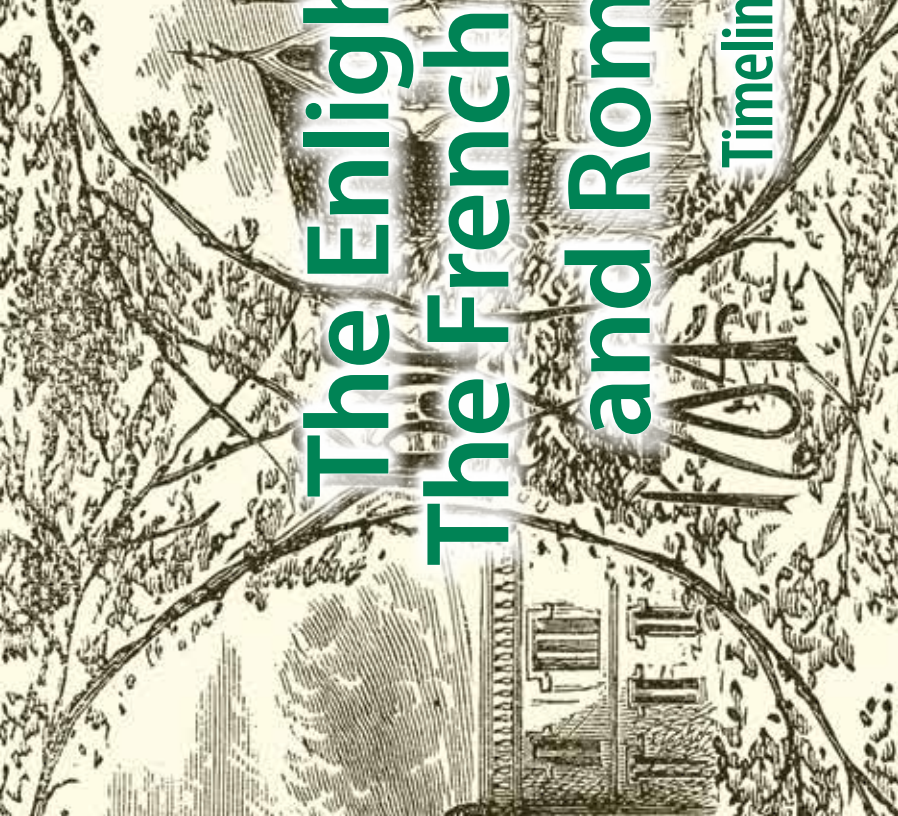


The Enlightenment, The French Revolution and Romanticism

Timeline Cards



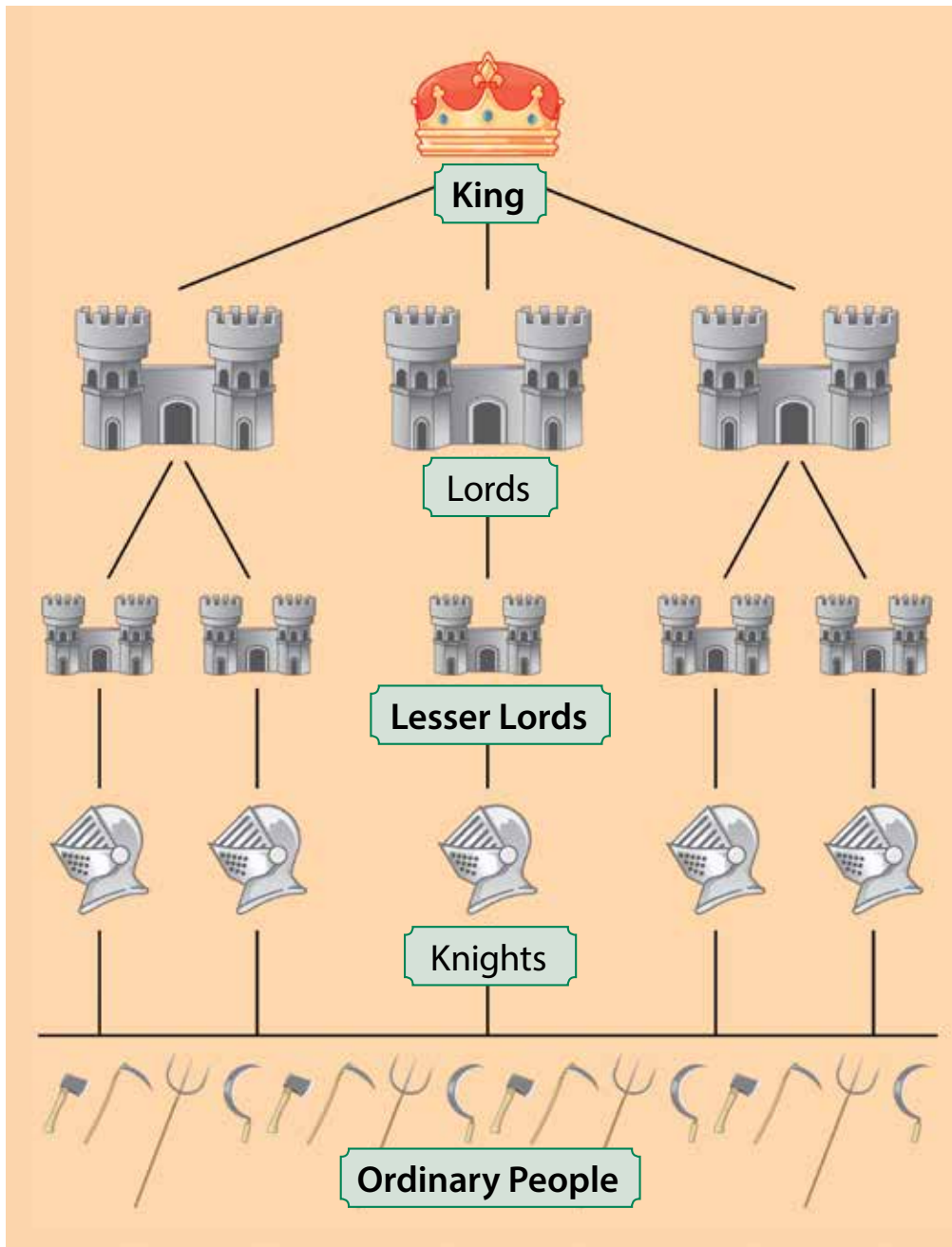
Core Knowledge®

The Enlightenment

Timeline Cards



Introduction



The Middle Ages, which lasted from 476 to 1350 CE, marked a period of lost and limited learning in Europe.

Introduction



During the Middle Ages, the Roman Catholic Church governed all aspects of daily life.

Introduction

Europe in the Time of the Renaissance



The Renaissance began in Italy in the 1400s and spread to other parts of Europe.

Introduction



The Renaissance was characterized by a renewed interest in writers, works, and ideas from the early Greeks and Romans, as shown in Raphael's *School of Athens*.

Introduction



The Renaissance was marked by a curiosity about the physical world, which was manifested in art and scientific observation and investigation.

Introduction



The Renaissance overlapped with the Age of Exploration, a period in which Europeans ventured out to explore what was to them the unknown world, including the exploration and settlement of the British colonies in North America.

