

Chapter 16

What Have You Learned About World History So Far?

Section 1: *What Do You Remember About Early Civilizations?*

1 ★ Why Should You Review What You Have Learned? ★

**Terms to Look for
in this Section:**

**Age of Discovery
Absolute Monarchs**

Congratulations! By now you have successfully passed three quarters of World Civilizations either through your high school or by passing sections 1, 2 and/or 3

of the *Northridge Learning Center* Packets! By now, you have learned of the human story from the **Age of Discovery** to the rise of **Absolute Monarchs** at the end of the 1700's. The central question of the *Section 4 Northridge Packet* you now have is this: "Which major events and people from Industrial Revolution to the present day have shaped your own world for good and bad?"

Why Study History?

- So you can understand why things are where they are today.
- So you can understand how you fit into the past, present and future.
- It teaches skills of thought, reason, analysis, and interpretation.
- It teaches patterns and causes/effects
- It's just plain fun!

Hopefully you have learned many ideas that have helped you better understand how we came to be the way we are today. Remember that without having a sense of your past, you can have no idea of why people live where they do and act the way they do now. You, in turn, will make choices that decide the future of others and their history.

The study of history helps you learn skills that can be used in many situations, no matter what you chose to do with your life. Students of history learn good habits of thought. They analyze ideas and data, and develop original interpretations of materials. They learn how to express themselves well, both verbally and in writing; essential skills whether you want to become a teacher, doctor, lawyer, or nurse.

Age of Discovery – The 200-year period of time when Europe was exploring and discovering the world (from around the middle of the 1400’s to the middle of the 1600’s A.D.)

Absolute Monarchs – The 200-year period of time from the 1600’s to the beginning of the 1900’s A.D. when European kings ruled with unlimited power over the Church and the early versions of Parliaments and National Assemblies.

It may sound crazy, but studying history can also be done just for the fun of it! Learning about other people and what they went through in life can be very interesting. Their successes and failures can be useful as models for your own life. It will surprise you how many actions and thoughts of the past are similar to those of your own.

Sometimes when you study many people and events, you begin to see patterns of action or ideas that often repeat themselves. These patterns can be helpful to you as you plan your own life.



Vocabulary Builder

Define the following term.

1. From which era to which era did the Northridge Learning Center Packet 3 cover?

From the end of the _____ to the beginning of the _____



Reflection Time

Answer the following questions.

1. Name at least four benefits from studying history. _____

2 ★ Which events of the 1500 – 1700's led to World Revolutions? ★

Terms to Look for in this Section:

King Charles V
Queen Elizabeth I
Christopher Marlowe
William Shakespeare
Cardinal Richelieu
Jules Mazarin
King Louis XIV
Ivan the Great, Ivan the Terrible
Peter the Great
Catherine the Great
Frederick the Great

You have learned from your classes or read from these *Northridge* packets about the political changes that took place in Europe from the late 1500's until the middle of the 1700's as kings (monarchs) began to take control of the countries under their power.

Charles V (5th) of Spain was among the last leaders of the Holy Roman Empire and his Habsburg family held the land of Spain for over 200 years. The Spanish controlled parts of Europe, Africa, North America, and most of Central and South America. But after the defeat of the Spanish Armada at the hands of the English navy, Spain lost power among European nations and eventually became a minor country in the region.

The Tudor family of the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland) defeated the Spanish and soon grew to be the most powerful kingdom in Western Europe. Under **Queen Elizabeth I**, the role of the monarch became supreme over landholders, knights, and barons. English society advanced as never before with growing cities and towns and a larger overseas empire. Writers such as **Christopher Marlowe** and playwrights such as **William Shakespeare** helped Englishmen of all social classes to better understand the world in which they lived.

In France, weak kings at first were controlled from behind the scenes by powerful Catholic priests such as **Cardinal Richelieu** and **Jules Mazarin**. But with the takeover of France by **King Louis XIV** (14th), a new time of very powerful kings, known as Absolute Monarchs, began in France, England, Prussia (today's Poland and Eastern Europe) and Russia. Louis' palace at Versailles, France, became the symbol of a king who had total control over all others who wanted to control the country.

Russian czars (kings), such as **Ivan the Great, Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great** and **Catherine the Great**, took over all of northeastern Asia under a new country called Russia and spread their empire to North America where they controlled parts of Alaska, Western Canada, and as far south as San Francisco! **Frederick the Great** of Prussia used his military force to unsuccessfully try to take over much of Europe, but was

defeated many times. He did convince Catherine of Russia and Maria Theresa of Austria to attack and divide Poland, which was completely erased from the world map until 1918.



Reflection Time

Answer the following questions by matching each political, religious or literary leader with the country over which they had control or in which they wrote.

1. King Charles V
2. Queen Elizabeth I
3. Christopher Marlowe
4. William Shakespeare
5. Cardinal Richelieu
6. Jules Mazarin
7. King Louis XIV
8. Ivan the Great, Ivan the Terrible
9. Peter the Great
10. Catherine the Great
11. Frederick the Great

- | |
|------------------------------------|
| A. France |
| B. Prussia |
| C. Russia |
| D. Spain |
| E. United Kingdom (England . . .) |

3 ★ How did the European Age of Reason & Enlightenment lead to Revolutions around the World? ★

As you may recall, the Protestant Reformation of the 1400 and 1500's led to a period of scientific reasoning known as the **Age of Reason**. It lasted from about 1687 to about 1789, or from the time of Sir Isaac Newton to the French Revolution. It was a time when many great thinkers examined laws, constitutions, kings, religions and arts to see whether they could be lined up with natural laws. Their writings led to a movement that challenged kings to change or be removed by revolution. Their philosophical movement that affected the social sciences is called **The Enlightenment**.

Terms to Look for in this Section:

The Age of Reason
The Enlightenment
John Locke
Social Contract
Baron de Montesquieu
Voltaire
Jean Jacques
Rousseau
Denis Diderot

The most important person to contribute during the Age of Reason was **John Locke**, an English philosopher born in 1632. Like many men of his time, Locke believed that if men would use their minds and reasons, progress was sure to happen. According to his theory of government, men had certain natural rights, including life, liberty, and property. He argued that people gave kings the right to rule and the power to protect personal rights. This promise between people and the leader created what he called a **social contract**. If a government did not protect the people's rights the people should have the power to create a new government.



John Locke
Master of
Reason

Other writers, such as **Baron de Montesquieu**, **Voltaire**, **Jean Jacques Rousseau**, and **Denis Diderot** also challenged the beliefs that kings were supreme and could alone decide what was best for their subjects. Their writings inspired Europeans to believe that power to make decisions for a nation should rest with the people themselves. Their writings and explosion of creative art and music of the period helped to erode confidence in absolute monarchs and led to political revolts that would change Europe and the rest of the world forever.



Reflection Time

Answer the following questions.

1. What is the name of the period of scientific reasoning in Europe that lasted from about 1687 to about 1789? _____
2. What was the name of the philosophical movement that challenged kings to change or be removed by revolution? _____
3. Which English writer is considered to be the most important influence of England, Europe, and the Americas during the Enlightenment? _____
4. Name four other writers of the Enlightenment who helped shape the ideas of political independence and revolution in Europe and the Americas. _____

