

Exercise walk-through

National Unification and Diplomatic Tensions ■ 7.3

eXercise

You must be able to

- explain what the Crimean War made possible
- name the methods behind Italian and German unification
- describe the alliance system before and after 1890
- explain how Balkan tensions drew in the powers

Method — The opening

The Crimean War demonstrated Ottoman weakness and contributed to the breakdown of the Concert of Europe, **thereby creating the conditions** in which Italy and Germany could be unified after centuries of fragmentation.

Method — Italy and Germany

Cavour's diplomatic strategies combined with Garibaldi's popular military campaigns unified Italy. Bismarck used Realpolitik — diplomacy, industrialised warfare, weaponry and the manipulation of democratic mechanisms — to unify Germany.

Method — The alliances

After 1871 Bismarck attempted to maintain the balance through a complex system of alliances directed at isolating France; his dismissal in 1890 eventually led to a system of **mutually antagonistic** alliances and heightened tensions.

Method — The Balkans

Nationalist tensions in the Balkans **drew** the Great Powers into a series of crises leading up to the First World War — the powers are described as pulled by a local situation.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State what the Crimean War made possible and how.

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

it created the conditions for Italian and German unification **B1** by exposing Ottoman weakness and contributing to the Concert's breakdown **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Name the four instruments of Bismarck's Realpolitik.

Solution 2.2

Method: Italy and Germany

Worked steps

diplomacy; industrialised warfare; weaponry; the manipulation of democratic mechanisms **B2**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

The alliance system changes after 1890.

- (a) State what it was before.
- (b) State what it became.

Solution 2.3

Method: The alliances

Worked steps

(a) a complex system directed at isolating France **B1**. (b) mutually antagonistic alliances with heightened international tensions **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Cavour's contribution to Italian unification was

A military campaigns

B diplomatic strategy

C industrial production

D naval blockade

Solution 3.1

A military campaigns

B diplomatic strategy



C industrial production

D naval blockade

Worked steps

B. Cavour supplied the diplomacy, Garibaldi the campaigns.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

The CED's verb for how Balkan tensions involved the Great Powers is

A invited

B drew

C repelled

D ignored

Solution 3.2

Method: The Balkans

A invited

B drew



C repelled

D ignored

Worked steps

B. the powers were pulled in.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A system of alliances aimed at one rival becomes a system of mutually antagonistic ones.

- (a) State what changed.
- (b) Explain the consequence.

Solution 3.3

Method: The alliances

Worked steps

(a) the alliances no longer had a single architect or a single target **B1**. (b) any dispute could activate the whole web **B1**, so a local crisis could pull every power into a general war **B1**.