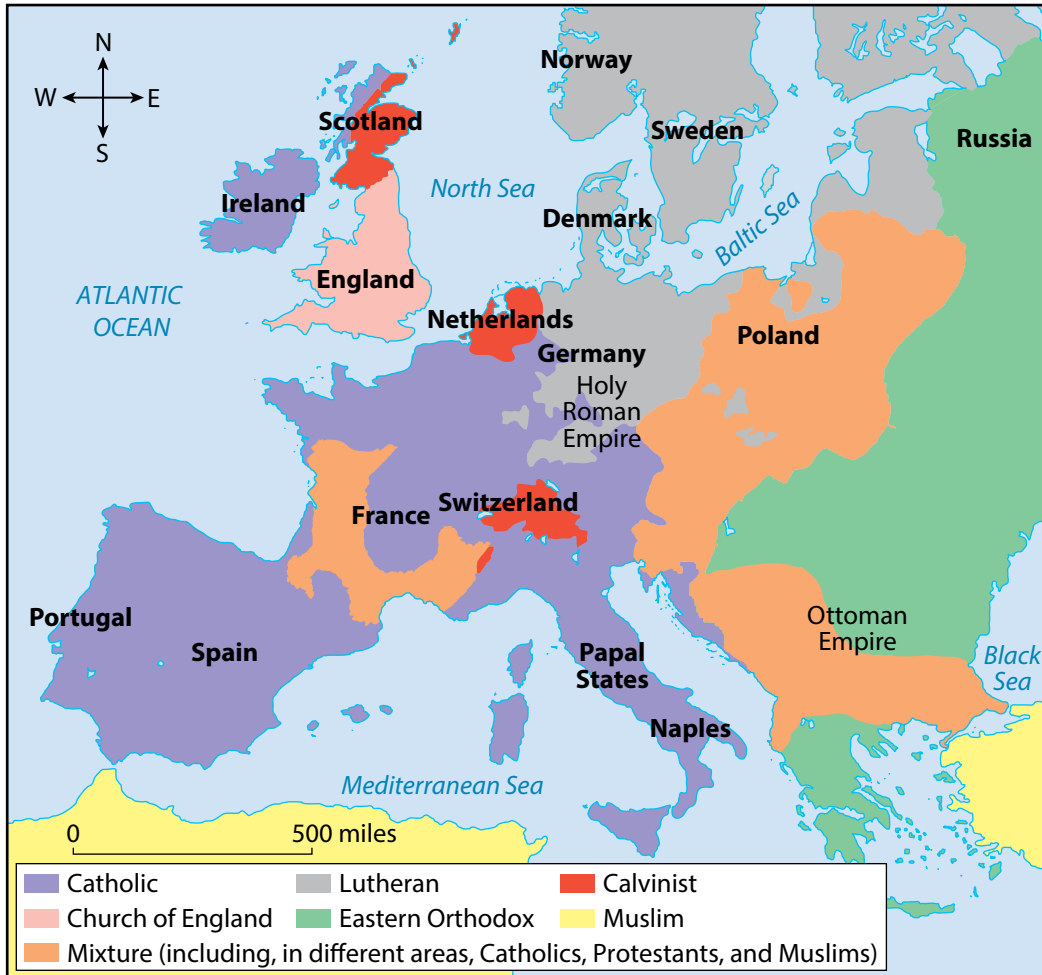
Introduction



In 1450, Johannes Gutenberg invented the first printing press in Europe.

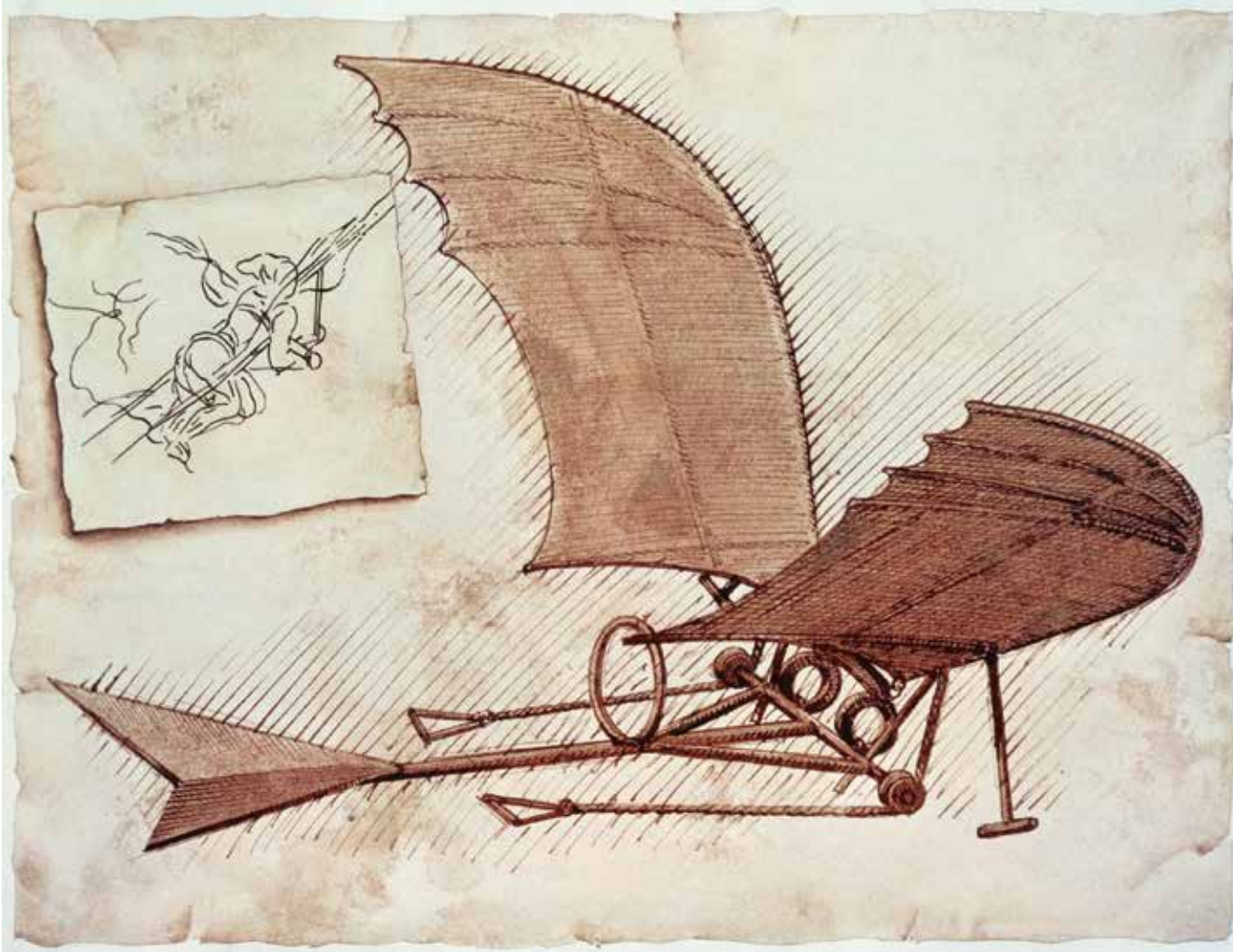
Introduction

Dominant Churches and Religions in Europe



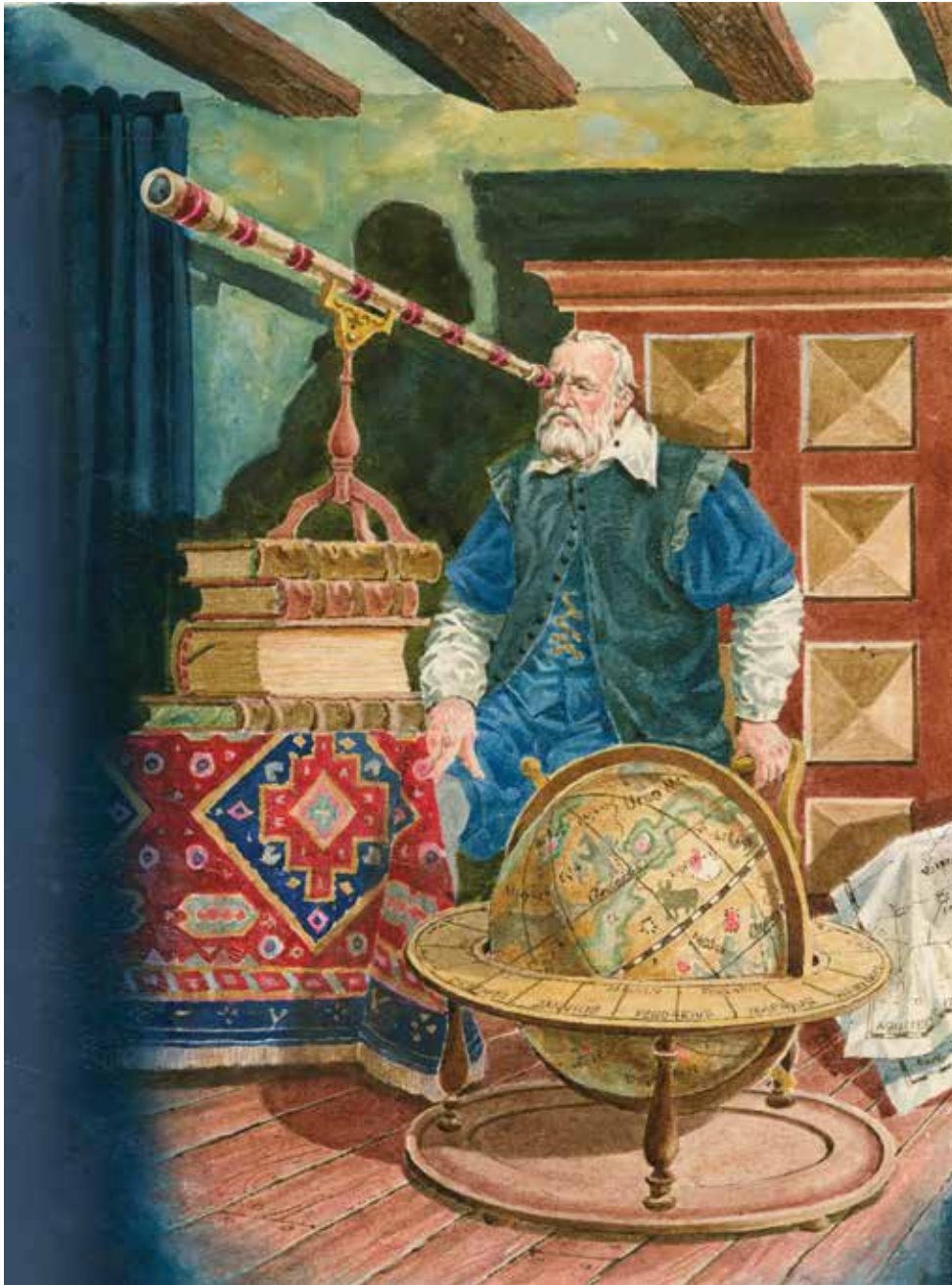
During the Reformation and Counter-Reformation from 1517–1648, Europe was divided into Protestant and Catholic territories, and people were more likely to question the authority of the Catholic Church.

