

Study Questions to accompany
UNIVERSAL HISTORY OF THE WORLD
Published by Golden Press, 1966
THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT
VOLUME 10 – 1543 – 1789

Questions compiled by Karen North©, 2002

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This time, the readings are bit a long, so it may take a few days for you to complete an assignment. Try reading the questions before you start the assignment, so you'll know what to be looking for as you read. Mark important dates and people on the timeline.

I. Read “King Versus Parliament: 1604 – 1625” on pp. 783 – 792

- Once again, as in the last two volumes, some of the time periods covered in the history encyclopedias overlap. Many of the names will be familiar to you, but the focus now switches from the church and the kings to developments in other areas of life such as science, medicine, philosophy, freedom, etc. Be sure when you make entries on your timeline that you note what other things were going on in the world at the same time.
- Mark 1603, Bubonic Plague, England on your timeline.
- Was sanitation a thing of importance in England during this time?

“The ‘Foreign’ King” p. 784-785

- Who was the new king of England in 1604? Mark your timeline with this information, including the name and country.
- What was the “divine right of kings”? Were they a new concept in England beginning with James I?
- What was/is the legislative body of England called? At the time of King James, what was the main function of the Parliament?

“The Restless Middle Class” p. 785

- What were the two divisions of the Parliament called?
- Read in an encyclopedia about the British Parliament of today. Is the function of the Parliament the same as it was 400 years ago? If not, how has it changed?

“King or Parliament?” p. 784-785

- What was the significance of the meeting between King James and Parliament 1604?

”The King James Bible” p. 785-786

- What contribution did King James make to the religious community in 1604?

“The Gunpowder Plot” p. 787-788

- Give a short description of what the intention of the “Gunpowder Plot” was.

“No Funds for the King” p. 788-792

- King James found a way to raise money he wanted without having to go to Parliament for it by initiating taxes on imports. This caused a battle with the House of Commons, leading to King James dissolving the Parliament in 1611. He called the Parliament together again in 1614, but dissolved it once again when they refused to cooperate with him. When his attempts to raise money through Parliament failed again, what means did he attempt to raise money by?
- What was occurring in the rest of Europe about this time between the Catholics and the Protestants? (look around 1618)
- After several thwarted attempts to raise money and support by joining in an alliance with Spain, King James finally compromised with the House of Commons in 1624 – he received funds in exchange for the Commons right to supervise the spending of the money.
- Why do you think King James I was called the “wisest fool in Christendom” when he died in 1625?

II. Read “The Puritan Revolution: 1625 - 1660” on p. 793 – 812

- Mark 1625, Charles I, King of England on your timeline.

“War and Money” p. 793-794

“The Petition of Right” p. 794

- The House of Commons had become bold under the reign of Charles I’s father, King James I. It became even bolder under the rule of Charles, to the point that in 1629 when the king tried to force the Commons to adjourn, they openly opposed the king’s right to do so. Over the objections and orders of the king, the members of the Commons voted on the resolutions it had drawn up, and then adjourned itself. What were the three resolutions they voted on?

“Discontent and Taxes” p. 794-797

- The book states under the section “Discontent and Taxes” that the Parliament had been making ‘new and revolutionary’ demands. What were these demands?
- Although he battled with the House of Commons, King Charles I did make some improvements in England, chiefly among the poorer people. What were some of these improvements?
- This was a time of religious discontent in England. It was a time of the Puritans and the Separatists. It was during this period that the Separatists left England, eventually to end up in America. Much of the discontent in the religious arena was due to the disagreements between those in the Anglican Church (the Church of England).

“The Bishops’ War” p. 797-798

“The Short Parliament” p. 798-799

“A Taste of Blood” p. 799-801

- In 1638 – 1639, Charles faced a crisis in Scotland, another country over which he ruled. When trying to raise money for an army to force the Scottish to conform to his will in religion and government, he ran into trouble with Parliament again. In 1642, things escalated to a civil war. What were the king’s supporters called and who did they consist of?
- What was another name that was associated with this group?
- Who were the main supporters of the Protestants?
- What name were they known by?
- Mark 1642-1647 as a time of civil war in England between the Royalists/Cavaliers and the Roundheads.

