Ancient ruins in Delphi, Greece

Woman in Hungary creating folk art

Ancient ruins in Delphi, Greece
You have learned about the Americas. Now let us spin the globe and travel to Europe. Relatively small as continents go, Europe is rich in history and culture. Like the United States, most nations in Europe are industrialized and have high standards of living. Unlike the United States, however, the people of Europe do not share a common language or government.

▲ The Louvre museum, Paris, France
Jutting westward from Asia, Europe is a great peninsula that breaks into smaller peninsulas and is bordered by several large islands. Europe’s long, jagged coastline is washed by many bodies of water, including the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans, and the North, Baltic, and Mediterranean Seas. Deep bays and well-protected inlets shelter fine harbors. Closeness to the sea has enabled Europeans to trade with other lands. Many Europeans also depend on the sea for food.

Mountains sweep across much of the continent. Those in the British Isles and large parts of northern Europe are low and rounded. Higher and more rugged are the Pyrenees, between France and Spain, and the Carpathians, in eastern Europe. The snow-capped Alps are Europe’s highest mountains, towering over the central and southern parts of the continent.

Curving around these mountain ranges are broad, fertile plains. In the north, the North European Plain stretches from France to Russia. Cities, towns, and farms dot the gently rolling landscape.

**Rivers** For centuries, Europe’s rivers have provided links between coastal ports and inland population centers. In western Europe, the Rhine flows northwest from the Alps until it empties into the North Sea. The Danube winds through eastern Europe on its way to the Black Sea.

**The Climate**

Despite its northern location, Europe enjoys a relatively mild climate. This is because of the region’s closeness to the Atlantic Ocean. An ocean current known as the North Atlantic Current brings warm waters and winds to bathe Europe’s western shores. As a result, northwestern Europe enjoys mild temperatures all year, along with plentiful rainfall. Farther south, countries along the Mediterranean Sea have hot, dry summers and mild winters. The region’s northernmost countries have longer, colder winters than their southern neighbors. Winters are also cold in Europe’s interior, which lies far from the influence of the North Atlantic Current.

**Diverse Vegetation** The vegetation varies from one climate zone to another.

**BOTH A CONTINENT and a region, Europe has a wide range of cultures—and a history of conflict among its people. Recently, connections in trade, communication, and transportation have helped to create greater unity among European nations.**

Focus on: Europe
Village at the foot of the Alps, Switzerland

Fisherman mending nets in Malta
In Scandinavia's far north, you would find mostly mosses and small shrubs blanketing a tundra-like landscape. In northwestern and eastern Europe, grasslands and forests cover the rolling land. Farther south, drought-resistant shrubs and small trees cover rugged hills.

**The Economy**

An abundance of key natural resources, waterways, and ports has helped make Europe a global economic power. Agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries dominate the region’s economies.

**Rich Farmland** Some of the most productive farmland in the world can be found on the European continent. From the fertile black soil, farmers gather bountiful harvests of grains, fruits, and vegetables. Cattle and sheep graze through lush European pastures.

**Resources and Industry** Vast reserves of oil and natural gas lie offshore. Rich deposits of iron ore, coal, and other minerals have provided the raw materials for heavy industry and manufacturing. Europe was the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, which transformed the region from an agricultural society into an industrial one. Today countries such as France, Germany, Italy, Poland, and the United Kingdom rank among the world’s top manufacturing centers. These industrial countries produce steel, machinery, cars, textiles, electronic equipment, food products, and household goods. Service industries such as banking, insurance, and tourism are also important to Europe’s market economies.

**The People**

After Asia, Europe is the most densely populated continent on the earth. In some European countries, such as Sweden, most people belong to the same ethnic group. The populations of other countries, however, are made up of several ethnic groups. Some ethnic groups live together peacefully. Other groups often face tension and conflict.

**Artistic Treasures** Europeans enjoy a rich cultural heritage that stretches back thousands of years. In fact, all Western cultures have their roots in the ancient periods of Classical Greece and Rome. If you walk through the heart of any large European city, you might see ancient Roman ruins, Gothic cathedrals built during the Middle Ages, and sculptures created by Renaissance masters, such as Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci.
Revolutions  After the 1700s, political changes increased freedom for the common people. An interest in science and the invention of machines during the Industrial Revolution changed the economy and raised standards of living. In eastern Europe, once-powerful empires faced growing challenges from ethnic groups that wanted independence.

Global Influence  Throughout their history, Europeans have explored and settled other lands. They have spread their culture around the world. Competition among European nations in the past led to two World Wars and a bitter division into communist and non-communist areas. Many European nations have recently joined the European Union to become a united economic force.