Introduction



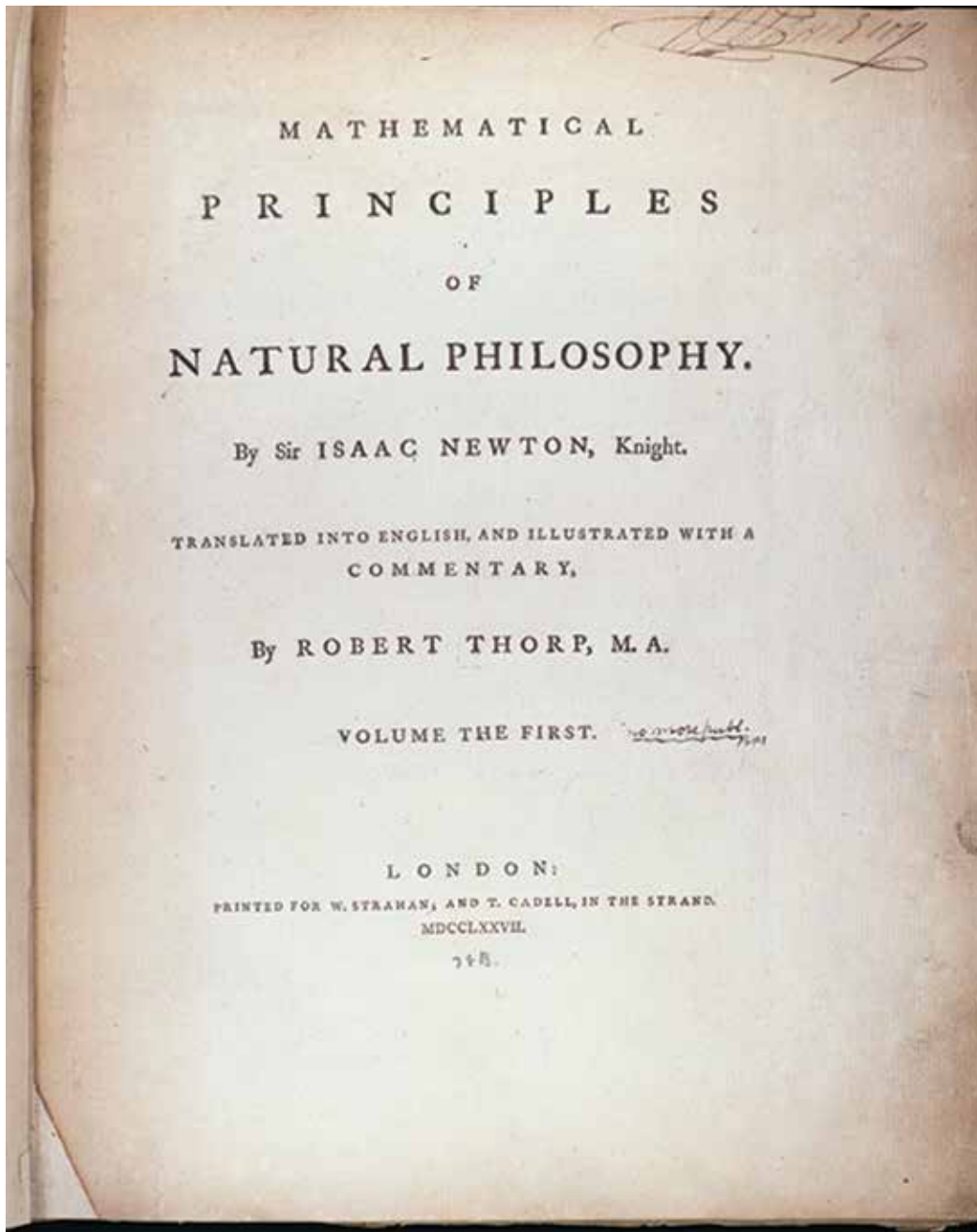
Like many great Renaissance artists, Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519) was highly skilled in doing many different things. He was a sculptor, a painter, a designer, and a scientist.

Introduction



Interest in science and education continued with Copernicus's theory of a sun-centered universe published in 1543, supported by Galileo's observations in 1632.

CHAPTER 1: Isaac Newton



In his *Principia (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy)*, published in 1687, Isaac Newton explained that the basic laws of nature could be discovered through observation and reason.

Big Question: What part did scientific observation and reason play in Isaac Newton's thought process, and why did he hesitate to publish his findings?

CHAPTER 2: René Descartes



In his *Discourse on Method*, published in 1637, René Descartes wrote, “I think, therefore I am,” urging others to doubt everything except their own existence until they proved each thing to be true.

Big Question: Why is Descartes considered to be the father of modern philosophy?

CHAPTER 3: Thomas Hobbes

In his book *Leviathan* published in 1651, Thomas Hobbes described his pessimistic view of human nature, the need for a powerful ruler, and the idea of a “social contract.”



Big Question: Why did Thomas Hobbes believe in the need for an all-powerful ruler as the leader of the government?

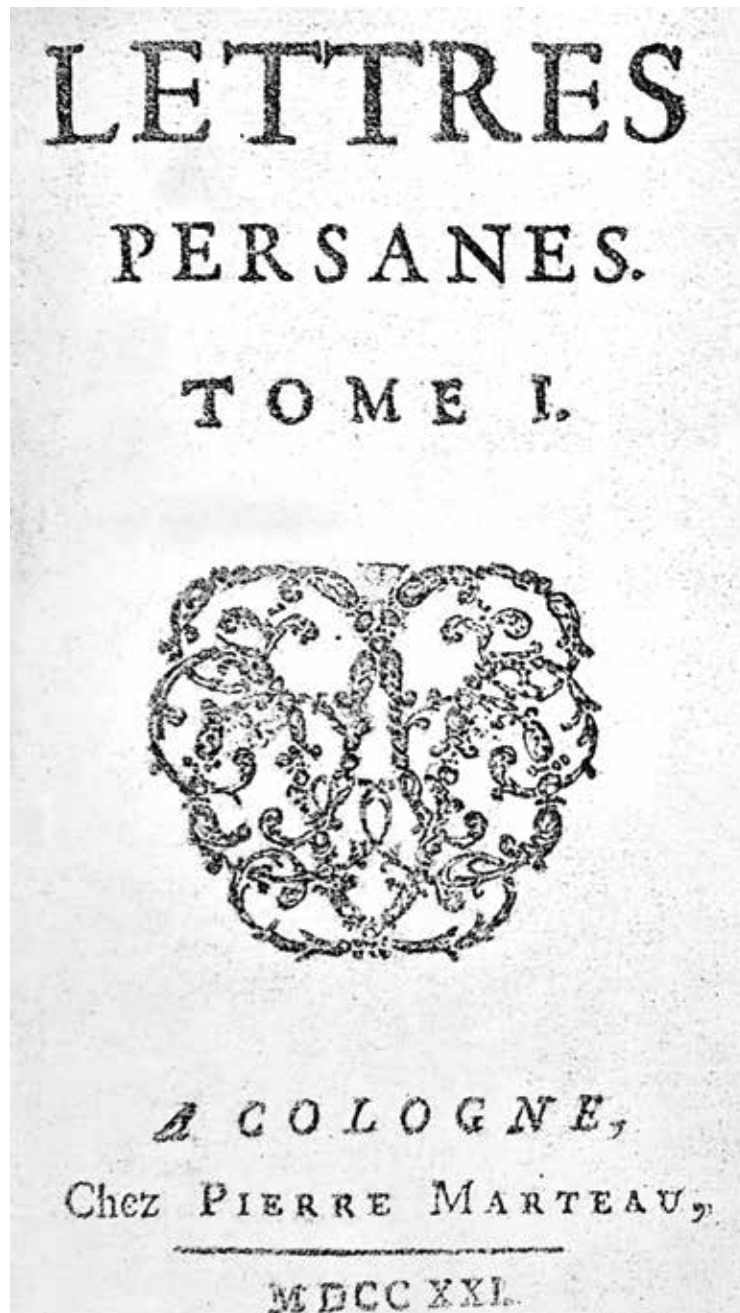
CHAPTER 4: John Locke



In his *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, published in 1689, John Locke put forth his belief that the human mind at birth was a *tabula rasa*.

