

**ANSWER KEY**  
**Comparative Politics Test # 4: Germany**

1. The democratic regime that governed Germany from 1919 to 1933 was known as the Wiemar Republic.
2. Which of the following is TRUE regarding Germany's Bundesrat?  
*d. It represents the Länder (states) at the national level*
3. The current leader of Germany's Free Democrat Party is:  
*d. Guido Westerwelle*
4. *Gastarbeiter* is a German term that refers to:  
*d. Immigrants (predominantly Turkish) who come to Germany seeking jobs*
5. The Christian Social Union operates only in: *d. Bavaria*
6. The constitutional structure of Germany is best described as: *b. Federal*
7. Since it was not intended to be a permanent constitution, the foundation document of the German Federal Republic is called the Basic Law.
8. Chancellor Otto von Bismarck created the first modern welfare state in the 1880s because  
*c. he wanted to preempt the radical demands of the growing Social Democratic Party.*
9. At a party conference at Bad Godesberg in 1959, the German Social Democrats:  
*b. abandoned their Marxist policies*
10. The 'Marriage of Iron and Rye' was the:  
*b. political settlement of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century that united industrialist with aristocrats to support the Imperial system.*
11. **False** -- Germany has a 'constructive vote of no confidence', which means that in order for the Bundestag to remove a sitting government, it must also call for new elections to 'construct' a new majority.  
**NOTE: Legislators are voting out one government and voting in another. A new election is not required in these circumstances.**
12. German co-determination is  
*a. worker and employer members on a company's board of directors.*
13. In order to obtain seats in the German lower house, a party must receive a minimum of what percent of the popular vote? *b. 5%*

14. The current government of Germany is a coalition of:

*c. Christian Democrats and Free Democrats*

**OR...**

*d. Christian Democrats and Social Democrats*

**NOTE: Given that the election had just occurred and the CDU-FDP coalition has not formally taken office, D was also an acceptable answer.**

15. The Junkers were the Prussian aristocratic class that dominated Imperial Germany.

16. Germany was first unified in \_\_\_\_\_ and reunified in \_\_\_\_\_.

*b. 1871.....1990*

17. **TRUE** – Germany uses a mixed system of single member districts and proportional representation for elections to the Bundestag.

18. Germany has a free market oriented economic system, but numerous protections for workers and generous welfare benefits. This is known as the social market economy..

19. The Christian Democrats are a: *d. pro-market, right-of-center party*

20. In the 19th century, Germany was unified under the leadership of: *d. Prussia*