



Social Studies Virtual Learning

DBQ Prewriting

May 4, 2020



AP European History

Lesson: May 4, 2020

Objective/Learning Target: The student will be able to effectively analyze and sort documents in the prewriting step of a document-based question.

As you know, the AP test (next week) is a single, 5-document DBQ. This week, we will work on writing a DBQ using the same skills we've covered over the last month. Each day will cover a different part of the writing, but it will all be based around a single DBQ, going from prewriting to finished product.

These lessons will feel like a review, and they should.

Warm Up

What do you remember about Bismarck and German Unification? (This was likely one of the last topics covered prior to school being canceled.)

What type of relationship did Bismarck have with the Reichstag?

How does Bismarck compare with other conservative figures we've studied (most notably Klemens von Metternich)?

Lesson/Activity

Today we will practice the prewriting part of a DBQ. The full DBQ is available [here](#).

If you'd like to use a graphic organizer to help, you can find a good one [here](#).

First, examine the prompt. For this essay, the prompt is: “Analyze the extent to which Otto von Bismarck’s government represented a change in the nature of conservative ideology.”

Let’s review Bismarck and German unification a bit--here’s a [Crash Course video](#), as well as two Tom Richey videos: a [part 1](#) and a [part 2](#).

What categories are given by the prompt?

Lesson/Activity

This particular prompt is a little tricky, as there aren't any "gimme" categories. We have to know a little bit about "traditional" conservatism and Bismarck. You can spend some time comparing/contrasting Bismarck with Metternich to pick up the distinctions.

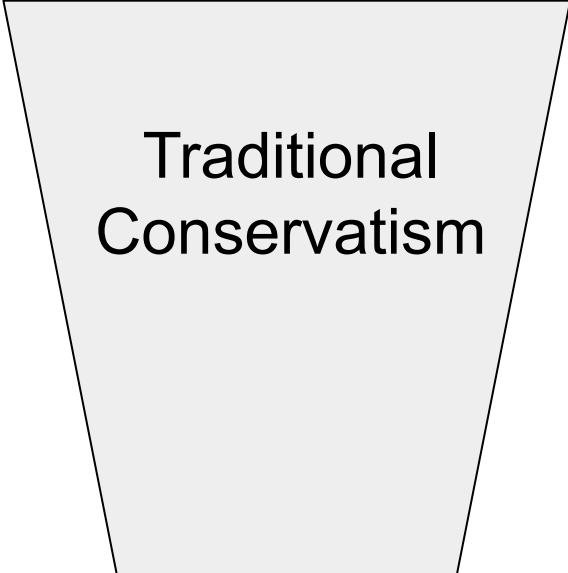
Metternich was a conservative that looked for a return to the Medieval power structures, while Bismarck helped unified Germany with ideas that had more liberal origins, like playing on nationalistic ideas and establishing a constitutional monarchy.

He was statist, however, and vehemently opposed German socialist and communist parties (despite his acceptance of some socialist policies). Any group that he thought might oppose the German state as it was established was an enemy to Bismarck.

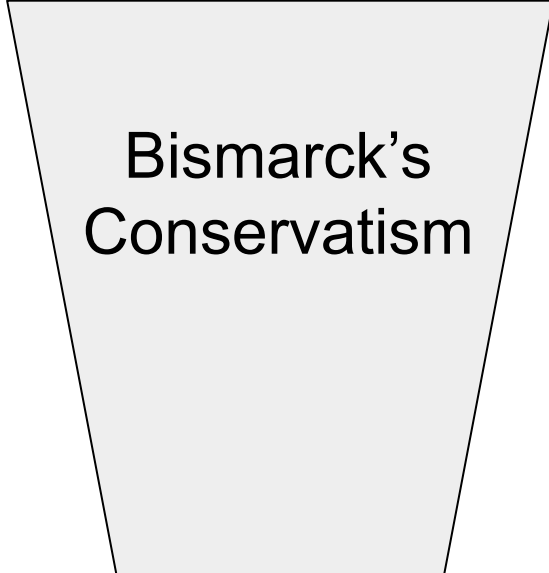
Finally, Bismarck was known for his "realpolitik," meaning he often did what he thought was most politically beneficial rather than holding to a single, dogmatic political ideology.

Lesson/Activity

Knowing what I know about Bismarck and his new brand of conservatism, I decided to initially read the documents with the following categories. How would you sort the documents into these categories? Would your categories be different?



