**Standard 4 Notes**

1. Classical Learning and Religious Reform
   1. Renaissance
      1. Period of growth in learning and the arts that followed the Middle Ages
      2. Causes of the Renaissance
         1. Loss of faith in the church because of the Crusades/Black Death/corruption
            1. Greek and Roman studies as a move away from the religious
         2. Shift to a focus on human potential and achievements (humanism)
      3. Renaissance is driven by artists, scientists and thinkers, as well as wealthy patrons who financially support them
         1. Medici family in Florence – famous patrons of the arts; wealthy from banking
      4. Famous Figures of the Renaissance:
         1. Artists
            1. Leonardo da Vinci

Artist: Painted *The Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*

Engineer: Designed and envisioned inventions centuries ahead of their time.

Famously fickle and had trouble focusing on one thing at a time

His notebooks sell for millions at auction today

* + - * 1. Michelangelo

Artist: Sculpted *La Pieta* and *David* and painted the roof of the Sistine Chapel

* + - 1. Writers
         1. Niccolo Machiavelli

Wrote *The Prince*, a political guidebook for rulers

* + - * 1. Baldassare Castiglione

Wrote *The Book of The Courtier*, where he outlined the “Renaissance Man” as being good at everything

* + - * 1. William Shakespeare

Famous playwright, wrote 37 plays that are still performed worldwide

*Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, MacBeth*

* 1. Printing Press
     1. Invented by Johann Gutenberg around 1455
     2. First book printed: The Bible
     3. Books become cheaper to produce – more people are able to read
  2. Protestant Reformation
     1. Movement for religious reform
     2. Began in 1517 by a German monk named Martin Luther
     3. Main issue: Indulgences (money paid for forgiveness of sins) and corruption in the church.
     4. John Tetzel tried to raise money for a new church by selling indulgences, and Luther wrote the *95 Theses on Indulgence* in an attempt to warn the pope (unaware that the pope was aware of the situation). Luther nailed these to a church door in October 1517.
     5. The church responded by persecuting Luther and he was eventually excommunicated, but he continued to write books about Christianity, and his movement led to a new religious sect (Lutherans).
     6. The Reformation gave way to many new divisions within Christianity. Some of these include:
        1. Calvinists: formed by John Calvin. Key belief: predestination
        2. Anabaptists
        3. Presbyterians
     7. All of these divisions and sects came to be known as Protestant faiths because they protested the Catholic Church.
     8. This divide (Catholic/Protestant) is the source of numerous conflicts for centuries after.
     9. English Reformation
        1. Began by Henry VIII, who broke with the Catholic Church because the pope would not annul his marriage.
        2. Henry started the Anglican Church in England, naming himself pope and annulling his marriage to his wife and marrying another.
     10. Catholic Reformation
         1. Attempt by the church to reform itself from within, mainly at the Council of Trent (1545). Mostly ineffective, but led to creation of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) to teach and build schools.
         2. The Council also strengthened the Inquisition, a church court set up to try heretics. It was expanded to go after Protestants.

1. Rise of Powerful Nation-States
   1. This period of history sees the rise of absolute monarchs, rulers who claim total power in their states’ territory. They use the money gained from exploration and colonization to dominate their local regions and wage conflicts with each other. They also claim divine right (God’s mandate) to rule.
   2. Famous absolute monarchs:
      1. Philip II of Spain
         1. Devout Catholic
         2. Married several different women to form alliances with other European nations.
         3. Raised the Spanish Armada - a group of 130 ships, 20,000 men and over 2,400 artillery pieces – to fight Protestant England. They failed miserably and were decimated by storms.
      2. Louis XIV of France
         1. Known as the “Sun King” because of his belief that government in France revolved around him.
         2. Kept the nobles of France under his thumb through elaborate rituals such as the levee’
         3. Built a lavish palace at Versailles with over 2,000 rooms at a cost of over $2 billion dollars (in that period’s money)
         4. Ended his life waging costly wars with Spain and persecuting Hugenots (Protestants in France)
      3. Peter the Great of Russia
         1. Became king at 10 years old
         2. Sought out to westernize Russia and learned by going on a secret tour of Europe
         3. Came back and forced his nobles to westernize
         4. Built the capital city of St. Petersburg
   3. English
      1. Tudors Work with Parliament
      2. Stuarts Impose Absolute Power
         1. James I agrees to rule with Parliament’s influence, but then refuses
            1. Clashes with dissenters from the Anglican Church (as well as a separatist group called the Puritans)
         2. James I’s son Charles I behaves the same way
      3. English Civil War
         1. Parliament opposes Charles I with the Long Parliament
         2. Charles I fights back, civil war breaks out
            1. Cavaliers (supporters of Charles) v. Roundheads (supporters of Parliament)
         3. Roundheads led by Oliver Cromwell win the war, execute Charles I, and begin their own period of rule
      4. The Commonwealth
         1. Period of English history when it is ruled by Oliver Cromwell as “Lord Protector”
         2. Puritans encourage social reforms and strict control, but other Protestant groups gain religious freedoms they didn’t have under Charles I
         3. Commonwealth ends when Cromwell dies in 1658
      5. Restoration and Glorious Revolution
         1. Charles II (son of Charles I) welcomed back to England to rule and doesn’t make his father’s mistakes
         2. Charles’ brother James II takes the throne in 1685, is determined to restore absolute power and bring England back to Catholicism
         3. Concerned leaders invited James’ daughter Mary and her husband William III of Orange to come from the Netherlands and rule England.
         4. William and Mary land with an army in 1688, but James flees without a fight. This is known as the Glorious Revolution.
         5. Effects of the Glorious Revolution:
            1. William and Mary accept an English Bill of Rights

Precursor to our own Bill of Rights

* + - * 1. Limited monarchy is imposed (legislative body limits the monarch’s power)
        2. Constitutional government emerges with three new institutions:

Political Parties

Cabinet

Prime Minister