Population: Urban vs. Rural  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Urban (%)</th>
<th>Rural (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Exploring the Region  

1. What bodies of water border Europe?  
2. Why is Europe’s climate relatively mild?  
3. What has helped make Europe a global economic power?  
4. How did European culture spread to other parts of the world?
MAP STUDY

1. What body of water lies between Scandinavia and Poland?
2. What is the capital of the United Kingdom?
MAP STUDY

1. What language family is found in the most northern part of Europe?
2. Name three Romance languages.
Geo Extremes

1. **HIGHEST POINT**
   Mont Blanc (France and Italy)
   15,771 ft. (4,807 m) high

2. **LOWEST POINT**
   Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel (Netherlands)
   22 ft. (7 m) below sea level

3. **LONGEST RIVER**
   Danube (central Europe)
   1,776 mi. (2,858 km) long

4. **LARGEST LAKE**
   Lake Vänern (Sweden)
   2,156 sq. mi. (5,584 sq. km)

5. **HIGHEST WATERFALL**
   Mardalsfossen, Southern (Norway)
   2,149 ft. (655 m) high

6. **LARGEST ISLAND**
   Great Britain
   84,210 sq. mi. (218,103 sq. km)

**COMPARING POPULATION:**
United States and Selected Countries of Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**RELIGIONS:**
Selected Countries of Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Eastern Orthodox</th>
<th>Jewish</th>
<th>Protestant</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td></td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**GRAPHIC STUDY**

1. Which two countries share the highest point in Europe?
2. Roughly what is the population of Germany? What percentage of the population is Protestant?
For more information on countries in this region, refer to the Nations of the World Data Bank in the Appendix.
Participation  All citizens are expected to obey the laws of their country. Sometimes, however, the right thing to do is not clear. During World War II, many people in Germany broke the law by helping Jews escape Nazi persecution. During Communist rule, many citizens in Eastern Europe bought and sold goods on the black market.

What do you think would have happened to people helping the Jews if they had been caught?

WRITE ABOUT IT

In the United States, we work to change laws we believe are unfair. Trying to influence the decisions of our elected leaders is an important part of being an active citizen. Write a letter to your school board explaining why you think students should or should not wear uniforms.
Chapter 10
Europe—Early History

To learn more about Europe and its people, view *The World and Its People* Chapters 10–13 videos.

**Chapter Overview**
Visit *The World and Its People* Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on *Chapter 10—Chapter Overviews* to preview information about the early history of Europe.
Sequencing Events  Make this foldable to help you organize information and sequence events into a flowchart about the early history of Europe.

Step 1  Fold a sheet of paper in half from side to side.

Fold it so the left edge lies about \( \frac{1}{2} \) inch from the right edge.

Step 2  Turn the paper and fold it into thirds.

Step 3  Unfold and cut the top layer only along both folds.

This will make three tabs.

Step 4  Turn the paper and label it as shown.

Reading and Writing  As you read the chapter, list events that occurred during these three periods in European history under the appropriate tab of your foldable.

Roots of Western Culture

Our government, economy, and social systems had their beginnings in Europe. Our laws, family structure, and political ideas are rooted in ancient Greek and Roman traditions. During the Middle Ages, Europe experienced the growth of cities and the beginnings of capitalism. Christianity, Europe’s major religion, spread from there to other parts of the world, including the Americas.
When historians talk of Classical Europe, they mean ancient Greece and Rome. These civilizations flourished from about 800 B.C. to A.D. 400, and their achievements profoundly influenced Western culture.

**The Golden Age of Greece**

Greece reached its “Golden Age” in the 400s B.C. Before then, the city-state, or polis, had been ruled by a king. The Golden Age brought in direct rule of the people, or democracy. Classical Greece has been called the “cradle of democracy” because we trace the beginnings of our political system to this time.

**Athens** The city-state of Athens was the home of the world’s first democratic constitution. All free males over the age of 20 had the right to vote and speak freely. Athenians also produced significant works of philosophy, literature, and drama. The word *philosophy* is Greek for...
“love of wisdom.” Two great philosophers, Socrates and his student Plato, sought to understand and explain human nature. Aristotle, a student of Plato’s, wrote powerful works dealing with politics, literature, ethics, and philosophy. Greek writers and dramatists dealt with these timeless themes in their poems and plays.

**Conflict Between the City-States** During this period, the Greek city-states of Sparta and Athens wanted to expand their boundaries. **Sparta**, ruled by a few nobles, disliked change. Athens, as you learned, was open to democracy and new ideas. These two rivals often fought against each other. Sparta and Athens briefly united during the Persian Wars, when they prevented the Persians from taking over Greece. From 431 B.C. to 404 B.C., however, they fought each other again. Sparta finally defeated Athens in the Peloponnesian War, which further divided and weakened Greece.

