

Creating an essay plan

Below is a sample exam question. Using pages 5–14 of the textbook to produce a plan for the question. Choose four main points and provide three specific pieces of information to support each general point.

'Napoleon did more than anyone to encourage German unification in the period 1789–1815'. How far do you agree?

General Point	Specific evidence

Now, using your plan, write an introduction for the essay:

Turning assertion into argument

Below is a sample question and a series of assertions.

- An assertion or statement is an opinion which is not supported by a reason.
- An argument is an assertion which is supported or justified by a reason.

Read the question and then add a justification to each of the statements to turn it into an argument.

Assess the effects of the Vienna peace settlement on Germany in the period 1815–40.

The Vienna peace settlement helped encourage German unification because ...

However, it could be argued the Vienna peace settlement might have hindered German unification because ...

The German Confederation had little effect because ...

Metternich opposed German unification because ...

2 Germany 1789–1848

Support or challenge

Below is a sample exam question that asks how far you agree with a specific statement.

Below this is a series of general statements that are relevant to the question. Use pages 13–22 of your textbook to decide whether each statement supports or challenges the main statement and tick the appropriate box.

'Metternich dealt successfully with the challenges posed by the rise of nationalism and liberalism in Germany in the period 1815–48.' How far do you agree?

	Support	Challenge
Metternich achieved his aims at the Congress of Vienna.		
The German Confederation disappointed those Germans who hoped for greater national unity.		
Monarchical rule was restored almost everywhere in Germany after 1815.		
Austria remained on good terms with Prussia.		
Austria remained on good terms with Russia.		
Metternich created an efficient information-gathering system.		
German nationalism continued to grow.		
German liberalism continued to grow.		
Metternich was able to repress the forces of nationalism.		
The German states became more unified economically.		
Nationalists, liberals and radicals had not achieved much by 1847.		

Using your completed table, write your own view about how well Metternich dealt with the situation in Germany in the period 1815–48.

2 Germany 1789–1848

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain the limited success of those who favoured German unification in the period 1815 to 1847.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 15–32.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in preventing an improvement.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
The influence of Metternich			
The situation in Prussia			
Lack of support for liberal reform			
Limited economic unity			
Loyalty to local rulers			
The weakness of the German Confederation			

Use the information in the chart to help you write a plan for an essay based on the question:
Assess the reasons why German nationalism had limited success in the period 1815–47.

Support or challenge

Below is a sample exam question that asks how far you agree with a specific statement.

Below this is a series of general statements that are relevant to the question. Use pages 15–32 of your textbook to decide whether each statement supports or challenges the main statement and tick the appropriate box.

'There was little to suggest that the German states would become unified in the period 1815–47'. How far do you agree with this statement?

	Support	Challenge
There was evidence by 1848 to suggest that most Germans supported German unification.		
The <i>Zollverein</i> encouraged German unification.		
Loyalty to individual states remained strong.		
Austrian and Prussian policies made unification unlikely.		
The growth of liberalism made unification likely.		
Railway development encouraged German unification.		
Metternich remained a major political figure throughout the period		
The German Confederation helped generate a sense of German-ness.		

In light of the evidence write a paragraph explaining how strong you think the demands for German unification were by 1848.

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain why there was pressure for German unification in the period 1815–48.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 15–32.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in preventing an improvement.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
The growth of nationalism			
The growth of liberalism			
Economic developments			
The German Confederation			

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to analyse the main causes of the German revolutions in 1848.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 35–42.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in preventing an improvement.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
Economic and social problems			
The effect of industrialisation			
Revolution in France			
Events in Baden			
Metternich's fall			

Turning assertion into argument

Below is a sample question and a series of assertions.

An assertion or statement is an opinion which is not supported by a reason.

An argument is an assertion which is supported or justified by a reason.

Read the question and then add a justification to each of the statements to turn it into an argument:

Assess the reasons why the Frankfurt Parliament failed in the years 1848–9.

The Frankfurt Parliament's members were impractical idealists because ...