“Oliver Cromwell” p. 801-804

- What part did Oliver Cromwell play in the civil war?

“Charles Escapes” p. 804-805

- Who was eventually victorious in the civil war in England?
- After the war’s end, the victors began quarreling among themselves. Oliver Cromwell attempted to keep order in the confusion. During this time, Charles I escaped to Scotland and made a pact with them, leading to a second civil war in 1648. Mark this date on your timeline.

“The Beheading of Charles” p. 804-807

- In 1649, a special court was called to try King Charles I. He was beheaded after being found guilty of several charges.

“The Puritans” p. 807-808

- After the death of Charles I, the House of Commons abolished the House of Lords and the monarchy. What does that mean?
- The House of Commons declared that they represented the people of England. What was wrong with this statement?
- Who were the Puritans? What was their attitude toward religion and politics?

“John Milton” p. 808-809

- Who was John Milton? What literary contribution did he make to the world?
- During the time of Milton, there was unrest between Ireland and England. What did Oliver Cromwell do in response to the revolt?

“You Are No Parliament!” p. 809-812

- Cromwell not only had to deal with uprisings in Ireland, but also in Scotland and in England itself. What prompted him to say, “You are no Parliament. I say you are no Parliament. I will put an end to your sittings!”
- Cromwell believed he was helping the country when he appointed a “Nominated Parliament”, but this group of men was unable to make any decisions that benefited the people. The leaders of the army drew up a document called the “Instrument of Government” – England’s first real written constitution. What did this document provide for?
- Who was now officially recognized as leader of England? What was his title? Mark 1653 as the year Cromwell began his rule as Lord Protector.
- How did Cromwell rule after being made Lord Protector of England?
- What happened after Cromwell’s death?
- Who became the King of England?

III. The Restoration and the Glorious Revolution (1660-1742) p. 813-822

“Charles II” p. 813-816

- What wise thing did Charles II do at the beginning of his reign? Why do you think this was important?
- Much of life returned to normal after the rise of Charles II to the throne, but social life in the upper classes changed. Describe some of these changes.
- Charles II did not take a very active part in government. What was the result of his lack of guidance?

“Whigs and Tories” p. 816-817

- Who were the “Whigs” and where did they get their name?
- Who were the “Tories” and where did they get their name?
(*pay close attention to these two groups. They will appear again later in both world history and in early American history)

“The Bloody Assizes” p. 817-818

- After Charles II’s death, his brother James II ascended to the throne. Of large concern to the English people was the fact that James II had converted to Catholicism prior to his rise to the throne. This caused a great struggle, including two rebellions by the Protestants. The second of these rebellions was followed by a series of court sessions called the “bloody assizes.”
- When James II finally had a son, what did the Whigs and Tories do, and why?

“William and Mary” p. 818-819

- What did James II try to do when he heard William of Orange planned to invade England? Were his efforts successful? What was the result of the failed negotiations?
- What did the Parliament require William and his wife Mary to agree to? Why was this considered a turning point in English history?
- Why was this period known as the “glorious revolution”?

“England Under Anne” p. 819-820

- Who was Queen Anne in relation to William and Mary?
- When did she begin her reign?
- Author Daniel de Foe described England under Queen Anne as “the most flourishing and opulent country in the world.” Give some examples why this may have been true.

“The House of Hanover” p. 820

- What was signed in 1713 and what were its terms?
- Why was George from the German state of Hanover named King of England?

“Walpole and the Whigs” p. 820-822

- Who was Robert Walpole, and what impact did he have on England? (list both good and bad)
- Who benefited from his reforms?

“The First Prime Minister” p. 822

- Where did the modern day English Cabinet and office of “prime minister” originate?

IV. **After Me, the Deluge** 1715-1789, p. 822-825

The scene now changes to France around the same time period that George of Hanover was King of England.

- What was Louis XIV’s nickname?
- What are some reasons Louis XIV was such a strong king?
- What is meant by the term “absolute monarch”?
- What condition was France left in at Louis XIV’s death?