**Greek Culture Spreads** In the 300s B.C., Philip II of Macedonia and his son Alexander the Great invaded the northern border of Greece. They easily conquered all of Greece. Alexander went on to create an empire that included Persia and Egypt and stretched eastward into India. Locate the extent of Alexander’s empire on the map below. Although his empire barely survived his death, Alexander spread Greek culture everywhere he invaded. Over time, Greek customs mixed with Persian and Egyptian culture. The empire’s important center was at Alexandria in northern Egypt. There, a great center of learning—a museum-library—was founded. The last traces of Alexander’s empire came under Roman rule by about 130 B.C.

**Reading Check** Why has Greece been called the “cradle of democracy”?

---

**Greek and Roman Empires**

---

**Applying Map Skills**

1. Which empire extended farther east?
2. What country is Gaul called today?

Find NGS online map resources @ www.nationalgeographic.com/maps
The Rise of Rome

According to legend, the city of Rome was founded by twin brothers Romulus and Remus. As infants, they had been left to die on the banks of the Tiber River. They were rescued by a she-wolf, who raised them as her cubs. When grown, the twins built the city on seven hills in central Italy.

Historical Rome

What we know for fact is that Rome was settled sometime around 1000 B.C. By about 700 B.C., it had evolved into a major city-state that began to dominate much of the Italian peninsula. Italy was more easily invaded than mountainous Greece, so the Romans developed a strong army. The Romans borrowed the Latin alphabet from the Greeks, who also influenced Roman art, religion, and mythology.

The Roman Republic

Rome started as a monarchy but changed to a republic. In a republic, people choose their leaders. Rome was led by two consuls, or individuals elected by the people of Rome to represent them. The consuls reported to the Senate. Members of the Senate were landowners who served for life. This was guaranteed by the system of Roman law. The foundation of Roman law was the Twelve Tables. The “tables” were actually bronze tablets on which laws regarding wills, courts, and property were recorded. Along with Greek democracy, republican government and Roman law were important contributions to Western civilization and the Modern Age.

Reading Check

How has Rome influenced Western civilization?

From Republic to Empire

From 264 to 146 B.C., a series of wars transformed the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire. Eventually, the Mediterranean Sea became a “Roman lake” surrounded by the Roman Empire. The peoples conquered by Rome were given Roman citizenship and equality under the Roman law. Beyond the boundaries of its vast empire, Rome opened up trade with civilizations as far away as India and China.

Under the empire, senators lost power to emperors, or absolute rulers, of Rome. Supporters of the Senate killed the great Roman general Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. for trying to become the first emperor. This led to a civil war between Caesar’s supporters and those of the Senate. In 31 B.C., Caesar’s nephew Octavius became the first Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus. He initiated a period of peace and prosperity known as the Pax Romana, which lasted for almost 200 years.

Roman Achievements

The Romans were skilled at building temples, stadiums, and baths. Their projects included the Colosseum and a domed temple called the Pantheon. Both still stand in Rome today.
Romans used the arch to build aqueducts, or overhead channels that carried water long distances. They also built roads to bring goods and people into Italy. This led to the growth of Rome’s population and wealth.

**Christianity and Rome**  Jesus of Nazareth was born in Palestine, which was under the rule of Caesar Augustus. Jesus carried out his teaching during the early *Pax Romana*. Two disciples, Peter and Paul, established the new Christian Church in Rome. Even though the early Christians were cruelly persecuted, Christianity spread over the Roman world. In the A.D. 300s, under the emperors Constantine I and Theodosius I, Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire.

**The Decline of the Empire**  After the period of the *Pax Romana*, the Roman Empire began to decline. In A.D. 330, Emperor Constantine I moved the capital from Rome in Italy eastward to the newly built city of Constantinople, near the Black Sea. Constantine tried to save the empire by reforming the government, but it was too late. Plagues that came in from Asia over trade routes killed numerous people.

Finally, in the A.D. 400s, the northern defenses crumbled. Rome was left open to invasion by various groups of Germanic peoples. The Germans came to rule over Rome and much of Italy and Europe. The Eastern Roman Empire, or Byzantine Empire, did not fall to the Germans but continued on for another 1,000 years until its conquest by the Ottoman Turks in 1453.

**Reading Check**  What are aqueducts?

---

**Assessment**

**Defining Terms**

1. **Define**  Classical, polis, democracy, republic, consul, emperor.

**Recalling Facts**

2. **Government**  In its democratic constitution, what two rights did Athens give all free males over the age of 20?

3. **Culture**  Name four influences that Greece had on Roman culture.

**Critical Thinking**

4. **Analyzing Information**  Why do you suppose some of Rome’s citizens wanted absolute rulers instead of elected senators?

