

Guided Reading Activity



Conflict and Absolutism in Europe

Lesson 1 *Europe in Crisis*

Review Questions

Directions: Read each main idea and answer the questions below. Refer to your textbook to write the answers.

A. Main Idea: The struggle for power between Calvinism and Catholicism, along with economic, social, and political forces of the time, led to decades of conflict.

1. Who was the greatest supporter of militant Catholicism in the second half of the sixteenth century?

2. What military event helped bankrupt Spain and shifted political power to England, France, and the Dutch Republic?

B. Main Idea: Religious conflicts between Catholics and Huguenots, together with the political ambition of the nobility and the discontent of the lower classes, led to the French civil wars of the sixteenth century.

1. When were the French Wars of Religion carried out?

2. How did Henry of Navarre end the battles between French Catholics and Huguenots?

C. Main Idea: Seventeenth-century Europe was plagued by economic and social crises.

1. What is inflation, and why did it occur?

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2. What factor led to widespread hysteria regarding witchcraft during the seventeenth century?

D. Main Idea: Opposing political, territorial, and religious motives fueled the Thirty Years' War.

1. Where did the Thirty Years' War take place?

2. What treaty ended the Thirty Years' War in 1648?

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How did religious wars reshape Europe from the mid-sixteenth century through the seventeenth century?

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Lesson 2 *War and Revolution in England*

Review Questions

Directions: Read each main idea. Use your textbook to supply the details that support or explain each main idea.

A. Main Idea: Disagreements between the Stuarts and Parliament led to the English Civil War, a period of military rule, and a troubled restoration of the monarchy.

1. Detail: The death of Queen Elizabeth I in 1603 brought the end of the _____ dynasty and the beginning of _____ rule.

2. Detail: In 1628, Parliament passed a _____ to place limits on the king's authority, but after initially accepting it, King Charles I later _____ it.

3. Detail: During England's civil war, the parliamentary forces, or _____, defeated the Royalists, or _____.

4. Detail: Cromwell eventually dispersed Parliament and set up a military _____.

5. Detail: During the _____, religion caused tension between Parliament and the kings.

B. Main Idea: England's "Glorious Revolution" laid the foundation for England's limited, or constitutional, monarchy.

1. Detail: English nobles invited _____ to invade England.

2. Detail: Parliament's Bill of _____ established the foundation for a constitutional monarchy; it helped create a government based on the rule of _____.

3. Detail: The _____ theory of kingship was destroyed during the "Glorious Revolution;" as a result, English monarchs rule by the grace of _____.

C. Main Idea: The political thought of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke reflected concerns with order and power.

1. Detail: In his treatise entitled *Leviathan*, _____ argued that rulers required absolute power to preserve _____ in society.

2. Detail: _____ argued that government existed to protect life, liberty, property, and other _____.

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3. Detail: Though Locke was not an advocate of _____, his ideas can be found in the American Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How and why did English government change in the seventeenth century?

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The logo for 'networks' features the word in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic consisting of several thin, intersecting lines that form a starburst or network pattern.

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Lesson 3 *Absolutism in Europe*

Review Questions

Directions: Read the lesson and complete the outline below. Refer to your textbook to fill in the blanks.

I. France Under Louis XIV

- A. Louis XIV's reign is considered the best example of _____ in the seventeenth century.
- B. Cardinal _____, minister to Louis XIII, and Cardinal _____, minister to Louis XIV, helped to preserve the authority of the monarchy.
- C. Louis XIV established both a royal court and a state office at _____, where he lived lavishly.
- D. To achieve military glory and strengthen his dynasty, the Sun King created a large _____ and waged four wars, but when he died, France was surrounded by _____.

II. The Spread of Absolutism

- A. Out of the more than three hundred _____ states in existence after the Thirty Years' War, Prussia and Austria emerged as two great European powers.
- B. _____ built a huge, efficient standing army, and he also set up the General War _____ to levy taxes, oversee the army, and govern the state.
- C. The _____ dynasty failed to create an empire in Germany; however, it formed the new _____ Empire.
- D. The core of the new empire, which did not become a highly centralized state, consisted of lands in present-day Austria, _____, and the Czech Republic.

III. Peter the Great

- A. _____ the Terrible was Russia's first czar. Peter the Great viewed _____ of the army as an important step in making Russia a great power.
- B. Peter formed Russia's first navy and introduced _____ manners, practices, and customs to the people of Russia.

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Lesson 4 *European Culture After the Renaissance*

Review Questions

Directions: Locate each heading below in your textbook. Then use the information under the correct heading and subheading to help you write each answer.

I. Art After the Renaissance

A. What movement brought an end to the artistic Renaissance?

B. Why are the paintings of El Greco considered to be the high point of Mannerism?

C. Describe what characterized the baroque style of painting and identify at least three baroque artists.

D. Why did kings want baroque palaces to be magnificent?

E. Identify two baroque composers and discuss how baroque music was similar to baroque art and architecture.

II. Golden Age of Literature

A. When was Europe's "Golden Age of Literature"?

B. Why was theater successful in the Elizabethan Era?

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C. Why is Shakespeare considered a universal genius?

D. Who wrote the novel *Don Quixote*, and what is it about?

E. How did Lope de Vega contribute to the "Golden Age of Literature" in Spain?

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How did art and literature in late sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Europe reflect the political and religious conflicts of the time?