Big Question: In what ways did the philosophies of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke differ?

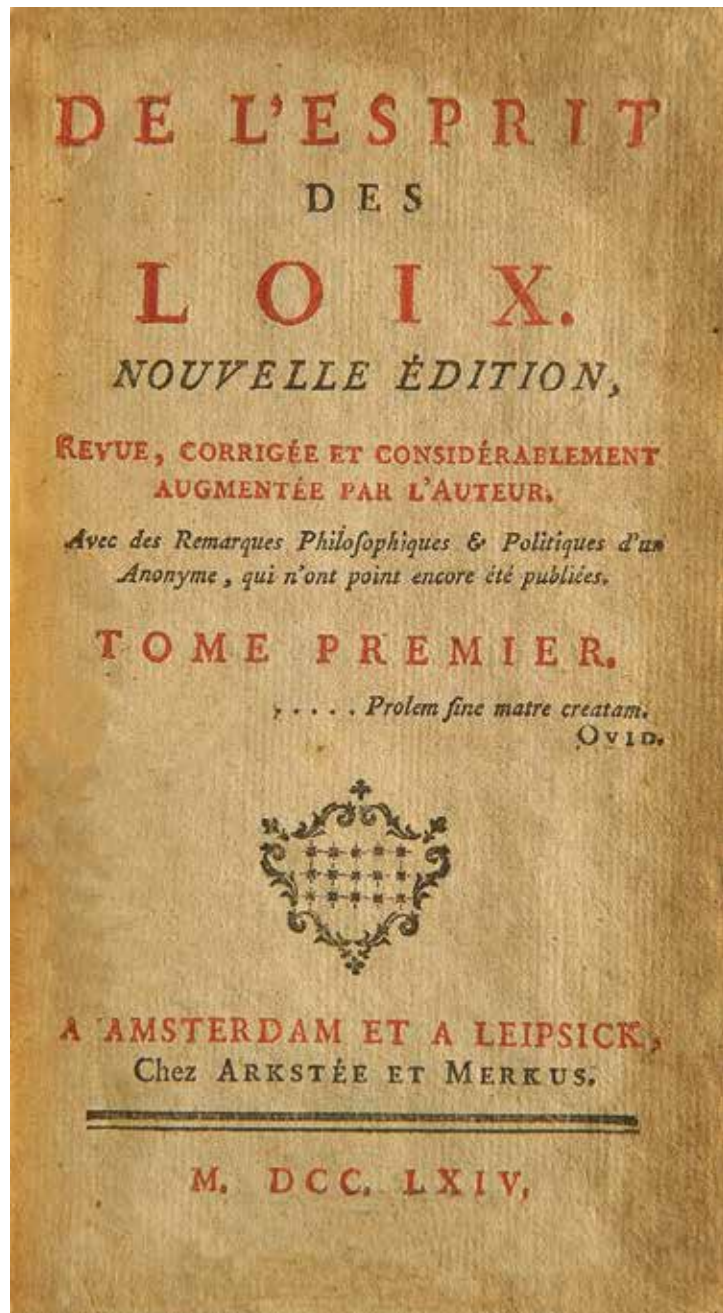
CHAPTER 5: The Enlightenment in France



In *The Persian Letters*, published in 1721, Baron de Montesquieu cleverly used fictional characters to criticize the king and ruling class.

Big Question: Why did Montesquieu believe that it was important to limit the power of a ruler or any one branch of government?

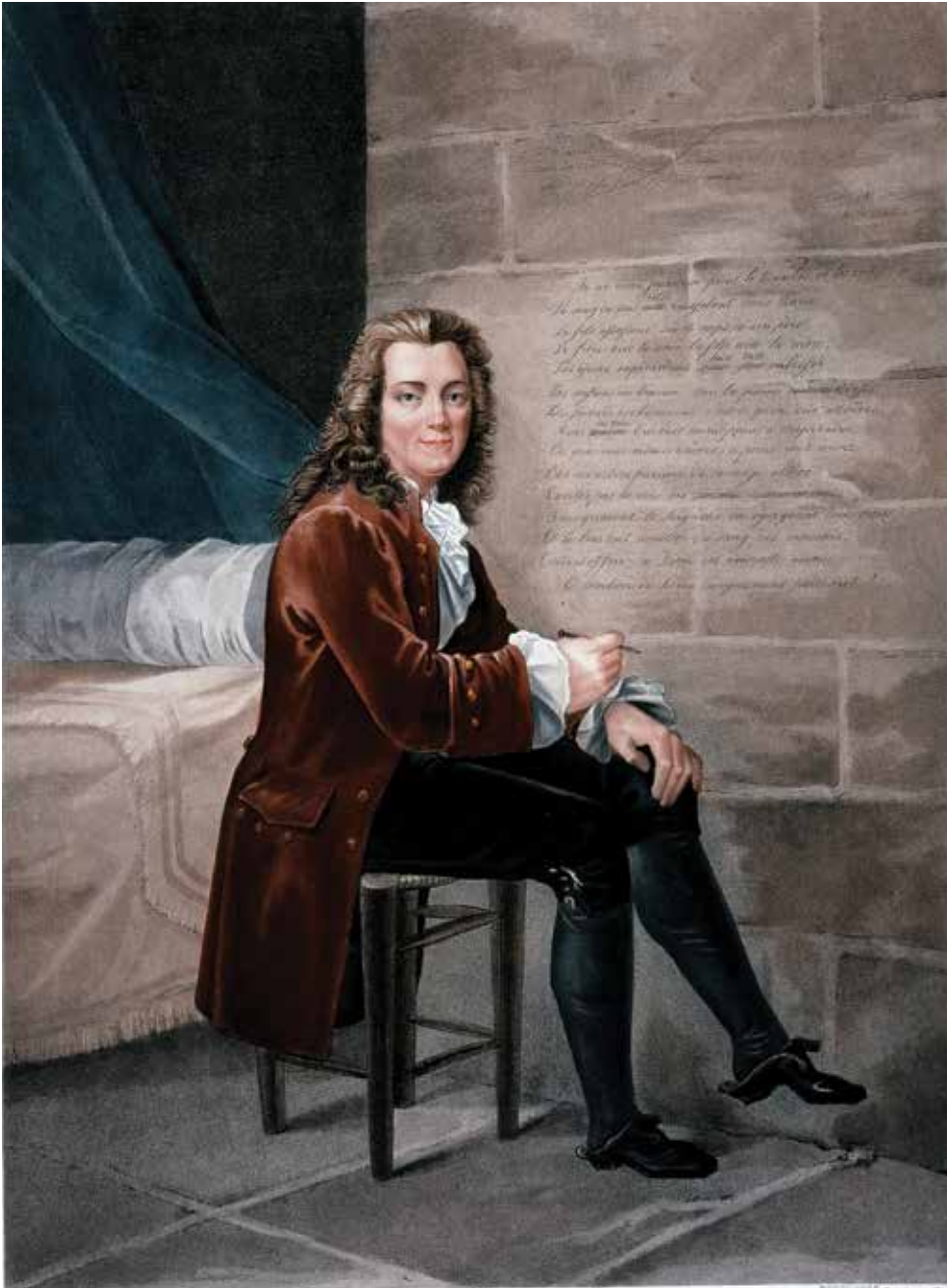
CHAPTER 5: The Enlightenment in France



In *The Spirit of the Laws*, published in 1748, Baron de Montesquieu argued that a country must limit the power of its ruler or any one branch of government.

Big Question: Why did Montesquieu believe that it was important to limit the power of a ruler or any one branch of government?

