BIG HISTORY PROJECT / LESSON 9.5 ACTIVITY

STUDENT MATERIALS

FORMING THE CONCEPT OF NATIONALISM

Name:	Date:	

Directions: Read the following excerpts and come up with a list of three to four similarities that you see across the excerpts. Provide examples to back up the similarities you find.

- 1. In 1870, Italian troops entered Rome in a final effort to unify Italian-speaking people into one nation, free from foreign rule and under their own central government. This effort had begun in the 1830s and continued through the liberal European revolutions of 1848. For the next 20 years, leaders such as Count di Cavour and Giuseppe Garibaldi negotiated and fought to gain control of territory ruled by Austria, France, and the Catholic Church. By 1866, the Italians had gained control of all territories except for the Papal States, which were controlled by the Pope and protected by French troops. When war broke out between the Prussians and the French in 1870, the French were forced to withdraw their troops from the Papal States, and the Italians gained control of the final territory and completed the unification of Italy.
- 2. In 1898, a group of Chinese rebels, angered by the steady takeover of the Chinese empire by foreigners and Chinese Christians, began attacking Christian missionaries and others in the northeastern part of the country. The "Boxer" uprisings, as they were called, resulted in the deaths of hundreds of foreigners and Chinese Christians. Although the Boxer rebels were officially denounced by the royal court, they secretly gained support from some people, including the Dowager Empress Cixi, in the palace of the Qing dynasty. In 1900, the Boxers laid siege to the Chinese capital of Beijing. After months of assault, a relief army of German, British, American, French, Japanese, and Russian troops moved in and took control of the city. A peace treaty signed in 1901 required the Chinese to pay for the failed rebellion.
- 3. After the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) and a civil war, a group of conservative Mexicans encouraged Napoleon III of France to intervene in the government of Mexico. The conservatives were unhappy with the liberal program that President Benito Juárez had been pushing. Encouraged by Napoleon, Maximilian von Habsburg of Austria took over the throne of Mexico in 1864. However, he did not live up to the conservatives' hopes. He supported some of Juarez's liberal policies that had been installed before his reign. Despite this support, Juárez, the former president, rejected the idea of a foreign emperor and organized a resistance movement. When Napoleon III withdrew French troops in 1867, Maximilian was captured and executed. Juárez returned to power in December, 1867.

Similarities	Supporting Evidence

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This lesson was adapted from a lesson by Lauren Harris and Tamara Schreiner in World History For Us All.

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