5. **Making Connections**  What is one freedom that American democracy has today that was clearly not recognized in the Roman Empire?

**Graphic Organizer**

6. **Creating Time Lines**  Create a time line like the one below. Place the letter of the event next to its date.

   A. Greek empire comes under Roman rule.
   B. Julius Caesar is killed.
   C. Germans invade Rome.
   D. Rome is settled.
   E. Octavius becomes the first Roman emperor.

   ![Time Line](image)

**Applying Social Studies Skills**

7. **Making Inferences**  Why do you think the story of Romulus and Remus was created?
Using B.C. and A.D.

Cultures throughout the world have based their dating systems on significant events in their history. For example, Islamic countries use a dating system that begins with Muhammad’s flight from Makkah to Madinah. For most Western cultures, the dating system is based on the birth of Jesus. Christians refer to Jesus as “Christ.”

Learning the Skill

About 515, a Christian monk developed a system that begins dating from anno Domini, Latin for “the year of the Lord.” Although some historians believe that the monk made a small mistake in his figuring of the exact year of Christ’s birth, his system of dating has lasted. Events before the birth of Christ, or “B.C.,” are figured by counting backward from A.D. 1. There was no year “0.” The year before A.D. 1 is 1 B.C. Notice that “A.D.” is written before the date, while “B.C.” is written following the date.

Practicing the Skill

Study the time line of Classical Europe to answer the following questions.

1. How old was Plato when he became a student of Socrates?
2. For how long did Alexander the Great rule?
3. How old was Julius Caesar when he was assassinated?
4. Who was emperor nearly 500 years after the rule of Alexander the Great?

Applying the Skill

Create a time line using the terms B.M.B. (before my birth) and A.M.B. (after my birth). Fill in the time line with key events that happened before and after you were born. Illustrate the time line with drawings or cutouts from magazines.

Practice key skills with Glencoe Skillbuilder Interactive Workbook, Level 1.
With the decline of the Roman Empire, a new age began called the Middle Ages. Medieval is derived from a Latin word for “Middle Ages.” It is a fitting name for the 1,000-year period that took place between Classical and modern times. Medieval Europe combined characteristics of the Roman Empire with practices of Christianity and other European traditions.

**The Rise of Christianity**

It was during the Middle Ages that Christianity, in the form of the Roman Catholic Church, became a political power in western Europe. A leader called a bishop headed each major Christian community. By the A.D. 500s, the bishops of Rome, now known as popes, became the leaders of the Catholic Church. The influence of the Church was so strong at this time that the popes also became important political figures.

In eastern Europe, the Byzantine Empire, started by Constantine I, continued. There, Christianity was known as Eastern Orthodoxy. It was not under the leadership of the popes in Rome, but rather under the emperors in Constantinople.
**Manor Economy**

A medieval manor had a traditional economy in which jobs and skills were handed down generation after generation. For example, a tenant farmer’s son became a farmer. The children of serfs had no choice but to learn the skills of their parents. Serfs were not always farmers, however. Some were millers who made flour out of grain, or coopers who made barrels and buckets. Some were blacksmiths and made tools, weapons, or horseshoes out of iron and other metals. Young women were usually married by age 14 and worked at home and in the fields.

**Spreading the Faith**

By A.D. 500, the first Christian Bible was completed. The early popes sent missionaries, or those who spread their religious views, to every part of Europe. Many were monks and nuns. Monks were men who devoted their lives to prayer, study, and good works. They lived in monasteries. Women who chose a similar life were called nuns and lived in convents. Missionaries helped the poor and needy, and they were teachers as well. Through its schools, the Christian Church greatly advanced learning in Europe. In the 1100s, the Church also founded the first universities at Bologna in Italy and Oxford in England.

**Crusades**

Beginning in the A.D. 1000s, the Church sponsored a series of holy wars called Crusades. The Church sent armies to capture Jerusalem in Palestine from the Islamic caliphs, or rulers. The Crusades led to centuries of distrust between Christians and Muslims. They also increased Christian mistreatment of the Jews in Europe. Yet the Crusades made Europeans aware of the rich cultures of the Byzantines and Muslims. Europeans began to demand more spices and woven cloth that the crusading armies brought home from the east. To meet these demands, European merchants opened up new trade routes. As trade grew, so did the towns of western Europe.

**Reading Check** How did missionaries help spread Christianity?

**The Holy Roman Empire**

The Germans combined their common law, the unwritten laws that come from local customs, with Roman law and founded kingdoms all over Europe—from Spain to England to Germany and Italy. Many of these kingdoms soon became Christian. The early kings, like the German tribal chiefs before them, were elected by all nobles and knights. Over time, however, the kings became more independent and powerful. The crown was passed down to the next generation, usually the king’s first-born son.