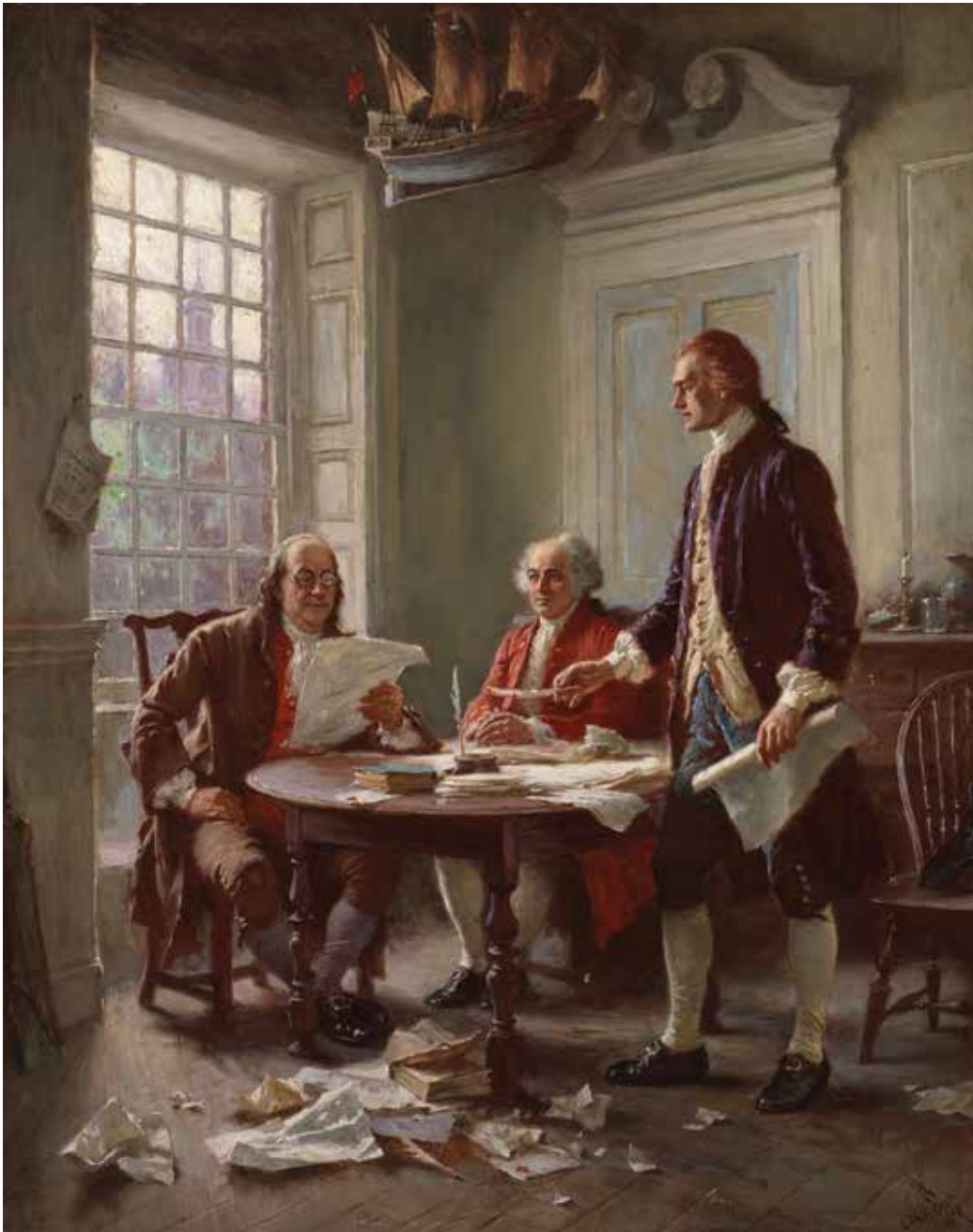
CHAPTER 5: The Enlightenment in France



In 1717, François Marie Arouet was imprisoned in the Bastille for writings that criticized the French government. He continued his criticism of the ruling class under the pseudonym of Voltaire.

Big Question: Why did Montesquieu believe that it was important to limit the power of a ruler or any one branch of government?

CHAPTER 6: The Enlightenment in Action



Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams were all very much influenced by the Enlightenment thinkers as they worked together on the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Big Question: In what ways did Europe's Enlightenment thinkers inspire America's Founding Fathers to create a government by the people, for the people?

CHAPTER 6: The Enlightenment in Action

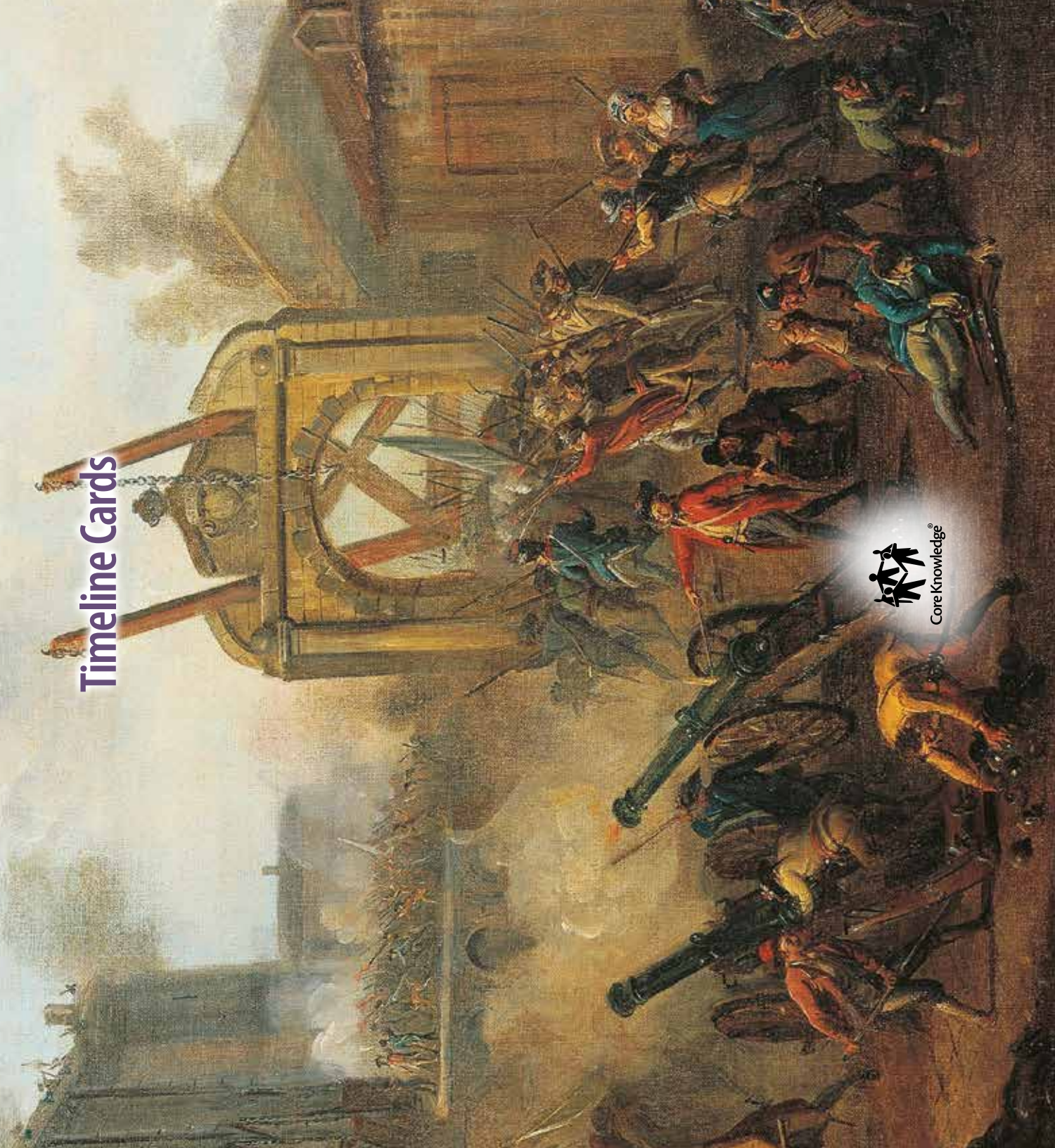


James Madison, “the Father of the Constitution,” studied and admired the works of Locke and Montesquieu.

Big Question: In what ways did Europe’s Enlightenment thinkers inspire America’s Founding Fathers to create a government by the people, for the people?

The French Revolution and Romanticism

Timeline Cards



Introduction



During the historical period called the Enlightenment in the 1600s–1700s, people questioned old ideas and searched for knowledge.

