Royal Power & Conflict

“Power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely.”

- John Emerich Edward Dalberg Acton
In the 1500’s and 1600’s European monarchs worked to end the independence of cities and feudal territories.

Monarchs sought to establish governments in which they held all the power known as *absolutism*.

This idea of government came from the idea that Kings and Queens were appointed by God and were only answerable to God. This would become known as the *Divine Right*. 
The Hapsburgs of Spain

- In the 1500 and 1600’s the leading family in Western Europe was the Spanish Hapsburgs.
- They drew their strength from their possessions in the New World and Europe, which included, Spain, the Netherlands, Milan, Burgundy, and Portugal.
Phillip II

- In Spain Phillip II ruled from 1556 to 1598 and was the most powerful monarch in Spanish history.
- He was known as the Prudent King, and was hard working, and suspicious of others.
- El Escorial served as Phillip II palace, art gallery, monastery, and tomb for Spanish Monarchy.
Spain

- **Phillip II** was a strong defender of the Catholic faith and was concerned with large religious minorities in Spain.

- **Phillip supported the Inquisition** to make sure Protestantism did not take hold in Spain.

- He was also worried about **Marranos** (Jews who had converted to Christianity) and **Moriscos** (Muslims who had become Christians).
The Armada

- In 1586 Phillip began to make plans to invade England. He would spend two years of wealth and talent of his Empire on this Endeavour.

- In 1588 130 ships left Spain with 33,000 men with the intent of invading England.

- The English fleet with its smaller and more maneuverable ships and longer range guns along with the use of fire ships managed to stop the Armada.
The Spanish Decline

- The defeat of the Armada signaled the end of the Spanish Empire.
- Phillip’s son and grandson lacked the intelligence and enthusiasm to govern Spain. They would hand the ruling of the country to the nobles.
- In 1668 Portugal broke away from Spain.
- Charles II was the last of the Spanish Hapsburgs and would die without an heir causing European monarchs to plot for the control of Spain.
Questions

1. _________ Powerful European ruling family.
2. _________ Form of government where all power lies with one person or a group.
3. _________ The most powerful ruler in Spanish history.
4. _________ Served as the Spanish palace, monastery, and art gallery.
5. _________ Special church court designed to protect and promote Catholicism.
6. _________ Muslims who converted to Christianity.
7. _________ Jews who converted to Christianity.
8. _________ Fleet of 130 ships sent to invade England.
9. _________ In 1668 Spain lost control of this territory.
10. _________ The last of the Spanish Hapsburgs.
England

- England like Spain developed a strong monarchy ruled by the Tudor dynasty from 1485-1603.

- The rulers in England were not absolute like other European monarchs, they were limited by the courts and Parliament which set limits on their authority.
The Tudors

- **Henry VII** was the first Tudor monarch, becoming king in 1485 after the Wars of the Roses.

- During Henry VII reign he encouraged foreign trade, improved the collection of taxes, and used marriages to improve foreign relations.
Henry VIII

- Henry VIII was the most powerful of the Tudor monarchs.
- He fought wars on the European continent and began to make England a naval power.
- Henry VIII would marry six times in his quest for a male heir and would break with the Catholic Church.
Edward VI

- Edward VI would become king at the age of 9 in 1547 only to die at the age of 15.
- Protestant nobles tried to prevent Edward’s half sister Mary from taking the throne... they were unsuccessful.
Mary Tudor or ** Bloody Mary **

- After Edward’s death Mary Tudor was crowned Queen of England.
- A devout Catholic she married Phillip II of Spain and burned 300 Protestants at the stake.
Elizabeth I

- Elizabeth became Queen of England at the age of 25.
- She used her power for the common good of the people.
- She frequently traveled throughout the country, which earned her the respect of the people.
Elizabeth I

- Elizabeth was assisted by 19 nobles which handled foreign relations and administration of justice.