**Charlemagne**

One of the most important German kingdoms was that of the Franks. By the A.D. 700s, the Franks controlled much of what would become France and Germany. In fact, the name “France” comes from the word Franks. In 771 Charlemagne was elected king of the Franks. Through war he added more of Germany and parts of Spain and Italy, including Rome, to the kingdom of the Franks.

On Christmas Day in the year 800, Charlemagne knelt before the pope in the Church of St. Peter in Rome. He was proclaimed the protector of the Christian Church in the West. He was also crowned the head of the Roman Empire in the West. That empire came to be known as the Holy Roman Empire.

After Charlemagne’s death in 814, his empire was inherited by his son and grandsons and broken up into several kingdoms. These kingdoms were the foundations for modern Germany, Italy, France, and Spain. At about the same time, several Germanic groups like the Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Danes helped found the first English kingdom. England gets its name from “Angle land.”

**Reading Check** What was Charlemagne’s role in the spread of Christianity?
**Medieval Society**

During the Middle Ages, a new political and social system known as *feudalism* emerged. Under this system, kings gave land to their loyal nobles or lords. In exchange for the land or feudal estate, the nobles provided military service and knights for the king’s army. These nobles who swore loyalty to the king were known as *vassals*. The king’s vassals, great lords themselves, might also have had their own vassals who would owe them military service in return for a grant of land.

**The Manor** The feudal estate was called the *manor*. At its heart was usually a manor house or a castle. Most of the population of the manor was made up of common people who farmed and performed other tasks. There were two types of farmers. Those who paid rent for their land and then worked the land as they pleased were known as tenants. The other much larger group was the *serfs*.

Serfs were not as free as tenant farmers and were usually poorer. In return for the use of land, seed, tools, and protection, serfs had to work as ordered by the lords of the manors, whether in the fields or elsewhere. Often the serfs worked on roads, walls, fortifications, and other hard jobs. In times of trouble, male serfs also became foot soldiers who served under the direction of the cavalry of knights.

These were often quite violent times, and the common people rarely strayed too far from the safety of the manor. On occasion, the manors might be visited by wanderers with special skills. For example, tinkers made a living by moving from estate to estate, patching pots or fixing other metal objects. Minstrels and other troubadours entertained by playing music, juggling, or acting as comedians or fools.

**Reading Check** What did a vassal receive for his service to a king or lord?
The Growth of Cities

Towns in the Middle Ages were fairly independent and wanted to be free of the feudal lords’ control. Towns served as centers of trade and manufacturing. Their importance increased during the Crusades because the Christian armies needed supplies. By the twelfth century, towns hosted great trade fairs, where merchants from far and wide came together to do business.

Manufacturing came under the control of workers’ organizations known as **guilds**. Different guilds controlled industries such as brewing, cloth making, boat building, and many others. Young workers, called apprentices, spent years learning a trade so that they could join a guild. With experience, the apprentices became journeymen and eventually master craftsmen.

Over time, some towns grew into cities and became political and religious centers as well. The new, more powerful kings and churchmen understood the importance of cities. They built great cathedrals and granted the residents privileges and freedoms in written documents called **charters**. By doing this, the kings won the support of the townspeople. This support was useful in times of war and for protection against powerful nobles. The kings also raised money by collecting taxes from the towns in return for granting charters. Now, with an economy based on money, kings could pay their soldiers instead of giving them feudal estates. Serfs could buy their freedom. Thus, feudalism and the power of the nobles began to decline.

Why did kings want the support of large cities?

**Defining Terms**

1. Define pope, missionary, common law, feudalism, vassal, manor, serf, guild, charter.

**Recalling Facts**

2. History When was the first Christian Bible completed?

3. History What kind of work were most people involved in during the Middle Ages?

**Critical Thinking**

4. Evaluating Information Common laws were unwritten laws that came from local customs. What are the possible difficulties that can arise from having such unwritten laws?

5. Understanding Cause and Effect How did the Crusades affect the growth of towns in western Europe?

**Graphic Organizer**

6. Organizing Information Create a pyramid like the one below. On the lines, list serfs, vassals, and tenants in the order they would be ranked under a king in the feudal system.

```
Kings

_____

_____
```

**Applying Social Studies Skills**

7. Summarizing Information In a few sentences, describe life on the manor for a common person. Use as many adjectives as possible.
The growth of cities and trade and the gradual breakup of feudalism led to the end of the Middle Ages. Around 1350 interest in education, art, and science peaked in several parts of Europe, especially in the cities and towns. The result was the Renaissance—a French word meaning “rebirth.”

The Renaissance

To many people, the Renaissance was the beginning of a new golden age like that of ancient Greece and Rome. The Renaissance began in the cities of northern Italy and spread to other cities of Europe.

