

Chapter 19 The Expansion of Europe in the 18th Century

Name: _____

1. During the eighteenth century, the population of Europe underwent a sharp increase. What factors influenced that growth? What were the social consequences of population expansion?
2. What were the most important elements of the agricultural revolution in Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries? What factors explain the Dutch leadership in this revolution? Why and how did it spread to England?
3. Read “The Decline of the Guilds” in “Listening to the Past.” How does French finance minister Turgot justify his abolition of the guilds (1776)? How do Turgot's arguments parallel those of Adam Smith as presented in Smith's *Wealth of Nations*?

Chapter 20 The Changing Life of the People

4. Read the excerpt from Jean-Jacques Rousseau's *Emile* in “Listening to the Past.” Although Rousseau's ideas on the different roles of the sexes may seem patriarchal today, it is possible to argue that his prescriptions for the education of girls were advanced for his time. Compare Rousseau's prescriptions to the realities of eighteenth-century child rearing described in this chapter. In what ways were Rousseau's ideas revolutionary?

5. One of the most neglected groups in historical study has been children. Correct this oversight by writing a brief history of children during the eighteenth century. What was their life like? Be sure to consider educational opportunities, health, medical care, and diet. What was the attitude of their parents toward them? How would Jean-Jacques Rousseau's ideas on child rearing and education have affected them? What would they have done for entertainment and courtship as they approached adulthood?

6. While the Enlightenment was spreading among the educated elites, religion remained a strong force in the lives of the common people. What were the patterns of popular religion for both Catholics and Protestants in the late eighteenth century? How did the church leaders, Protestant and Catholic, respond to popular religion?

7. The eighteenth century was an era of improving health and increased life expectancy. Why? What impact did improving health and longevity have on European society?

8. Through this chapter, trace the growing intervention of the state in ordinary people's lives in eighteenth-century Europe.