- The Queen and her court led the social ranks of England followed by prominent nobles, clergy, lawyers, and merchants. The lowest class were the peasants such as farmers and craftsmen.
Elizabeth I

- Elizabeth I continued to build and strengthen England’s navy.
- The English realized the danger of an alliance between France and Spain and used diplomacy and sea power for protection.
- Elizabeth would adopt a policy of balance of power in which England would align with a weaker nation in order to maintain a balance in Europe.
Elizabeth I

- In the 1560’s Scotland became Protestant with Elizabeth’s help and became an ally of England.
- In 1590 England completed its conquest of Ireland bringing peace to the British Isles.
- Elizabeth would die at the age of 69 without an heir. The throne of England would pass to James VI of Scotland. He would become King James I of England.
Questions

1. ___________ Henry VII was the first monarch of this English dynasty.
2. ___________ This English monarch would marry six times.
3. ___________ He would become King of England at the age of nine.
4. ___________ Bloody Mary.
5. ___________ She would become Queen at the age of 25 and rule until the age of 69.
6. ___________ After Elizabeth’s death the throne of England would pass to this family.
France

- In 1589 King Henry of Navarre became King Henry IV of France. His family, the Bourbon family, would rule France until the early 1800’s.
- The Bourbon monarchy was absolute in its rule of France, and it was widely believed that the King was appointed to God and only responsible to God.
Henry IV

- Henry IV was a Huguenot, a French Protestant, but converted to Catholicism when he became King.

- In 1598 he issued the Edict of Nantes which allowed Protestant worship in France where Protestants were in the majority, but barred Protestant worship in Paris and other Catholic strongholds.
Louis XIII and Richelieu

- Henry’s son **Louis XIII** became King at the age of 9. His mother **Marie de Medici** would rule as regent for seven years.

- When Louis gained the throne, Marie convinced him to give power to **Cardinal Richelieu**
Cardinal Richelieu

- Richelieu would establish an absolute monarchy in France by destroying the nobles' castles, and stripping them of their local administrative powers.
- Huguenots were no longer to keep independent fortified towns but still were allowed to worship as they chose.
- To make France strong he strengthened the Army, economy and culture.
Louis XIV

- **Louis XIV** was the most powerful Bourbon Monarch, becoming King at the age of five and ruling for 72 years.
- Known as the *Sun King* the nobility of and royalty of France revolved around him. He was the source of all political authority in France.
Conflict under Louis XIV

In 1701 England, Holland, and Austria went to war with France and Spain over who would inherit the Spanish throne.

It would last until 1713 and France was forced to surrender Nova Scotia and Newfoundland to England.

The War of Spanish Succession would drain the French Treasury and cause resentment towards the King.
Louis XIV

- France enjoyed a brilliant cultural period under Louis XIV.
- The extravagances left the country in financial ruin.
- The peasants and the middle class resented the social privileges of the nobles.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. _________ Ruling family of France from 1589 to early 1800’s.</td>
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<td>2. _________ French protestant.</td>
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<td>3. _________ Order that gave limited religious freedom in France.</td>
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<td>4. _________ Mother of Louis XIII</td>
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<td>5. _________ Advisor to Louis XIII</td>
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<td>6. _________ Government agents given control of local affaris.</td>
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<td>7. _________ Louis XIV ruled for this many years.</td>
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<td>8. _________ Louis XIV nickname.</td>
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<td>9. _________ Palace built by Louis XIV</td>
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<td>10. _________ War that lasted from 1701-1713.</td>
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The German States

- While the Bourbons were strengthening their monarchy, the Hapsburgs of Austria were trying to establish their own absolute monarchy.

- The Protestant Princes of Germany resisted the rule of the Catholic Hapsburgs. This would fuel the tension between the Protestants and Catholics.
The Thirty Years War

- The Thirty Years War began in Bohemia in 1618 when the Czechs religious freedoms were limited and they rebelled.
- It escalated into a civil war with the German Protestant princes against Ferdinand of Styria. The revolt would be crushed in 1620.
- The Danes however would enter the conflict against the Hapsburgs hoping to gain territory, only to be forced to withdraw.
The Thirty Years War

- **Sweden** entered the war on the side of the Protestants and France would enter against the Austrian Hapsburgs in 1635.
- The French entered the war in hopes to keep the Hapsburgs from gaining too much power.
- The war would end in 1648 with the Treaty of Westphalia which further weakened Germany and the power of France emerged as the leading power in Europe.
Austria

- After the **Thirty Years War** Austria remained the most powerful of the German states.
- As a result of the **War of Spanish Succession** Austria received the Spanish Netherlands and land in Italy.
- In 1713 **Emperor Charles VI** of Austria convinced the monarchs of Europe to sign the **Pragmatic Sanction** allowing a female to inherit the Austrian throne and not to divide Hapsburg lands.
Maria Theresa

