

Name _____
Date _____

The Prosecution

You are the prosecuting attorneys and as such, it is your job to attempt to have Napoleon III found guilty of treason to the French people. Your claim is that, through Napoleon III's neglect and poor decision making, he allowed France to fall into decay and lose the Franco-German War of 1870-1871. For these acts he should be punished. These are your accusations:

1. Napoleon III overthrew the Republic, installed himself as emperor, and did away with many personal freedoms.
2. In Napoleon III's last years, he allowed for the breakdown of the French economy through his own neglect.
3. Napoleon III attempted to annex the country of Belgium and attempted to buy the country of Luxembourg from the royal family who owned it.
4. When the Italians were attempting to unify their country, Napoleon III withdrew his promised support and betrayed their trust in him.
5. Napoleon III attempted to force the Mexican people to accept an Austrian Prince, Maximilian, as their new emperor, so that he and Austria and Britain would be able to get money from the Mexican government.

6. Napoleon let the French army use outdated guns, so that when it faced the Germans in 1870-1871, it was badly beaten by them because of the Germans' superior weapons.
7. Napoleon III invaded Germany in 1870 and started the Franco-German War in order to stop the Germans from placing a German prince at the head of the Spanish government.
8. Because of Napoleon III's failure to modernize the army, he lost the Franco-German War, was captured by the Germans, and was greatly humiliated.

Use the space below for preparing your charges, use the biography of Napoleon III provided in **Handout 34**, page 1, and the above charges to prepare your case. You will present your case first, then be given a chance to refute the defense in the closing argument.