Austrian policy was crucially important because ...

Prussia's failure to support the aims of the Frankfurt Parliament was a major reason for the failure of the Parliament because ...

3 Germany in revolution 1848–9

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain how important each of the events and developments was in explaining the failure of the German revolutions in 1848–9.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 35–42. Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in preventing an improvement. Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
The actions of the Frankfurt Parliament			
Lack of popular support			
Revolutionary divisions			
Conservative strength			
The situation in Austria			
The situation in Prussia			
Failure of revolutions across Europe			

Use the information in the chart to help you write a plan for an essay based on the question:
Assess the reasons why the 1848–9 revolutions in Germany failed.

3 Germany in revolution 1848–9**Challenge the historian**

Read Extract 1 on page 57 of your textbook and complete the table below.

Question	Notes
What is the view of the historian?	
What knowledge of your own do you have that supports the interpretation?	
What knowledge of your own do you have that challenges the interpretation?	

Summarise the argument

Read Extract 2 on page 57 of your textbook.

What is the interpretation offered by the extract?

Now find evidence in the extract that supports the interpretation.

3 Germany in revolution 1848–9

WORKSHEET

12

OCR

Using your own knowledge to support a view

Look at Extracts 1 and 3 on page 57 of your textbook. In what ways do these historians give a different impression of the failure of the German revolutions?

Using your own knowledge, do you think Extract 1 on page 57 is right to argue as it does?
Explain your answer below.

Using your own knowledge, do you think Extract 1 on page 57 is right to argue as it does?
Explain your answer below.

Using the information in this chapter and your own knowledge, which of the two views is the most convincing about the failure of the German revolutions? Explain your answer below.

3 Germany in revolution 1848–9

How far do you agree?

Using pages 43–61 of your textbook, find evidence for and against the following views:

1. The German revolutions failed because of the actions of the Frankfurt Parliament.
2. The German revolutions failed because of the actions of Prussia.
3. The German revolutions failed because the revolutionaries lacked popular support.

View	Evidence for	Evidence against
The German revolutions failed because of the actions of the Frankfurt Parliament.		
The German revolutions failed because of the actions of Prussia.		
The German revolutions failed because the revolutionaries lacked popular support.		

4 Austro-Prussian rivalry 1849–68

WORKSHEET

14

OCR

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain why Prussia increased its strength in relation to Austria in the period 1849–62.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 66–76.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in preventing an improvement.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
Austrian mistakes			
Prussian economic strength			
Bismarck's diplomacy			
Prussian military strength			

Creating an essay plan

Below is a sample exam question. Using pages 80–8 of the textbook produce a plan for the question. Choose four main points and provide three specific pieces of information to support each general point.

Assess the reasons why Austria and Prussia went to war in 1866 and account for Prussia's success.

General Point	Specific evidence

Now, using your plan, write an introduction for the essay:

4 Austro-Prussian rivalry 1849–68

WORKSHEET

16

OCR

Support or challenge

Below is a sample exam question that asks how far you agree with a specific statement.

Below this is a series of general statements that are relevant to the question. Use pages 77–88 of your textbook to decide whether each statement supports or challenges the main statement and tick the appropriate box.

'Prussian success against Austria by 1866 was due essentially to Bismarck.' How far do you agree?

	Support	Challenge
By 1862 Prussia was stronger economically than Austria.		
In 1862 Bismarck had a clear plan of action with regard to German unification.		
Bismarck used the Schleswig-Holstein affair to manoeuvre Austria into open confrontation with Prussia.		
Prussia was stronger militarily than Austria in 1866.		
Austria had few major allies in 1866.		
Most small German states supported Austria.		
Italy was a useful Prussian ally in 1866.		
Austrian leaders displayed a lack of political and diplomatic skills in 1865–6.		

Having completed the table, write a paragraph explaining Bismarck's importance in the period 1862–6.

Finding evidence to agree with a view

Look at these three statements:

1. Bismarck planned war against France from 1866.
2. Bismarck skilfully used the Hohenzollern candidature issue.
3. The Ems telegram caused the Franco-Prussian War.