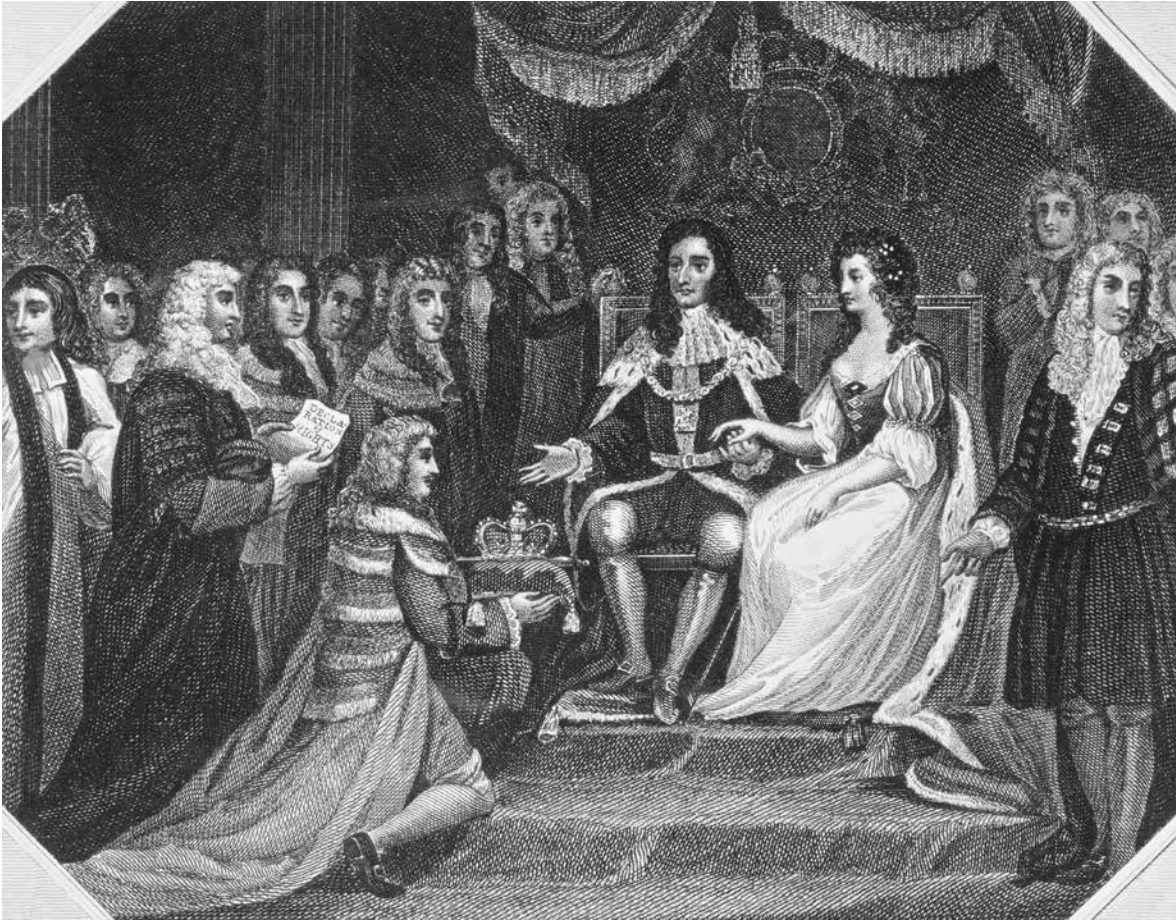
CHAPTER 1: Roots of the Revolution



In 1649, during England's Civil War, King Charles I was tried and executed.

Big Question: Which Enlightenment ideas spread across France, and why might some have considered those ideas to be dangerous?

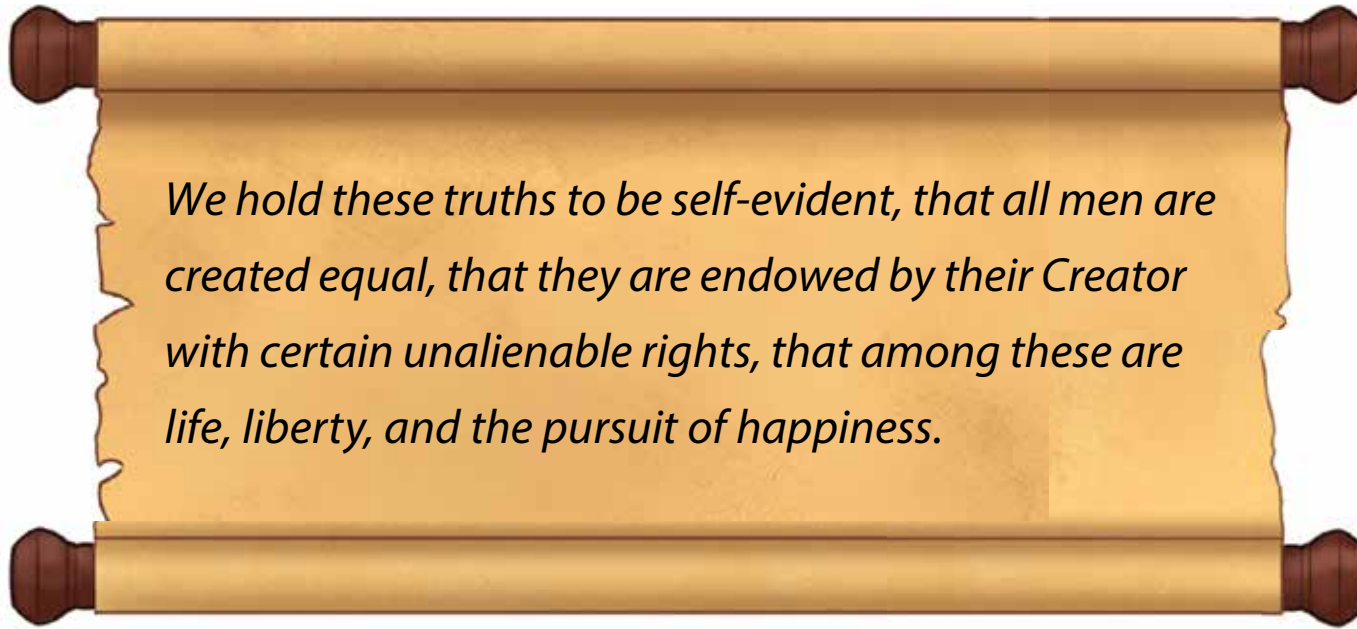
CHAPTER 1: Roots of the Revolution



During the Glorious Revolution of 1688–1689, the English Bill of Rights was an important step in limiting the power of kings and queens, and in creating a more democratic government in England.

Big Question: Which Enlightenment ideas spread across France, and why might some have considered those ideas to be dangerous?

CHAPTER 1: Roots of the Revolution



The Declaration of Independence, written at the start of the American Revolution, also stated the rights of individual Americans.

Big Question: Which Enlightenment ideas spread across France, and why might some have considered those ideas to be dangerous?

CHAPTER 2: The Three Estates



The class structure of France during the *ancien régime* consisted of Three Estates.

Big Question: What was life like for the people who belonged to the Third Estate compared to those who made up the First and Second Estates?

CHAPTER 3: The Absolute Monarchs



Louis XIV, the Sun King, had the palace of Versailles built during his reign (1643–1715).

Big Question: How did French kings use their absolute power?

CHAPTER 3: The Absolute Monarchs



In 1715, at age five, Louis XV became king of France; his reign lasted almost sixty years.

Big Question: How did French kings use their absolute power?

CHAPTER 3: The Absolute Monarchs



In 1770, Louis XVI married Marie Antoinette in the chapel at Versailles.

Big Question: How did French kings use their absolute power?

