think governments today follow the ideas of *Realpolitik*. Do students think leaders are justified in taking any kind of action—even those that are illegal or immoral—if it strengthens the nation?

- **Teach** Clarify for students that Bismarck's main goal was to increase Prussia's power, not to fulfill German nationalist aims. Then display **Color Transparency 131: Events Leading to German Unification.** Discuss the steps Bismarck took to reach his goal of unification. Ask students to list examples when Bismarck employed *Realpolitik* as he worked to create a unified German state. Then ask **Who ruled Germany after it was united?** *(Prussia's King Wilhelm I became Germany's kaiser.)* **How did Prussia unite Germany?** *(By defeating Germany's traditional enemy, France, Prussia won the allegiance of Germans in other states.)*

  🏛 **Color Transparencies,** 131

- **Quick Activity** Have students access **Web Code nap-2211** to take the **Geography Interactive Audio Guided Tour** and then answer the map skills questions in the text.

Independent Practice

Have students fill in the Outline Map *Unification of Germany, 1865–1871* and label the territories and states that became part of Prussia in 1866 and those that formed the German empire in 1871.

All in One Teaching Resources, Unit 5, p. 35

Monitor Progress

- Check Reading and Note Taking Study Guide entries for student understanding.

- Check answers to map skills questions and the accuracy of Outline Maps.

Answer

PRIMARY SOURCE in von Moltke's view, to establish its power and assert its leadership of the German states

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Master of Realpolitik Bismarck's success was due in part to his strong will. He was a master of **Realpolitik** (ray AHL poh lee teek), or realistic politics based on the needs of the state. In the case of Realpolitik, power was more important than principles.

Although Bismarck was the architect of German unity, he was not really a German nationalist. His primary loyalty was to the Hohenzollerns (hoh un TSAWL urnz), the ruling dynasty of Prussia, who represented a powerful, traditional monarchy. Through unification, he hoped to bring more power to the Hohenzollerns.

Strengthening the Army As Prussia's prime minister, Bismarck first moved to build up the Prussian army. Despite his "blood and iron" speech, the liberal legislature refused to vote for funds for the military. In response, Bismarck strengthened the army with money that had been collected for other purposes. With a powerful, well-equipped military, he was then ready to pursue an aggressive foreign policy. Over the next decade, Bismarck led Prussia into three wars. Each war increased Prussian prestige and power and paved the way for German unity.

Prussia Declares War With Denmark and Austria Bismarck's first maneuver was to form an alliance in 1864 with Austria. Prussia and Austria then seized the provinces of Schleswig and Holstein from Denmark. After a brief war, Prussia and Austria "liberated" the two provinces and divided up the spoils. Austria was to administer Holstein and Prussia was to administer Schleswig.

In 1866, Bismarck invented an excuse to attack Austria. The Austro-Prussian War lasted just seven weeks and ended in a decisive Prussian victory. Prussia then **annexed,** or took control of, several other north German states.

Bismarck dissolved the Austrian-led German Confederation and created a new confederation dominated by Prussia. Austria and four other southern German states remained independent. Bismarck's motives, as always, were strictly practical. Attempting to conquer Austria might have meant a long and risky war for Prussia.

War and Power

In 1866, Field Marshal Helmuth von Moltke analyzed the importance of Prussia's war against Austria. Why, according to von Moltke, did Prussia go to war against Austria?

Primary Source

❝The war of 1866 was entered on not because the existence of Prussia was threatened, nor was it caused by public opinion and the voice of the people; it was a struggle, long foreseen and calmly prepared for, recognized as a necessity by the Cabinet, not for territorial expansion, for an extension of our domain, or for material advantage, but for an ideal end—the establishment of power. Not a foot of land was exacted from Austria. . . . Its center of gravity lay out of Germany; Prussia's lay within it. Prussia felt itself called upon and strong enough to assume the leadership of the German races.❞

Austro-Prussian War painting (above) and a medal of victory (left)

Differentiated Instruction **Solutions for All Learners**

Ⓛ2 **Less Proficient Readers**

On the board, draw a timeline of German unification and include the following years: 1830s, 1848, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1870, and 1871. Ask students to use their completed graphic organizers to supply key events, and write their answers on the board. Then ask **What two main elements led to German unification?** *(militarism and diplomacy)*

Use the following resources to help students acquire basic skills.