- **Maria Theresa** proved to be a clever and resourceful leader even though she had no formal training in politics.
- She strengthened the Austrian central government and ended trade barriers between Austria and Bohemia.
Prussia

- Brandenburg-Prussia was ruled by the Hohenzollern family and would rise to prominence in the 1700’s.
- Prussia’s most powerful ruler was Frederick II or Frederick the Great.
- He would ignore the Pragmatic Sanction and seize the Austrian province of Silesia.
War of Austrian Succession

- The Prussian attack on Austria began the War of Austrian Succession.

- Prussia had the most efficient army in Europe at this time and Maria Theresa’s advisors urged her to give up the province.

- When she would not, Spain and France joined Prussia with England and the Dutch joining Austria.
War of Austrian Succession

- The War of Austrian Succession would last seven years from 1740-1748.
- The war would end with the Treaty of Aix-la Chapelle.
- Prussia would keep Silesia and was recognized as an important nation.
- Maria Theresa was allowed to keep the rest of her domain.
The Seven Years War

- Maria Theresa was not content with the treaty and would switch alliances to France and Russia.
- In 1756 war would break out and last for seven more years.
- Prussia would retain most of Silesia and Great Britain would gain French Canada and land in India and would emerge as the most powerful colonial empire.
Questions

1. ___________ Ruling family of Austria.
2. ___________ This war began in Bohemia in 1618.
3. ___________ Emperor Charles VI would be succeeded by his daughter.
4. ___________ This country would rise to prominence in the 1700’s.
5. ___________ Ruling family of the new prominent country.
6. ___________ An attack on Silesia would spark this war.
7. ___________ Treaty ending this war.
8. ___________ War that would last Seven Years.
9. ___________ Country that would emerge as a colonial power.
Russia

- Russia was always isolated from western development and influences. The all powerful Russian monarchy crushed its opponents.
- The Church, nobility, fortified towns were never a problem in Russia.
Russia

- The most powerful of the early Czars was Ivan IV or Ivan the terrible.
- He ruled from 1533 to 1584 and was very suspicious and regarded nobles as a threat to his power.
- Ivan would expand Russia’s borders in search of ice free ports to establish year round trade with the west.
In 1689 Peter I or Peter the Great began ruling Russia. Nearly seven feet tall he was an intimidating figure.

Peter wanted to modernize Russia and to help with his task he took an 18 month tour of England and the Netherlands.
Russian Foreign Policy under Peter I

- Peter I expanded Russia’s borders in 1689 when China recognized Russia’s claim to Siberia.
- In 1721 Russia defeated Sweden for control of the Baltic coastline.
- Peter I also created Russia’s first professional army and navy.
Government Service

- A new class of nobility, called dvorianie was created which allowed for hereditary estates and full control over their peasants.
- This new nobility along with the old would serve the Czar from age 15 until death.
- The nobility did not have to pay taxes, the burden of taxes fell on the peasants.
Administration of Government

- The local government was placed under Peter’s control as he began to model Russia after France.

- Even the church was accountable to the government. A council of bishops known as the **Holy Synod** was created in 1700 and was directly responsible to a government official.
Catherine the Great

- In 1762 the German born Catherine II seized the throne from her husband Peter III.
- During her rule more peasants were forced into serfdom than ever before and she brutally crushed any revolts that occurred.
- She achieved a warm water port on the Black Sea and acquired territory from Poland.
- She died in 1796 and is considered to be one of the last great absolute monarchs.
Questions

1. __________ Russia’s civilization was based on the values of these two things.
2. __________ The most powerful of the early Czars.
3. __________ This would become a long standing goal for Russia.
4. __________ This Czar stood nearly seven feet tall.
5. __________ A new class of Royal Nobles.
6. __________ Another name for a Russian peasant.
7. __________ A council of Bishops responsible to the government.
8. __________ The burden of taxes fell on this level of society.
Questions

9. ____________ German born Czarina of Russia.
10. ____________ This Czar wanted to modernize Russia.
11. ____________ St. Petersburg in Russia was considered this…
12. ____________ A military defeat by Turkey persuaded the Russians to develop these two things.