CHAPTER 4: Queen Marie Antoinette

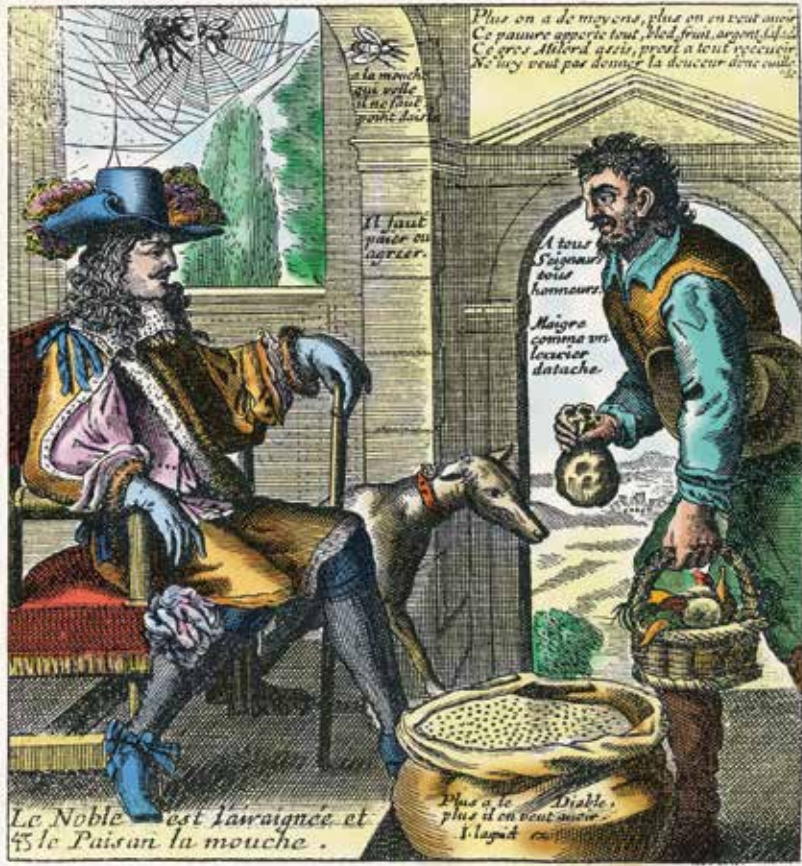


Marie Antoinette lived a life of luxury, without concern for how ordinary people lived.

Big Question: How might the luxurious royal lifestyle have turned the ordinary people of France against the royal family?

CHAPTER 5: The Third Estate Revolts

The ordinary people of the Third Estate felt the taxes imposed by the king and nobility were unfair. During the Estates-General meeting of May–July 1789, they established the National Assembly.



Big Question: What was the purpose of the meeting of the Estates-General, and why did the aristocracy and the king refuse to allow the Three Estates to meet together?

CHAPTER 5: The Third Estate Revolts



On June 17, 1789, deputies of the National Assembly signed the Tennis Court Oath, promising to stick together and write a constitution. The French Revolution had begun.

Big Question: What was the purpose of the meeting of the Estates-General, and why did the aristocracy and the king refuse to allow the Three Estates to meet together?

CHAPTER 6: A Time of Violence



The storming of the Bastille on July 14, 1789, sparked violence in the streets of Paris and throughout the countryside.

Big Question: What sequence of events caused people to storm the Bastille, and why did the unrest spread?

CHAPTER 7: Toward a New Government



In August 1789, the National Assembly issued the Declaration of the Rights of Man.

Big Question: How significant was the Declaration of the Rights of Man, and what prompted the women's march to Versailles?

CHAPTER 7: Toward a New Government



As a result of the women's march to Versailles in October 1789, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were forced to leave and go to Paris.

Big Question: How significant was the Declaration of the Rights of Man, and what prompted the women's march to Versailles?

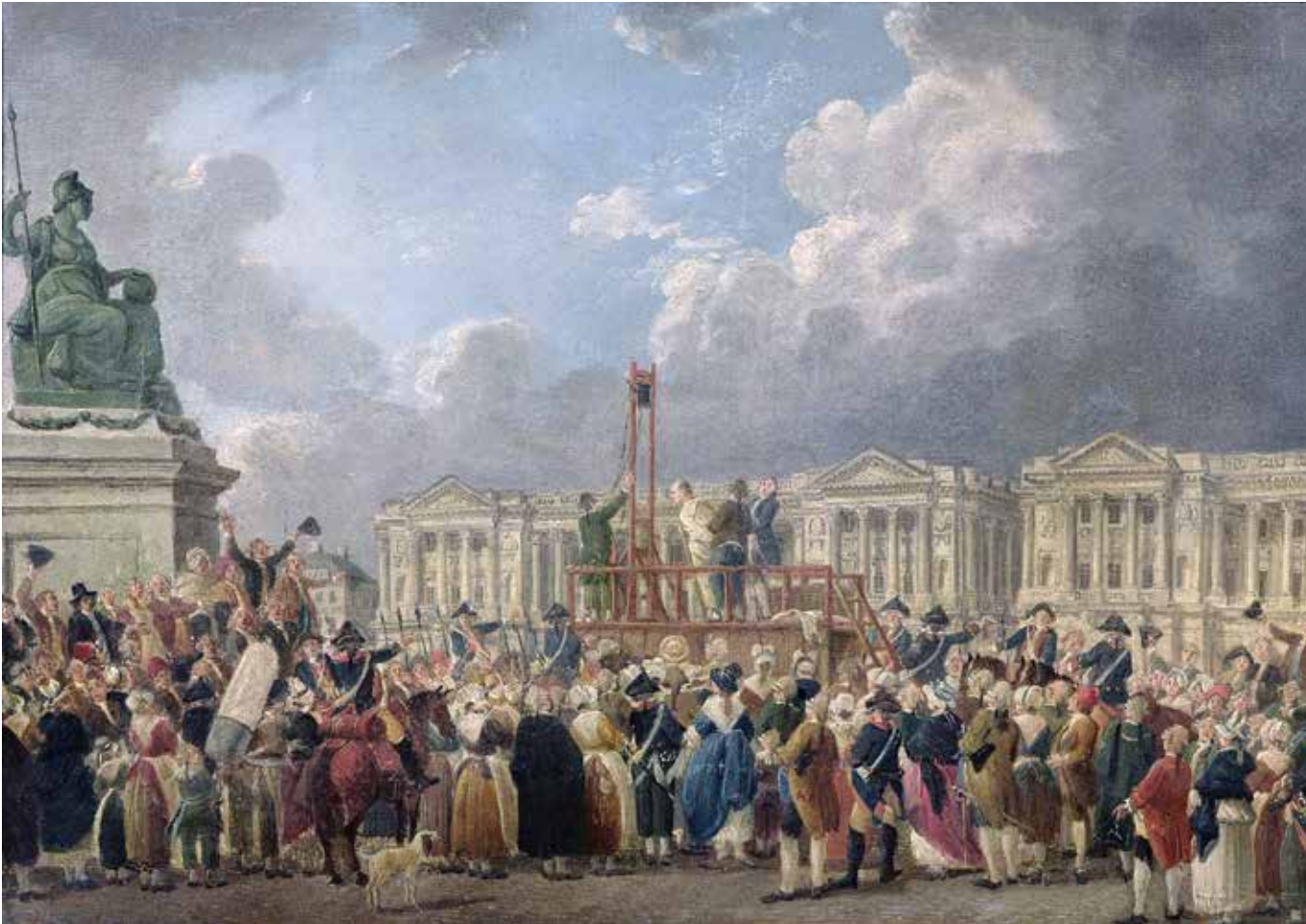
CHAPTER 8: From Monarchy to Republic



Mobs stormed the Tuileries, once the royal palace, where arms and gunpowder were stored in 1792.

Big Question: What happened to the royal family?

