

Name _____



Uniting A Nation

Directions: Read the passage below about the unification of Italy, then answer the factual questions that follow in complete sentences.

Before the 1800s, the Italian peninsula was divided into several small kingdoms, each with its own ruler and customs. Many Italians began to dream of a single, united country that could stand strong among Europe's powers. One of the most important leaders of this movement was **Count Camillo di Cavour**, the prime minister of the Kingdom of Sardinia. Cavour used **diplomacy and alliances**, especially his partnership with **Napoleon III of France**, to drive Austria out of northern Italy.

Another key figure, **Giuseppe Garibaldi**, was a military leader who led the **Red Shirts**, a volunteer army that conquered southern Italy. Rather than claiming power for himself, Garibaldi turned his victories over to **King Victor Emmanuel II**, helping to unify the north and south. In **1861**, the Kingdom of Italy was officially proclaimed. Although the new nation still faced challenges, its creation marked a major triumph for **nationalism** and the desire for independence.

Questions:

1. What was the main goal of the Italian unification movement?
2. Who was Count Camillo di Cavour, and what methods did he use to achieve unification?
3. How did Giuseppe Garibaldi contribute to the unification of Italy?
4. Which foreign leader helped Cavour remove Austrian influence from northern Italy?
5. In what year was the Kingdom of Italy officially proclaimed?
6. Why did Garibaldi's decision to hand power to King Victor Emmanuel II strengthen the nationalist cause?
7. What was one major challenge Italy still faced after unification?