Using evidence from pages 101–10 explain which view you agree with more and why.

Statement I agree with:

Reasons why I agree with the statement:

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain why Prussia was able to defeat France in 1870–1.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 110–4.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in terms of explaining Prussian/German advantages in the Franco-Prussian War.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
Prussian/German military strength			
French leadership			
Prussian/German leadership			
The international situation			

5 Prussia and France 1866–71

Evaluating factors

Consider the following question:

'Bismarck's political skills were primarily responsible for the success of German unification in the period 1866–71.' How far do you agree?

Using pages 101–19 of your textbook, complete the following table.

Factor	How did it help?	Analysis of importance	Any particular period when the factor was important?
Bismarck's diplomacy 1867–70			
The Ems Telegram			
The role of King William			
The role of Napoleon III			
The Prussian economy			
The Prussian army			
The international situation			

Using knowledge to support or contradict

Read Passage A on page 120 of your textbook and summarise the argument and the evidence that the historian uses to support it.

Summary of the argument	Evidence used to support it

Now, develop a counter-argument and provide evidence to support the counter-argument.

Counter-argument	Evidence to support counter-argument

Challenge the historian

Read Passage B on page 120 of your textbook and complete the table below.

Question	Notes
What is the view of the historian?	
What knowledge of your own do you have that supports the interpretation?	
What knowledge of your own do you have that challenges the interpretation?	

Support or challenge

Below is a sample exam question that asks how far you agree with a specific statement.

Below this is a series of general statements that are relevant to the question. Use pages 123–30 of your textbook to decide whether each statement supports or challenges the main statement and tick the appropriate box.

'The German Constitution of 1871 was essentially democratic.' How far do you agree?

	Support	Challenge
The <i>Reichstag</i> was elected by all males over 25 years of age.		
The Emperor commanded the army.		
The chancellor was not responsible to the <i>Reichstag</i> .		
The <i>Reichstag</i> could approve or reject the budget.		
The Emperor could dissolve the <i>Reichstag</i> .		
The <i>Bundesrat</i> invariably supported the chancellor.		
The <i>Reichstag</i> was elected every five years.		
The Emperor controlled foreign policy.		
State secretaries were not responsible to the <i>Reichstag</i> .		

Creating an essay plan

Below is a sample exam question. Use your knowledge to produce a plan for the question. Choose four main points and provide three specific pieces of information to support each general point.

'Bismarck's domestic policy from 1871–90 was far from successful, not least with regard to the Kulturkampf and the problem of socialism.' How far do you agree?

General Point	Specific evidence

Now, using your plan, write an introduction for the essay:

Turning assertion into argument

Below is a sample question and a series of assertions.

- An assertion or statement is an opinion which is not supported by a reason.
- An argument is an assertion which is supported or justified by a reason.

Read the question and then add a justification to each of the statements to turn it into an argument.

'Bismarck's rule in Germany after 1871 was far more successful in ensuring German unity than is generally admitted.' How far do you agree?

Although Bismarck mishandled some domestic issues, he had some successes including ...

Bismarck ensured Germany remained Europe's strongest power because ...

Bismarck deserves credit for maintaining peace in Europe after 1871 because...

Bismarck remained in power for nearly twenty years because ...

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain why each of the following played an important role in Bismarck's handling of German foreign policy, not least in ensuring German unity, in the period 1871–90.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 142–53.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in preventing an improvement.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
The problem of France			
The situation in the Balkans			
The desire for colonies			
The Dual Alliance with Austria			

Creating an essay plan

Below is a sample exam question. Using pages 162–8 of the textbook produce a plan for the question. Choose four main points and provide three specific pieces of information to support each general point.

'Kaiser Wilhelm's personality shaped the history of imperial Germany in the period 1890–1914.' How far do you agree with this view?