“The Regency” p. 822-823

- Because of the young age of Louis XV, a group of regents rules France until the king reached an age where he could rule. The weakness of the chief regent, the duke of Orleans, gave the aristocrats an opportunity to gain more control of the government, regaining the powers they had lost under Louis XIV.

“The Mississippi Bubble” p. 823-824

- What was the Mississippi Bubble?
- National debt can be defined as the expense incurred by a country in the running of the government. This would include the cost of waging war on other nations, or defending itself in time of war, along with the day-to-day expenses. What was the attitude of the French toward the national debt?
- What was the attitude of the English toward the national debt?
- How did the attitudes of the people affect the way the governments were run?
- Which group of citizens took more responsibility for their government and tried to implement reforms?

“The Three Estates” p. 824-825

- What were the three “Estates” in France?
- Who made up each estate?
- What was the function of the “Estates General”? (this group of people had not been called to meet since 1614)
- Look up the pronunciation and the definition of *bourgeoisie*.
- What do you think Louis XV meant by “Après moi, le déluge?”
Give the English interpretation of the statement along with your idea of what he meant.

“The King Calls a Meeting” p. 825

- After the death of Louis XV, his grandson, Louis XVI became king of France. Louis XVI’s wife was Marie Antoinette. He was not the strong king that the people had hoped he would be. You will read more about Louis XVI and his reign in a later volume.
- What did the aristocracy hope to accomplish by forcing Louis XVI to call a meeting of the Estates General?

V. **Colonies and Empires** 1664-1763, p. 826-837

The focus up until now has been on the struggles and developments in the European countries themselves. Now it shifts to the colonies held by the countries.

- Name the two major areas of colonization in the world during this period.
- Name the five countries who took the lead in exploration and colonization.
- What were the two main reasons for Spain’s interest in exploration in the New World?
- What areas of the New World were the Spanish largely interested in?
- Describe the Spanish method of settling a colony.
- List the areas the French mainly developed in America.
- Describe their method of settling a colony.
- List the areas the English developed in America.
- Describe their reasons and method of settlement.
- Color the regions that were settled/explored by the French, the Spanish, and the English in the New World.
- How did exploration and colonization in the East differ from that in the New World? What made the difference?

“The Spanish Succession” p. 829-830

- This section refers back to the period of time when William of Orange (William III) was King of England.

“The Decline of Spain” p. 830-832

- What effect did the end of the War of the Spanish Succession have on Europe?
- Who became the two leading nations as a result of the shift in power after the war?
- What was different about the wars waged in the 18th century (1700’s)?

“Jenkins’ Ear” p. 832-833

- What caused the War of Jenkins’ Ear in 1739?
- It doesn’t appear that it took very much to start a war during this period, does it?

“The Seven Years War” p. 833

“The French and Indian War” p. 833-834

- You will read more about this war when you study American history, but it is mentioned here briefly in relation to the wars going on in other parts of the world. What was a main cause for the war? Research the time period of the war in an encyclopedia or other resource and mark it on your timeline.
- What is the name of one of the leaders of the colonial army who later became very important in the history of the United States of America?

“Wolfe Captures Quebec” p.834-835

- How did the leadership of William Pitt help the English cause in the French and Indian War?
- Who was the general who led the British to victory in Quebec?
- Who eventually won the French and Indian War?
- Why do you think it was called the French and Indian War rather than the French and English War?

“Clive in India” p. 836

- Not only did France lose control and influence in North America, it also lost ground in India. Who was the leader who helped England gain control in India?

“The Black Hole of Calcutta” p. 836-837

- What was the “black hole of Calcutta”? What did this incident cause?
- Who were the opposing sides in the war in India?
- Who won the war?

“The British Empire” p. 837

- Had Britain intended to build an empire?
- What were the names of the two treaties that helped to build England’s empire? Mark these two treaties on your timeline (1763)

VI. A New View of the Universe 1530-1727 p.838-850

Notice that the time period for this section is 1530-1727. This time, the scene is not shifting to another country, but will be covering events that happened in the fields of science and math. Remember when you mark important events on your timeline to look at the other events around your entry, to refresh your memory as to what was happening in the political arena. The earliest discoveries and scientists discussed in this section occurred in various countries, some of which had not entered the period of the Renaissance.