Humanism During the Renaissance, scholars became less concerned about the mysteries of heaven and more interested in the world and humans around them. Because of this, Renaissance scholars
were called humanists. Humanist ideas—the right of people to learn and think for themselves—broke with medieval thinking and helped bring about the rise of the modern world.

**Renaissance Artists**  Like the ancient Greeks and Romans, Renaissance artists appreciated the beauty in human beings and nature. They developed new ways to make their works true to life and full of color and action. They painted and sculpted not only religious images but also people and creatures from myths. Above all, they were more interested in the human qualities than the religious qualities of their subjects. Two of the many outstanding Renaissance artists were Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti. (See page 308 to learn more about the achievements of Leonardo da Vinci.)

The painter and sculptor Michelangelo expressed human emotions such as anger, sorrow, and strength in his paintings and sculptures. His most famous work is the mural on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican Palace in Rome. It is made up of 145 separate paintings and took nearly five years to complete.

**Renaissance Writers**  Writers were also inspired by the ideas of the Renaissance. Until this time, most literature was written in Medieval Latin. To reach a wider audience, writers began to use the language they spoke every day instead of Latin or French, the languages of the educated. Geoffrey Chaucer wrote *The Canterbury Tales* and William Shakespeare wrote plays such as *Hamlet* and *Romeo and Juliet* in English. Miguel de Cervantes wrote his novel *Don Quixote* in Spanish.

These works were reproduced in many copies for the first time by the printing press, which was invented by Johannes Gutenberg around 1450. Although the Chinese had developed a printing process, Gutenberg developed the idea of movable type. The printing press made books more numerous and less expensive, thereby encouraging more people to learn to read and write.

**Rise of Nations**  During the Renaissance, western European rulers became more powerful. They used their power to unite their peoples, creating nations based on a common language and culture. England was strengthened by the first Tudor king, Henry VII, and his famous granddaughter Elizabeth I. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella united Spain by driving out the last of the Muslims and Jews. By the 1450s, the kings of France finally liberated their country from the English.

**The Protestant Reformation**  Many of the new ideas of the Renaissance led to questions about religion. Some people believed that Church leaders were more interested in wealth than religion. Others disagreed with corrupt practices of the Church. One of these practices was the selling of documents called...
indulgences, which freed their owners of punishment for sins they had committed. The Christians who “protested” corrupt Church practices and wanted to return to basic Christian teachings came to be called Protestants. The movement to reform, or change, the Catholic Church was called the Protestant Reformation.

One of the first Protestant leaders to challenge the Catholic Church was Martin Luther, a German monk and scholar. In 1520 the pope banished Luther from the Catholic Church for his criticism. Luther organized his own new Christian church, which taught in German, not Latin, from a Bible that Luther himself had translated into German. This split between the Catholics and Protestants led to many long years of religious wars in Europe.

Another early Protestant leader was John Calvin. His followers in France were called Huguenots, and in England they were called Puritans. Many came to the Protestant cause seeking not only greater religious freedom, but also political, economic, and intellectual freedom. The Puritans eventually sought freedom in the Americas to practice their own religion.

Reading Check What was the Protestant Reformation?

The Age of Exploration

By the mid-1400s, Europe began to reach out beyond its boundaries in a great age of discovery and exploration. The Portuguese began to sail southward in the Atlantic, down the West African coast. They were seeking a route to the profitable spice trade in Asia. In 1488 Bartholomeu Dias reached the Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa. Ten years later, Vasco da Gama sailed around it to India.

While the Portuguese were searching for a way around Africa, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain were trying to find another way to Asia. In 1492 they sent an Italian navigator, Christopher Columbus, with three small ships—the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa María—westward across the Atlantic. Although he never realized it, Columbus had landed in a part of the world unknown to Europeans at that time. He called its people “Indians” because he believed he was in the East Indies in Asia.

The Dutch, English, and French soon joined the Spanish and Portuguese in exploring and settling and trading with the Americas, Asia, and Africa. Eventually—in addition to trade goods—people, diseases, and ideas were distributed around the world in a process called the Columbian Exchange. You read about this on page 228. Europeans unknowingly brought to the Americas diseases such as measles and smallpox, which infected and killed millions of Native Americans. These natives had been used as laborers on plantations and in mines. In their place, traders eventually transported more than 20 million Africans to the Americas as enslaved persons, until the slave trade was outlawed in the early 1800s.

Reading Check Which European nation first explored the coast of Africa?
The Age of Revolution

A revolution is a great and often violent change. In the Americas, the colonies won freedom from the European countries that ruled them. In Europe, people fought for freedom from their kings, queens, and nobles.

