

# Reading Guide – Chapter 18

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The 18th Century: States, War, and Social Change

Due: \_\_\_\_\_

1/2 – European States, pp. 531-536

1. What makes a ruler “enlightened”?
2. Who were the enlightened absolutists of the 18th century?

Using the section “Enlightened Absolutism,” fill in the appropriate boxes below. Give a reason for why you are placing each where you are. Include the following people:

France: Duke of Orléans, Cardinal Fleury, Madame de Pompadour

Britain: George I, George II, Robert Walpole, George III, John Wilkes, Robert Clive, William Pitt the Elder, William Pitt the Younger

	France	England
High Points		
Low Points		

3. What made Frederick II an Enlightened monarch?
4. What were some of the limits of his “enlightened” ruling?
5. Why is Joseph II considered the most enlightened monarch of his time?

Why was he ultimately unsuccessful at reforming Austria?

7. What reforms did Catherine II make in Russia?

8. How did her reforms lead to mass discontent?

4 – Wars and Diplomacy, pp. 543-547

1. How did European states in the 18<sup>th</sup> century deal with one another? (*“balance of power”*)

2. How did the succession to the Austrian throne cause war in the 18th century?

3. Why was the Seven Year’s War referred to as the “diplomatic revolution” in 1756?

4. The Seven Year’s War is described by some historians as the real First World War. *Do you agree or disagree?* Provide evidence to back up your view.

5 – Economic Expansion and Social Change, pp. 550-555

1. Explain the cause of the population growth of the late 18th century.

2. How did the view towards children change in the second half of the century?

How was the view towards children different between the upper and lower classes?

3. How did working class women & children contribute to the “family economy”?

4. Explain the characteristics of the agricultural revolution in the 18th century.

5. How did finance change in the 18th century?

Where were these changes most evident?

6. What was the cottage industry?

7. What new machines made the production of textiles faster in the 18th century?

4 – The Social Order of the Eighteenth Century, pp. 555-560

1. How was the social order determined?

2. In what ways were the lives of the serf and the free peasant different?

3. What did villages provide for its residents?

Who tended to control village life

4. What was the typical diet of a peasant?

5. How did the nobility see its place in the world?

What roles in society were reserved for the nobility?

6. How were country houses reminiscent of the Renaissance?

How did they reflect the idea that the genders were different?

7. List 3 features of the Grand Tour.

a.

b.

c.

8. Describe the social hierarchy within towns and cities.

9. Why was the death rate high in cities?

10. Roughly what percentage of the population were beggars?

Describe two different views of poverty from the time.