Chapter 15: Absolutism and Constitutionalism

Key Terms: Create flashcards for the following terms. Include a description and the historical significance for each.

1. Little Ice Age
2. Holy Roman Empire
3. Peace of Westphalia (1648)
4. Military revolution
5. Absolutism
6. Louis XIV
7. Jean-Baptiste Colbert
8. Prussia
9. Habsburgs
10. Peter the Great
11. Ottoman Empire
12. Battle of Vienna (1683)
13. English Civil War
14. Glorious Revolution
15. John Locke
16. Mannerism
17. Baroque
18. Dutch Realism

Additional Terms: These are suggested examples to support the big ideas. Make flash cards as needed.

1. Jean Bodin
2. Louis XIII
3. Cardinal Richelieu
4. The Fronde
5. Nobles of the robe
6. Dutch War
7. Nine Years’ War
8. War of the Spanish Succession
9. Maria Theresa
10. Frederick William I
11. Frederick II
12. Philip III of Spain
13. Philip IV of Spain
14. English gentry
15. James I
16. Charles I
17. Oliver Cromwell
18. Rembrandt
19. El Greco
20. Gian Bernini
21. Peter Paul Rubens
22. Artemisia Gentileschi

Comprehension Questions: Answer the following questions as we work through this unit.

1. What were the long-term consequences of the “little ice age”?

2. Why did accusations of witchcraft increase in Europe between 1580 and 1650?

3. How did states exploit religious conflicts to promote political and economic interests in the Thirty Years’ War?

4. Explain how the Thirty Years’ War changed the reasons for European warfare.

5. What were the results of the Peace of Westphalia (1648)?

6. How did the military revolution of the 17th century change warfare in Europe?
7. Describe how the theories of Jean Bodin and Bishop Bossuet built on the ideas of Machiavelli.

8. How and why did nobles challenge the increasing power of monarchs in the 17th century?

9. How did Louis XIV and Jean-Baptiste Colbert centralize control of France?

10. How did absolute monarchs alter the position of nobles in politics and society?

11. Explain the causes and effects of Louis XIV’s nearly continuous wars.

12. How did the Peace of Westphalia affect the rise of Prussia?

13. How was the Habsburg monarchy in Austria affected by the Peace of Westphalia?

14. Why did serfdom become more codified in Eastern Europe, while peasants gained freedom in Western Europe?

15. How successful was Peter the Great in westernizing the Russian state?

16. How did commercial and professional groups gain power in an age of absolute rulers?
17. Explain what caused and ended the expansion of the Ottoman Empire.

18. How did Polish nobles use religion in their battle for power over the monarch?

19. How did the Dutch Republic represent a different political model from that of absolute monarchies?

20. In what ways did the English Civil War demonstrate competition between monarchs and corporate groups?

21. In what ways did the English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution create a unique political situation in England?

22. What were the ideas expressed by Thomas Hobbes and John Locke?

23. What are the characteristics of Mannerist art?

24. What are the characteristics of Baroque art and music?

25. Why did monarchs, city-states, and the church commission Mannerist and Baroque art?

26. How did Dutch Realist art reflect the outlook and values of commercial and bourgeois society?