The Rule of the People  The eighteenth century ended with great changes to Europe and many of its American colonies. The belief in the divine right of kings—that European kings and queens ruled by the will of God—was fading. In learning about the examples from ancient Greece and Rome, people came to feel that they should play a greater, more direct role in government. Philosophers such as John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau looked at the nature of man and government. They believed that government should serve and protect citizens and their freedom. However, this also meant that citizens had to take more responsibility for themselves and their own actions.

British Democracy  Revolutionary changes came more peacefully in some countries than in others. Over many centuries, Great Britain had slowly developed a system of shared power and responsibility. The king ruled with the Parliament, a popular representative body that gradually took power in the name of the people. Eventually, British

THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL

by Baroness Orczy

During and after the French Revolution, many nobles were executed by the lower classes that had rebelled against them. The number of these executions shocked the people of Europe. The Scarlet Pimpernel is a novel about an English nobleman who helps aristocrats escape from France.

“It had all occurred in such a miraculous way. She and her husband had understood that they had been placed on the list of ‘suspected persons,’ which meant that their trial and death was but a matter of days—of hours, perhaps. Then came the hope of salvation: the mysterious letter, signed with the scarlet device; . . . the flight with her two children; the covered cart; . . . Every moment under that cart she expected recognition, arrest. [These young Englishmen] . . . had risked their lives to save them all, as they had already saved scores of other innocent people. And all only for sport? Impossible!”

Analyzing Literature

1. Do you think that the Scarlet Pimpernel’s actions were really just for sport? Why or why not?
2. Do you think the Englishmen were right to try to save the French nobility? Explain.
kings and queens were forced to accept a constitution that shared power but gave most of it to the Parliament.

**Democracy in the Americas**  In the 1770s, the American colonies, beginning with the thirteen British colonies in North America, revolted against British control. The new United States, with its Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and representative Congress, became a model for many other revolutions. By the 1830s, most of the Spanish, Portuguese, and British colonies in the Americas south of Canada had also gained their independence.

**The French Revolution**  In the 1780s, revolution erupted in Europe as well, starting with France. The French Revolution began in 1789 and went through several stages. When King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette opposed the revolution and tried to aid the nobility, they were executed. By 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte, a military hero of the French Revolution, became the dictator of France. He declared himself emperor of a new French Empire in 1804. Eventually, people almost everywhere in Europe reacted against Napoleon and went to war against France. Napoleon was finally defeated in 1815.

The revolution in France stimulated Latin Americans and other European peoples to demand more personal and political control over their lives. Countries such as Greece, Belgium, Italy, and Germany also experienced revolutions.

**Reading Check**  How was the growth of democracy in Great Britain different from that in France?

---

**Defining Terms**

1. Define indulgences, revolution, divine right of kings.

**Recalling Facts**

2. **History** What was the movement to reform the Catholic Church called?

3. **People** Why were Renaissance scholars known as humanists?

**Critical Thinking**

4. **Examining Results** Describe the effects of the Columbian Exchange.

5. **Making Connections** How might a revolution in one country encourage political changes around the world?

**Graphic Organizer**

6. **Identifying People** Create a table like the one below. In the left column, list ten people from this section. Then explain why they are considered significant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Applying Social Studies Skills**

7. **Drawing Conclusions** Why do you suppose the period known as the Renaissance was considered a rebirth?
Leonardo da Vinci

The Italian Leonardo da Vinci is considered to be one of the greatest artists of the Renaissance. He painted the *Mona Lisa* and the *Last Supper*, two of the world’s best-known paintings. He was also a talented architect, engineer, and inventor.

**The Artist**

Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452 in a small town near Florence, Italy. As the son of a wealthy man, he received the best education that Florence could offer. Leonardo became known for his ability to create sculptures and paintings that looked almost lifelike. Much of his success in this area came from his keen interest in nature. He also studied human anatomy and used this knowledge to make his figures realistic.

**The Inventor**

As a child, Leonardo was fascinated with machines and began to draw his own inventions. The first successful parachute jump was made from the top of a French tower in 1783—but Leonardo had sketched a parachute in 1485. He designed flying machines, armored tanks, and aircraft landing gear. He even drew a diver’s suit that used tubes and air chambers to allow a swimmer to remain underwater for long periods of time.

**Leonardo’s Notebooks**

Much of what we know about Leonardo comes from the thousands of pages of notes and sketches he kept in his notebooks. He used mirror, or reverse, writing, starting at the right side of the page and moving across to the left. No one is sure why Leonardo wrote this way. Some think he was trying to keep people from reading and stealing his ideas. He may also have been trying to hide his thoughts from the Roman Catholic Church, whose teachings sometimes conflicted with his ideas. From a practical standpoint, writing in reverse probably helped him avoid smearing wet ink, since he was left-handed.

