





Contributors to Italian unification. The astute politician and state builder, Count Cavour (left) and the charismatic populist bandit leader, Garibaldi (right) died in 1861 before unification was completed, he was particularly successful in ensuring that Piedmont was the major state in Italy and that the new country was a monarchy, not a republic.

**Examiner's Comments**

Simon's answer is given 60 marks out of 90 (Band III). Examiners look first at the parts of an answer that can be given credit. The introduction is promising. It uses background knowledge effectively because it is linked to the question and the reference to developments after the specified period ('by 1861') is also made relevant because of the mention of Cavour's earlier death. Do not use introductions only to provide additional material - make it clear to the examiner immediately that you are answering the question. There is some narrative but most of the answer concentrates on an explanation - it does not only tell a story. All of the answer is relevant. The conclusion is satisfactory. However, the answer also has weaknesses

which limit the mark. It is unbalanced - saying more about Cavour than about Garibaldi. If you answer a two-part question, make sure that you spend approximately equal time on both parts. The question asks for a comparison but the answer deals first with Cavour and then Garibaldi. The comparative references are few. A more comparative approach would have deserved Band II or even Band I. For Band I, the answer should have been fully comparative and should have explained who was the more important, and why. Simon could have discussed the similarities and differences in their aims, then their methods and finally their successes and failures. Candidates who get the highest marks use their knowledge in a well-structured way. It will help to organise your ideas if you write a brief plan at the beginning of the answer. You can check that you are covering all of the points in the question and that you are organising your ideas effectively.

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