- Look up Copernicus in an encyclopedia or other resource. Mark the general period of his lifetime on your timeline. Be sure to look at the other events that were happening during this time that should already be on your timeline.

“The Ptolemaic System” p. 838-839

- What did the Ptolemaic system state?
- What is meant by “geocentric”?
- What did the Roman Catholic Church do with Ptolemaic system?
- Use an encyclopedia or other resource to find out more information about Ptolemy, such as when and where he lived. Think about just how long he influenced the thinking of others regarding the movement of the sun and planets.
- When scientists found data that conflicted with Ptolemy’s view of the world, what did they do?
- Copernicus and others had to work against a formidable enemy – the church – when sharing their observations. The church had great power and influence in areas far removed from what is considered “church business.”

“The Copernican System” p. 839-840

- What was the title of Copernicus’ book?
- How did Copernicus’ view of the universe differ from that of Ptolemy?
- What was meant by “heliocentric”?
- Other scientists from as far back as the time before Christ had believed that the sun was the center of the universe. What differed in the presentation by Copernicus?
- Why do you think that the book states, “Copernicus’ theory did more than upset the Ptolemaic system – it threatened men’s most basic views of the world?”

“The Scholastics” p. 840

- What areas did the Church influence during the Middle Ages?
- Although Aristotle believed in questioning traditions and authorities, the Scholastics skipped over this belief, accepting everything the Aristotle said as the final authority. There were some, however, who dared to challenge Aristotle (and the church’s) beliefs. One of these was Roger Bacon. Use an encyclopedia or other resource to read a little more about Roger Bacon. Make an entry about Roger Bacon on your timeline.

“What Do I Know?” p. 840-841

- This era of being willing to challenge the word of the Church on matters such as astronomy and other realms was called the Renaissance. You have already studied some about this period, but this section of the book will expand and extend the information you’ve already learned. If you will recall, the Renaissance, Reformation, and Age of Exploration all occurred around the same time period. They just affected

different portions of life. Write a brief description of what these men contributed to history:

- Andreas Vesalius
 - da Vinci
 - Albrecht Dürer
- Why did the Church fear the attitude of the people which was expressed by Michel de Montaigne, “What do I know?”

“The Astronomers” p. 842-843

- Write a brief description of the following men such as where they were from, what they were known for.
 - Giordano Bruno
 - Tycho Brahe
 - Johann Kepler (make a timeline entry for Kepler for 1609)

“Galileo” p. 843-844

- Make a timeline entry for Galileo
- Name some of the experiments that Galileo conducted and some of the discoveries he made.
- Why did the Church demand that Galileo stop teaching and discussing the Copernican theory?
- What was the name of Galileo’s work published in 1632? The Church authorities did not like the book – do you have an idea why?

“Eppur Si Muove!” p. 844-845

- What does “Eppur si muove!” mean?
- Why do you think that Galileo is purported to have said this under his breath when he was forced to recant his position on the heliocentric system?
- What was unusual about the language Galileo published his book in? What effect did this have on his readership?

“The Birth of Science” p. 845-846

- What changes were being made in the field of science as a result of Copernicus and Galileo’s work?
- List the contributions of the following men to the field of science. (add those marked with * to the timeline):
 - William Gilbert
 - William Harvey*

- Marcello Malphigi
- Evangelista Torricelli
- Robert Hooke*
- Jan Swammerdam
- Anton van Leeuwenhoek*

“Men of Science” p. 846

- Use encyclopedias or other resources to find the contributions each of the following men made to science.
 - John Napier
 - Joost Burgi
 - William Oughtred
 - Edmund Gunter
 - Thomas Harriot
 - Christopher Wren
 - Robert Boyle
 - Christian Huygens
 - Otto von Guericke

“Newton and Gravity” p. 846-847

- Make an entry for Isaac Newton on your timeline.
- List some of the contributions that Newton made to the field of science and mathematics.

“The Laws of Motion” p. 847-849

- What important ideas were set forth in Newton’s book *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*? (list all three of them and give a brief description of each)
- List some of the effects his discoveries had on every day life.