General Point	Specific evidence

Now, using your plan, write an introduction for the essay:

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain why the following event/development played a vital role in political developments in Germany in the years 1890–1914.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 162–98.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in Germany's political development.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
The economic and financial situation			
Political scandals			
Opposition to the Wilhelmine political system			
<i>Weltpolitik</i>			

Turning assertion into argument

Below is a sample question and a series of assertions.

- An assertion or statement is an opinion which is not supported by a reason.
- An argument is an assertion which is supported or justified by a reason.

Read the question and then add a justification to each of the statements to turn it into an argument.

‘Wilhelm II ruled Germany as an absolute monarch from 1890–1914.’ How far do you agree?

The German Constitution gave Wilhelm massive powers because...

Wilhelm was able to rule Germany because...

Wilhelm's powers in Germany were limited because...

Using your own knowledge to support a view

Look at the two extracts on page 196 of your textbook. In what way do these historians give a different impression of Wilhelm II's rule?

Using your own knowledge do you think Extract 1 is right to argue as it does? Explain your answer below.

Using your own knowledge, do you think Extract 2 is right to argue as it does? Explain your answer below.

Using the information in this chapter and your own knowledge, which of the two views is the most convincing about the role of Wilhelm II? Explain your answer below.

Summarise the argument

Read Passage A on page 199 of your textbook.

What is the interpretation offered by the passage?

Now find evidence in the passage that supports the interpretation.

Analysing how important

Complete the table below to explain why Germany was defeated in the First World War.

Explain each factor by re-reading pages 200–18.

Award a mark out of six for how important each factor was in explaining Germany's defeat and the impact of the defeat in 1918.

Explain why you gave the mark.

Reason	Why it was important	Mark out of six	Explanation
The failure of the Schlieffen Plan			
Superior Allied resources			
German military defeat in 1918			
Revolution in Germany			

Finding evidence to agree with a view

Look at these two statements:

1. The SPD handled developments well in 1918–9.
2. The SPD handled matters badly in 1918–9.

Using evidence from pages 219–35 explain which view you agree with more and why.

Statement I agree with:

Reasons why I agree with the statement:

Using your own knowledge to support a view

Look at the two passages below. In what ways do these historians give a different impression of the reasons for the failure of the 1918 German Revolution?

Passage A

From J. Hiden, *The Weimar Republic*, Longman, 1996

In sum, demands had clearly been widely voiced for measures of socialisation and demilitarisation during the revolution, suggesting that Ebert and the other SPD leaders might have made more of their opportunities. Yet the absence of any mass demand for sweeping revolution in Germany could not be overlooked. Anti-militarism was arguably more important than anti-capitalism – to judge from the tearing off of officers' insignia on the one hand and, on the other, the conciliatory agreements between employers and workers in December 1918. The great German Congress of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, held in Berlin between 16 and 19 December 1918, endorsed Ebert's policy of preparing for elections to the National Assembly, thus decisively rejecting revolution. Elections to the National Assembly took place on 19 January 1919. They represented a victory for parliamentary democracy that would have been inconceivable before the revolution. On the other hand, at a time when the harsh peace terms were not known and the prevailing mood made Berlin too dangerous to house the Assembly....., the SPD did not win the absolute majority needed to implement even their programme.

Passage B

From J. Joll, *Europe Since 1870: An International History*, Penguin, 1990

The next months decided which kind of republic it was going to be and ended in defeat of the revolutionaries. This was partly due to the divisions between the Independent Socialists and the Spartacists (who became the Communist Party of Germany – KPD – on 1 January 1919) and partly to the effectiveness with which the majority socialists in the government suppressed the attempts at making an uprising. But the chief reason was that the old organs of administration remained intact and the revolutionaries never succeeded in getting control of them, even though they had imposed a socialist government. Whereas in Russia, the soviets had largely taken over the running of the country even before the October Revolution, because the governmental and administrative machine had broken down, in Germany the Workers' and Soldiers' Councils often had nothing else to do except literally to put rubber stamps on instructions issued by the appropriate regular authority. The Independent Socialists joined the government on an equal footing with the majority socialists at the start of the revolution, but they resigned late in December 1918 after a row about the suppression of a sailors' revolt in Berlin. Yet they did not really have any immediate alternative policy between that of the majority socialists in the government and the revolutionaries outside.