📝 **Adapted Reading and Note Taking Study Guide**

- Adapted Note Taking Study Guide, p. 196
- Adapted Section Summary, p. 197

France Declares War on Prussia In France, the Prussian victory over Austria angered Napoleon III. A growing rivalry between the two nations led to the Franco-Prussian War of 1870.

Germans recalled only too well the invasions of Napoleon I some 60 years earlier. Bismarck played up the image of the French menace to spur German nationalism. For his part, Napoleon III did little to avoid war, hoping to mask problems at home with military glory.

Bismarck furthered the crisis by rewriting and then releasing to the press a telegram that reported on a meeting between King William I and the French ambassador. Bismarck's <u>editing</u> of the "Ems dispatch" made it seem that William I had insulted the Frenchman. Furious, Napoleon III declared war on Prussia, as Bismarck had hoped.

A superior Prussian force, supported by troops from other German states, smashed the badly organized and poorly supplied French soldiers. Napoleon III, old and ill, surrendered within a few weeks. France had to accept a humiliating peace.

✔ **Checkpoint** What techniques did Bismarck use to unify the German states?

Birth of the German Empire

Delighted by the victory over France, princes from the southern German states and the North German Confederation persuaded William I of Prussia to take the title **kaiser** (KY zur), or emperor. In January 1871, German nationalists celebrated the birth of the second **Reich,** or empire. They called it that because they considered it heir to the Holy Roman Empire.

A constitution drafted by Bismarck set up a two-house legislature. The Bundesrat (BOON dus raht), or upper house, was appointed by the rulers of the German states. The Reichstag (RYKS tahg), or lower house, was elected by universal male suffrage. Because the Bundesrat could veto any decisions of the Reichstag, real power remained in the hands of the emperor and his chancellor.

✔ **Checkpoint** How was the new German government, drafted by Bismarck, structured?

Vocabulary Builder

<u>edit</u>—(ED it) *v.* to make additions, deletions, or other changes to a piece of writing

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1 Assessment

Progress Monitoring Online
For: Self-quiz with vocabulary practice
Web Code: naa-2211

Terms, People, and Places

1. For each term, person, or place listed at the beginning of the section, write a sentence explaining its significance.

Note Taking

2. **Reading Skill: Recognize Sequence** Use your completed chart to answer the Focus Question: How did Otto von Bismarck, the chancellor of Prussia, lead the drive for German unity?

Comprehension and Critical Thinking

3. **Summarize** What territorial and economic changes promoted German unity?

4. **Analyze Information** Identify three examples of Bismarck's use of Realpolitik.

5. **Draw Conclusions** How did the emperor and his chancellor retain power in the new German government?

● **Writing About History**

Quick Write: Generate Arguments Choose one topic from this section that you could use to write a persuasive essay. For example, you could write about whether Germany's war against Austria was justifiable. Make sure that the topic you choose to write about has at least two sides that could provoke an argument.

Answers

✔ war, trickery, and propaganda

✔ It had an emperor and a constitution, which called for a two-house legislature. The rulers of the German states appointed the upper house. The lower house was elected by universal male suffrage.

Section 1 Assessment

1. Sentences should reflect an understanding of each term, person, or place listed at the beginning of the section.
2. Bismarck strengthened the army and directed the military in three successful wars. After the last victory, over France, leaders of most of the German states invited the Prussian king to become emperor of all Germany.
3. the annexation of the Rhine lands by Napoleon, the creation of the German Confederation, and the creation of the *Zollverein*
4. Sample: He used nonmilitary funds to build up the Prussian army, invented an excuse to attack Austria, and tricked Napoleon III into war with Prussia.
5. The upper house, which could veto decisions of the lower house, was appointed by the rulers of the German states.

● **Writing About History**

Topics should be drawn from the section and have at least two ideas that could provoke argument.

For additional assessment, have students access **Progress Monitoring Online** at **Web Code naa-2211.**