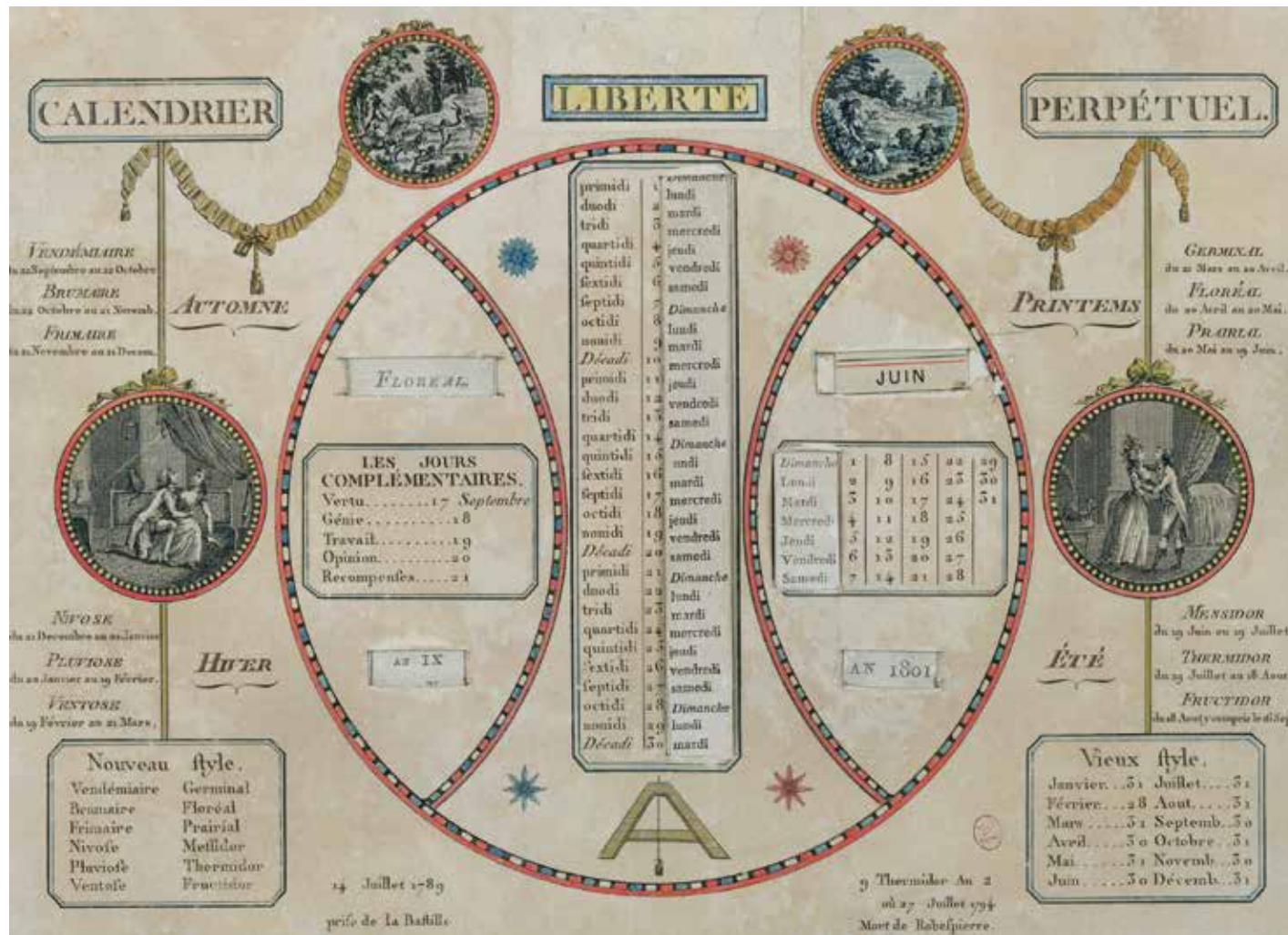
CHAPTER 8: From Monarchy to Republic



Deputies elected to the National Convention condemned Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette to death.

Big Question: What happened to the royal family?

CHAPTER 9: Religion, Culture, and Art



During the National Convention, which governed from September 1792 to October 1795, there were many changes to French society, including new attitudes toward religion, new styles of dress and speech, and even a new French calendar.

Big Question: Why do you think the revolutionaries wanted to change so much of French society?

CHAPTER 9: Religion, Culture, and Art



New classicism, or neoclassicism, was reflected in art, especially in the work of painter Jacques-Louis David.

Big Question: Why do you think the revolutionaries wanted to change so much of French society?

CHAPTER 10: The Reign of Terror



During the Reign of Terror from fall 1793 to spring 1794, anyone suspected of speaking or acting against the Revolution might be sentenced to death by the guillotine.

Big Question: What was the Reign of Terror?

CHAPTER 10: The Reign of Terror



Maximilien Robespierre, who supported the use of terror, was, in the end, accused of being a tyrant and sentenced to death in 1794.

Big Question: What was the Reign of Terror?

CHAPTER 11: Napoleon Bonaparte: Empire Builder



Military genius Napoleon Bonaparte became First Consul in 1799 and crowned himself emperor of France in 1804.

Big Question: What were the various reasons the people of France were willing to accept Napoleon as their emperor?

CHAPTER 11: Napoleon Bonaparte: Empire Builder

Europe in 1810



By 1810, all of Europe except Great Britain, Russia, and the Ottoman Empire was under Napoleon's control.

Big Question: What were the various reasons the people of France were willing to accept Napoleon as their emperor?

CHAPTER 11: Napoleon Bonaparte: Empire Builder

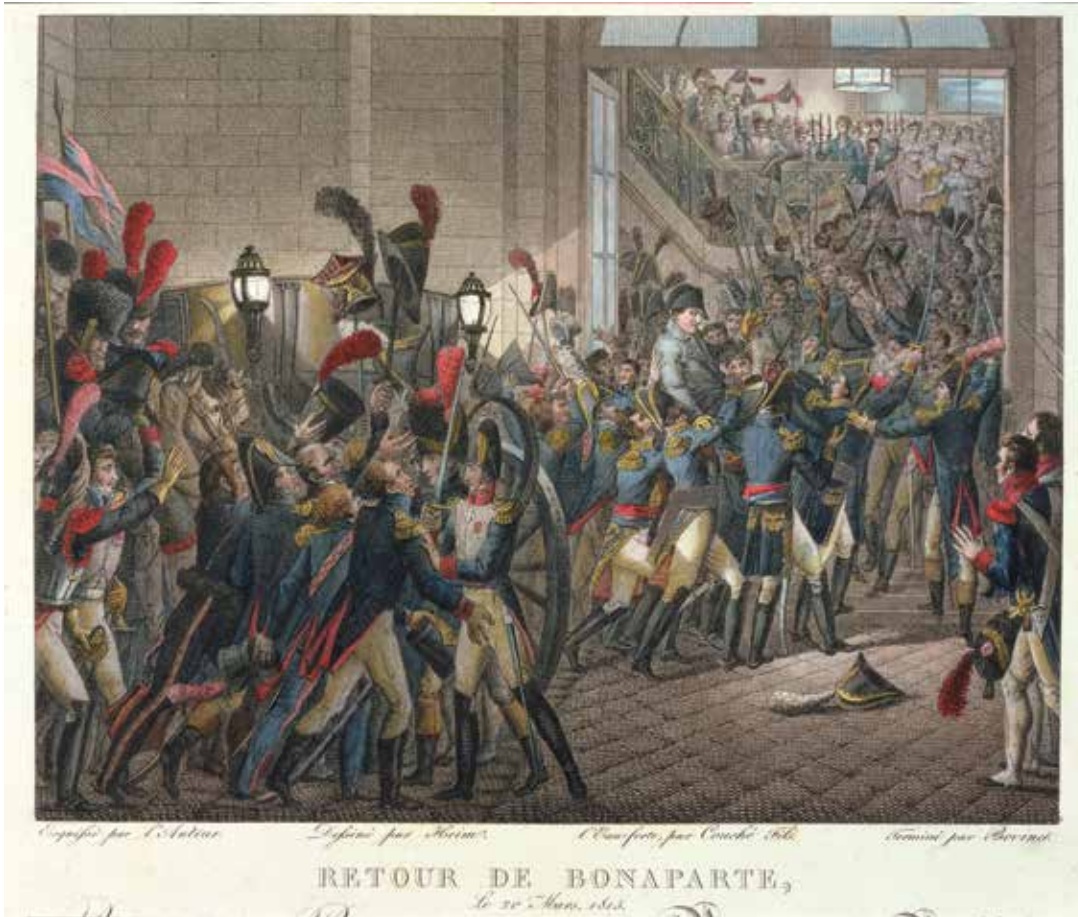


Napoleon's invasion of Russia was a disaster. He lost his power and was eventually exiled to Elba.

Big Question: What were the various reasons the people of France were willing to accept Napoleon as their emperor?

CHAPTER 11: Napoleon Bonaparte: Empire Builder

Napoleon escaped from Elba and returned to Paris in March 1815.



Big Question: What were the various reasons the people of France were willing to accept Napoleon as their emperor?

CHAPTER 11: Napoleon Bonaparte: Empire Builder



In 1815, Napoleon lost the battle of Waterloo and was exiled to St. Helena, where he died.

Big Question: What were the various reasons the people of France were willing to accept Napoleon as their emperor?

CHAPTER 12: The Romantic Revolution



The writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, with his emphasis on the simple things in nature, inspired the Romantic movement, including work by the poet William Wordsworth.

Big Question: What were the differences between the Neoclassical and the Romantic artists, and how were those differences reflected in their work?

CHAPTER 12: The Romantic Revolution



Ludwig van Beethoven, one of the greatest composers of all time, effectively conveyed different emotions through his music.

Big Question: What were the differences between the Neoclassical and the Romantic artists, and how were those differences reflected in their work?

CHAPTER 12: The Romantic Revolution



The Romantic movement inspired painters as well as composers. This landscape painting by John Constable captures the beauty of nature.

Big Question: What were the differences between the Neoclassical and the Romantic artists, and how were those differences reflected in their work?

The Enlightenment

Subject Matter Expert

Mark G. Spencer, PhD, Department of History, Brock University

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The French Revolution and Romanticism

Subject Matter Expert

Mary K. Gayne, PhD, Department of History, James Madison University

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