8 War and revolution 1914–19

WORKSHEET

33

OCR

Using your own knowledge do you think Passage A is right to argue as it does? Explain your answer below.

Using your own knowledge, do you think Passage B is right to argue as it does? Explain your answer below.

Using the information in Chapter 8 and your own knowledge, which of the two views is the most convincing about the reason why the 1918 Revolution failed? Explain your answer below.

8 War and revolution 1914–19

WORKSHEET

34

OCR

Developing an overview

The following timeline covers the main events in the unification of Germany and the challenge of nationalism in the period from 1789 to 1919.

1789	The French Revolution	1867	North German Confederation created
1806	The Holy Roman Empire was formally destroyed	1870–1	Franco-Prussian War
1813	Battle of Leipzig	1871	German Empire proclaimed
1814–5	Vienna Peace Settlement	1879	The Dual Alliance
1815	German Confederation established	1890	Kaiser Wilhelm II dismissed Bismarck
1834	Zollverein came into operation	1914	Start of the First World War
1847	Hippenhilm meeting	1918	Abdication of Wilhelm II: end of First World War
1848–9	German revolutions	1918–9	German revolution
1862	Bismarck became Prussia's minister-president	1919	Creation of Weimar Republic
1866	Seven Weeks War	1919	Treaty of Versailles

Using your own knowledge and information from the textbook, find out whether each event increased or decreased the support for nationalism and award it a mark out of ten, the higher mark the greater the increase in German nationalism.

Using the outline graph, plot the events to show the rise and fall in German nationalism.



1. When did German nationalism reach its height? Why?
2. When was German nationalism at its lowest ebb? Why?

The significance of events

One of the key areas that features regularly in the examination is the impact of union action on the development of labour rights.

Use your textbook to help you analyse the impact each of the following events had on the development of the Empire. The events are listed in Column 1, in Column 2 you should explain the impact and in Column 3 give it a mark out of 6 – this mark can be either positive or negative depending on the impact. The higher the mark the more positive the impact, the lower the mark the more destructive the impact.

Event	Explanation of how it helped or hindered	Mark
The creation of the Zollverein		
Railway development in the 1830s and 1840s		
The 1846–7 economic crisis		
Prussian industrialisation in the 1850s and 1860s		
The growth of the Krupp company in the Ruhr		
The end of free trade in 1879		
The development of cartels		
The state of German agriculture by 1914		
German economic success by 1914		

Planning an essay

The title of this paper, Thematic Study, should provide a clue as to how you should structure an answer to any question you are set. You need to think about what themes you would consider.

Consider the following question:

'War was the most important factor in the creation of a united Germany.' How far do you agree with this view of the period 1789–1919?

In order to help you plan a response complete the following table.

	German unification	When was the issue important?	When was the issue less important?	How important?
War				
Economic developments				
The international situation				
The intellectual climate				
The importance of individuals				

Supporting and challenging a hypothesis

The position of Prussia and its attitude towards a united Germany varied across the period.

Consider the following statements and use your textbook to find evidence to support or challenge each statement.

Statement	Evidence supporting the statement	Evidence challenging the statement
Prussia was only a second rate power for most of the period from 1789 to 1862.		
King Frederick William IV missed an excellent opportunity to become Emperor of Germany in 1849.		
Prussian economic success in the period 1830–70 ensured its dominance over the rest of the German states.		
Bismarck was more interested in a Prussian-controlled Germany than in creating a unified Germany.		
The Franco-Prussian War was, in fact, more a Franco-German war.		
The 1871 Constitution intended to ensure that Prussia dominated Germany.		
Prussia continued to dominate Germany from 1871 to 1919.		

8 War and revolution 1914–19

Having completed the table write a brief paragraph that summarises the role of Prussia in the unification of Germany.