

❖❖AP European History❖❖

Chapter Sixteen Terms

Fronde:

The Fronde were insurrections that originated in the French provinces during the mid-seventeenth century when young King Louis XIV ruled. Many individuals resented the power that the previous king, Louis XIII, as well as their diminished rule in the French government. Essentially, many belonging to the nobility wished to reverse the efforts of Cardinal Richelieu, and Cardinal Jules Mazarin could not control those who felt manipulated. As regions refused to pay taxes, the French economy was badly hurt. The conflicts that ensued for the next twelve years showed that the government would have to compromise with the bureaucracy, disrupted the French economy, and had a traumatic effect on the young Louis XIV. The Fronde were important because of their large impacts on Louis XIV and caused him to distrust the nobility in later years.

Cardinal Richelieu:

Cardinal Richelieu was appointed to the council of ministers by Marie de' Medici in the early seventeenth century and soon became president of the council. One of Richelieu's goals was to empower the French state while also depowering the Holy Roman Empire. During the Thirty Years' War, Richelieu supported the Protestant cause despite France being a Catholic nation; he did this in order to try to stop the Habsburgs from gaining influence and power within Europe. He also used his power to influence the monarchy of France and set in place the cornerstone of French absolutism. He tried to subordinate all groups, mostly the nobility, and also put an administrative system in place. The French Academy was also created, and they worked on a dictionary to standardize the French language. To help with this, Richelieu used intendants in order to consolidate the country and undermine the feudal- in other words, noble- authority. Over time, intendants had more authority and helped Louis XIV rule as an absolute monarch. Cardinal Richelieu is important because he laid the foundation for France becoming a powerful absolute monarchy and also attempted to prevent the Holy Roman Empire from gaining more power during the Thirty Years' War.

Louis XIV:

Louis XIV was the King of France during the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Under him, absolutism reached its peak and he believed that it was his "divine right" to rule. He introduced great innovations and had control over the nobility. Versailles was constructed under his watch and awed his subjects. French also became the language of polite society during this time, and this would help information spread later on. As his nation gained power and influence in Europe, other nations began to notice. When the Spanish King Charles II died without leaving a direct heir, Louis XIV wished for his young grandson, Philip of Anjou, to fill the role. Other nations feared the influence and advantage that this would bring to France, and thus went against France in the War of Spanish Succession. This was a show of the balance of power principle, which ensures that one nation does not become too powerful. Louis XIV is important because he symbolizes absolutism and was known for his great contributions to France, such as its increased military might, which then led to nations siding against France to retain a balance of power.

Oliver Cromwell:

Oliver Cromwell was a Puritan living in England in the mid-seventeenth century who controlled England after the English Civil Wars ended and Charles I was beheaded. He led the English Commonwealth and later the Protectorate through a military dictatorship and quasi-martial law. While the Stuart monarchs had attempted to rule more as absolute rulers, members of Parliament like Cromwell wanted to follow a constitutionalist government. In essence, Cromwell and others still wished to keep their king, but wished to have more of a say in government as well. This, however, was not achieved with Charles I and led to his execution and the leadership of Cromwell afterwards. Cromwell, when in Parliament, had not been a largely influential member; instead, he proved himself to be a great general and is remembered for his New Model Army. Being Puritan, he hated popish abuses in the Anglican Church and also hated the Irish. His brutality towards the Irish and his killing of them led to Irish hatred for the English even in present times. When Cromwell died, the monarchy was restored and the Restoration saw Charles II become king. Oliver Cromwell is important because this great general symbolized the end of the English king's strong power and saw a rise in the power of Parliament, most notably the House of Commons- although most of his effects and ideas were not fully seen until the Glorious Revolution.

John Locke:

John Locke was a political philosopher from England in the mid-seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and was known for his many works including *A Letter Concerning Toleration*, *Second Treatise of Civil Government*, and *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*. He believed that civil government should be put in place to protect the people and proclaimed that men had basic rights that, if not protected by a government, the people could start a revolution in order to get their rights. This social contract between people and their government said that the people had to give up some rights and their consent to be governed and in exchange their government would protect their natural rights of life, liberty, and property. Furthermore, as described in his *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Locke states that a person is born with a "blank" mind and has the ability to author their own soul; his ideas of *tabula rasa* mean that people, while their human nature can't be changed, have control over their own character. John Locke is important because his famous works defended the need for revolutions, such as the Glorious Revolution. He was also a symbol of Enlightenment thought.

❖❖AP European History❖❖

War of Spanish Succession:

The War of Spanish Succession occurred in the early eighteenth century after Charles II of Spain died without leaving a clear heir to the throne. Both Austria and France had interest in the throne, and thus the war began. Charles II had named Phillip of Anjou as his successor, however, the Austrian Habsburgs wished to reunite their holdings with those of the Spanish Habsburgs. As Louis XIV and France held a great deal of power in Europe, his grandson's hold on the throne threatened the balance of power in Europe. Because of this, a Grand Alliance formed against the French. The war was concluded after the Treaty of Utrecht and the Treaty of Rastatt. The Spanish Empire was divided, with most going to the Austrian Habsburgs like Charles VI but some still going to Philip of Anjou. The War of Spanish Succession is important because it is considered one of the first world wars of modern times and also showed the importance of maintaining a balance of power through the Grand Alliance's action against France.