“A New Way of Thinking” p. 849

- Why was the “scientific revolution” so important?
- Who was Francis Bacon? (you may want to wait and read a little more about him in the next section first)

VII. The Thinkers 1561-1700 p. 850-854

- What is deductive reasoning?
- What is inductive reasoning?
- What method did Francis Bacon help to establish by applying inductive reasoning to things observed in nature?

- What made Bacon a ‘crucial figure’ during this period?
- What was Rene Descartes famous for?
- As mentioned in this section of reading, the idea of questioning the things that had always been accepted spread to areas beyond science. If you recall from reading about the political arena in England and France, the people were beginning to fall away from the “divine right of kings” and were coming closer to establishing a more representative form of government.

“Hobbes’ *Leviathan*” p. 851-852

- Thomas Hobbes shared his ideas about life, government, etc. in a book called *Leviathan*. What does leviathan mean? Why do you think he gave his book this title?
- What were Hobbes’ views on government? How did that differ from what had been popularly accepted for ages?

“Spinoza” p. 852-853

- What was Baruch Spinoza’s view of the world and religion?

“A Practical Philosopher” p. 853

- What issues did Locke address in his philosophy?

“Nature’s Laws” p. 853-854

“Faith in Reason” p. 854

- Locke was very influential in the realm of government. He developed the concept of “natural law.” What was this idea of “natural law”?
- Why were the 1700’s (the 18th century) known as the “age of Enlightenment”? What does ‘enlightenment’ mean?

VIII. The Enlightenment 1700-1778 p. 854-866

- A key facet of the Age of Enlightenment was that people began to think outside of what they had always been taught. They began to question, to examine, to experiment, and to propose ideas that were sometimes counter to what the Church had deemed to be truth. During this time, a new class began to arise: the middle class. What were the characteristics of the middle class?

“Humanitarianism” p. 856

- How did the desire to be better informed affect the educational system of the time?
- What was one of the key ideas of the Enlightenment?
- What was the desire to ‘better the lot of mankind’ called?

- How did the rise of humanism affect religion?
- What is “deism”?
- Many great things came out of the Enlightenment in the areas of science, government, and reform, but there was also an increase in reliance on self rather than God and a rejection of God in some groups.

“Enlightened Despots” p. 859-860

- What was Frenchman Charles de Montesquieu’s view on government? (you may need to refer back to the previous section)
- What is an “enlightened despot”?
- As you read the list of “enlightened despots” refer back to your timeline to find the names of those people you entered. Look back at volume 8 and 9 if necessary to refresh your memory about the reign of these rulers.
- Give the view of the “Physiocrats” of France.
- Define the term *laissez faire*. How did this relate to government and society?
- How did Adam Smith expand on the ideas of the Physiocrats in his book *The Wealth of Nations*?
- What did the philosophers (*philosophes*) of this period want the people to do?

“The Encyclopedia” p. 860-862

- Describe the *Encyclopedia* produced during the Enlightenment.
- Who was the most famous contributor to the 21-volume Encyclopedia? (you may recall that he influenced at least one ruler during his lifetime)

“Wipe Out Infamy!” p. 862-864

- Who was the king that Voltaire (François Marie Arouet) influenced?
- What were some of the contributions Voltaire made?
- How did the efforts of the “thinkers” of the Enlightenment help the general population?
- What religious leader stood out during this time? What group arose from this man’s teachings? What were the beliefs of this group?
- Use an encyclopedia or other resource to find the time period for the “Great Awakening.” Mark this on your timeline. Make sure to list Jonathan Edwards as one of the important preachers during this time. List any others that you read about as you look up the information in the encyclopedia.
- Give a brief description of the contributions of the following:
 - Jonathan Swift
 - David Hume
 - George Berkeley

“The Social Contract” p. 865-866

- What ideas did Jean Jacques Rousseau propose in his book *The Social Contract*?

“At Least I am Different” p. 866

- When Rousseau said, “If I am not better, at least I am different,” what do you think he meant? (look at the paragraph after the quotation)
- The U.S. *Declaration of Independence*, written in 1776, says,

“...We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness – that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall be seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness...”

Rousseau lived and wrote during the time that this declaration was written. Do you think that he was/would have been pleased with the *Declaration of Independence* and with the foundations of the United States of America?