**Traditional
Conservatism**



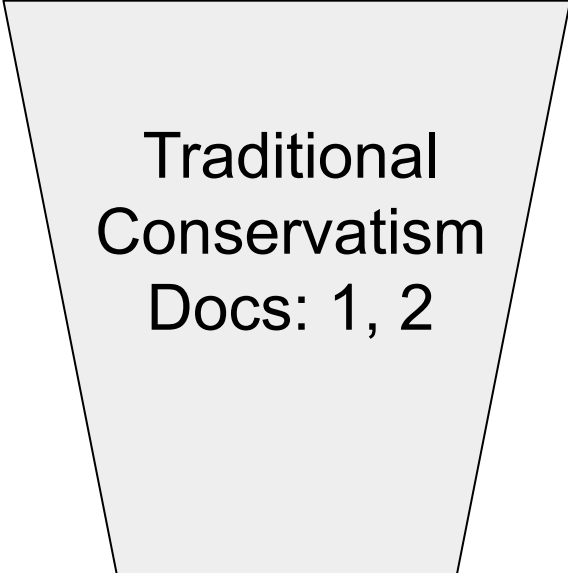
**Bismarck's
Conservatism**



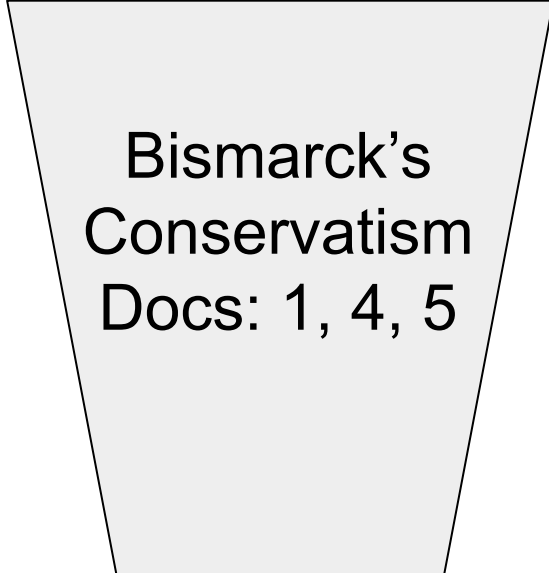
Realpolitik

Lesson/Activity


Did your sorting look different from mine? Why? How is it that some documents (like 1 and 5) are in multiple categories?



Traditional
Conservatism
Docs: 1, 2



Bismarck's
Conservatism
Docs: 1, 4, 5



Realpolitik
Docs: 3, 5

Practice

Looking back through the documents provided, look at the categories they are in. What evidence could come out of the document to support its location in each category?

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Looking back through the documents provided, look at the categories they are in. What evidence could come out of the document to support its location in each category? You'll find some example analysis on the next slide.

Tomorrow, we will use CHAPPY charts to analyze source information.

Practice

Traditional Conservatism: Doc 1 shows Bismarck going after Catholicism, waging “Kulturkampf” or a “culture war” against German Catholics. While full-blown religious wars had disappeared post-1648, government-sanctioned religious intolerance is an aspect of traditional European conservatism. It also outlaws liberal groups that seek to “overthrow existing political order.” Doc 2 is a speech from a German socialist complaining about the unfairness in the political system against his party. He mentions things like the government actively repressing and arresting those that dissent too radically from the established government. This is reminiscent of the old medieval hierarchies that didn’t tolerate opposition.

Bismarck’s Conservatism: Doc 1 supports 19th century liberalism by removing religion from governance. Doc 4 seems to combine statism (loyalty to the government/praise for the government) with more liberal social programs while still falling back on supporting those programs with “Christian ideals.” Likewise, doc 5 supports a socialist program while also supporting the “Anti-Socialist Law,” further combining some liberal socialist ideals with statism.

Realpolitik: The crux of the cartoon in doc 3 is that Bismarck will shift policies based on the way the “wind is blowing.” The artist says that Bismarck will embrace whatever ideals suits his purposes at the time. Doc 5 is, overall, a contradiction where Bismarck supports socialism but opposes socialists. This demonstrates realpolitik in that he will support policies that keep German citizens happy, but he will oppose groups that might challenge his authority (which is why I placed it in both this category as well as the last category).