1. What are two of Leonardo’s best-known works?
2. Why might Leonardo have written his notebooks in mirror writing?
3. Understanding Cause and Effect In what way did Leonardo’s interest in the world around him influence his work?
**Chapter 10**

**Terms to Know**
- Classical polis
democracy
- republic
- consul
- emperor

**Main Idea**
Ancient Greece and Rome made important contributions to Western culture and civilization.

- **Government** The world’s first democratic constitution was written in Athens.
- **History** Alexander the Great conquered all of Greece and spread Greek culture everywhere he invaded.
- **History** Rome grew from a republic on the Italian Peninsula to an empire that included western Europe, northern Africa, and southwest Asia.
- **Religion** Christianity spread throughout the Roman world.
- **History** The Roman Empire was invaded by Germanic peoples and declined.

**Section 2**

**Terms to Know**
- pope
- missionary
- manor
- serf
- common law
- guild
- feudalism
- charter
- vassal

**Main Idea**
The Middle Ages saw the spread of Christianity, the growth of cities, and the growing powers of kings.

- **Religion** The Roman Catholic Church became a political power in western Europe.
- **History** The first Christian Bible was completed by A.D. 500.
- **History** Charlemagne was crowned head of the Roman Empire and proclaimed Protector of the Christian Church in the West.
- **Government** Feudalism, the medieval political and social system, was an exchange of land from the king to nobles who provided military service.

**Section 3**

**Terms to Know**
- indulgences
- revolution
divine right of kings

**Main Idea**
The study of science, art, and education was renewed in the period following the Middle Ages.

- **Culture** Important cultural achievements in the arts and learning spread throughout Europe in the period known as the Renaissance.
- **History** Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press.
- **Government** Countries formed into nations based on a common language and culture.
- **Religion** The Protestant faith emerged in protest to the corrupt practices of the Roman Catholic Church.
- **History** Christopher Columbus sailed across the Atlantic.
- **Government** Revolution erupted in the Americas and Europe.
Using Key Terms

Match the terms in Part A with their definitions in Part B.

A.
1. emperor 6. serf
2. common law 7. polis
3. feudalism 8. charter
4. democracy 9. missionary
5. indulgences 10. guild

B.
a. unwritten laws from customs
b. poor people who were controlled by the lords of the manor
c. freed owners from punishment for sins
d. medieval political and social system
e. absolute ruler
f. direct rule of the people
g. person who spreads his or her religious views
h. documents giving townspeople privileges and freedoms
i. workers' organization
j. city-state

Reviewing the Main Ideas

Section 1 Classical Greece and Rome
11. Government Where was the first democratic constitution written?
12. History Who conquered all of Greece?
13. Religion Which religion spread all over the Roman world?
14. History Who invaded the Roman Empire?

Section 2 Medieval Europe
15. Religion Which religious group became a political power in western Europe?
16. Economics Explain the difference between vassals and serfs.
17. Government Name the political and social system in medieval Europe.

Section 3 From Renaissance to Revolution
18. History What did Johannes Gutenberg invent?
19. Religion Which faith emerged out of protest to the Catholic Church?
20. History For what is Christopher Columbus historically known?
21. Government Where were revolutions taking place in the eighteenth century?

National Geographic

Classical Europe

Place Location Activity

On a separate sheet of paper, match the letters on the map with the numbered places listed below.

1. Alexandria 6. Greece
3. Mediterranean Sea 8. Rome
5. Black Sea 10. Sparta
Standardized Test Practice

Directions: Read the paragraphs below, and then answer the question that follows.

The ancient Greeks held the Olympic Games in Olympia every four years. The games were a religious festival in honor of Zeus, the Greeks’ chief god. Trading and wars stopped while the games took place. The first Greek calendar began with the supposed date of the first Olympic Games in 776 B.C. Athletes came from all over the Greek-speaking world to compete. Only male athletes, however, were allowed to take part, and women were not permitted even as spectators. Olympic events at first consisted only of a footrace. Later the broad jump, the discus throw, boxing, and wrestling were added. The Greeks crowned Olympic winners with wreaths of olive leaves and held parades in their honor.

1. From the paragraphs, which of the following statements about Greek culture is correct?

F  The Greeks stressed group effort over individual achievement.
G  The Greeks believed in one God.
H  The Greeks were not religious.
J  The Greeks encouraged individual glory.

Test-Taking Tip: Read all the choices carefully before choosing the one that correctly describes Greek culture. Eliminate answers that you know are incorrect. For example, all the Olympic events were performed by individuals, not by teams. Therefore, answer F does not describe Greek culture. The question is asking for the statement that DOES describe Greek culture.