

Social Studies 9 Vocabulary List – Chapter One

Chapter One: The Modern Age

Introduction/Kings Gain Power

Renaissance – A Time of great revival, or re-birth, of art, literature, and learning in Europe. Occurred during the 14th -16th century. Known as the era that transitions Europe from medieval to the modern world.

Middle Ages – Time period in European history from about 500 to 1450 CH.

Reformation – A great religious movement in Europe during the 16th century to reform the Roman Catholic Church

Catholic Church – A wealthy religion and what all Europeans had been prior to the reformation

Martin Luther – A German religious reformer. Nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg's All Saints Church in 1517 complaining about some of the practices of the Roman Catholic Church it brought enormous change in European religion.

Pope – Leader of the Catholic Church.

Corruption – Guilty of dishonest practices, lacking integrity.

95 Theses – A Theses complaining about some of the practices of the Roman Catholic Church. Began the Reformation. Written by Martin Luther.

Colonization –

Reformation – When the Church started splitting into 2 (Protestant and Roman Catholic). Divided Europe based on religious.

Middle Class – Group of people in the middle of the social hierarchy. After the reformation the Kings began to seek more power for themselves (Pope was no longer an issue as he did not have total religious control anymore). King would appoint people from the middle class (who would be loyal) to government posts to gain more power.

Protestants – People who belonged to the Christian congregations that separated from the Roman Catholic Church during the Reformation. Came to fruition from Luther's 95 Theses. Believed Church should be based on the word of God, which came from the Bible, and rejected the authority of the Pope and other Church officials.

Taxes – Money the King charged people in his kingdom to afford troops, supplies, and control.

A Prosperous Age/A New View of Humanity/A New view of the World

Serfs – a person attached to a lord's land and required to give service to the lord.

Humanism – a system or mode of thought in which human interests predominate. Humans were capable of doing almost anything they put their minds to.

Tenants – a person who pays rent for the use of land to a landlord.

Empires – a group of states or territories controlled by one country.

Philosophy – the pursuit of the principles underlying all knowledge; the pursuit of wisdom.

Middle Class – Group of people in the middle of the social hierarchy.

Scientific Method – a method of systematic research.

Copernicus – 1543, First European astronomer to challenge the medieval belief that the heavens revolved around the Earth. Stated that the planets, including the Earth, orbited around the sun but was unable to prove it.

Galileo – 1632, was able to prove that Copernicus was right. This was a dangerous discovery and Galileo was seemed to be destroying a thousand year old tradition of respect for religious authority.

Francis Bacon – 1620, published a book declaring that the traditional methods of science were faulty. Proposed a method of systematic research that we know as the 'Scientific Method'.

Isaac Newton – 1660s, brought tougher earlier explanations of the universe in a new theory based on the law of gravity. *After Newton it began to seem that science could unlock all the secrets of the world and that religion was no longer needed to provide explanations for the mysteries of life.*

Andreas Versalius – a famous anatomist in the 16th century, vastly improved knowledge about the human body through the use of the microscope.

Anatomist – a dissector of dead bodies.