Did You Know? The three-volume Gutenberg Bible was organized into two 42-line columns per page. In the later stages of production, six people worked simultaneously on composing the type. About 40 Gutenberg Bibles are still in existence, including perfect copies in the U.S. Library of Congress, the French Bibliothèque Nationale, and the British Library.

I. The Italian Renaissance (pages 375–376)

A. The word *renaissance* means rebirth. The Italian Renaissance, which spread to the rest of Europe, occurred between 1350 and 1550. The rebirth was of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds.

B. Italy of the Renaissance was largely an urban society. The powerful city-states of the Middle Ages became political, economic, and social centers. A secular, or worldly, viewpoint developed in this urban society as increasing wealth created new opportunities for material enjoyment.

C. The Renaissance was also an age when the power of the Church declined, and society recovered from the plagues and instability of the Middle Ages. Part of this recovery was a rebirth of interest in the ancient Greek and Roman cultures.

D. A new view of human beings that emphasized individual ability and worth emerged in the Renaissance. The well-rounded, universal person was capable of achievements in many areas of life. For example, Leonardo da Vinci was a painter, sculptor, architect, inventor, and mathematician.

E. The upper classes were more affected by the Italian Renaissance than the lower classes, and they embraced its ideals more. Even so, many of the intellectual and artistic achievements were hard to ignore. Churches, wealthy homes, and public buildings displayed art that celebrated the human body, classical antiquity, and religious and secular themes.

Discussion Question

What term in English expresses the Renaissance ideal of a well-rounded, multi-talented person? *(The term is Renaissance man.)*
II. The Italian States (pages 376–378)

A. The northern and central Italian city-states of Milan, Venice, and Florence played crucial roles in the Italian politics of the time. They prospered from trade with the Byzantine, Islamic, and Mediterranean civilizations. They set up trading centers in the east during the Crusades, and they exchanged goods with merchants in England and the Netherlands.

B. The wealthy city of Milan was located in the north at the crossroads of the main trade routes from Italian coastal cities to the Alpine passes. After the last Visconti family ruler died in 1447, Francesco Sforza conquered the city with a band of mercenaries—soldiers for hire. He made himself duke. Like the Viscontis, Sforza built a strong centralized state with an efficient tax system that generated large revenues for the government.

C. Venice was a link between Asia and western Europe. Traders from all over the world came there. A small group of wealthy merchants ran the city to serve their interests. Due to its trade empire, Venice was an international power.

D. The republic of Florence dominated the Tuscany region. In the fourteenth century a wealthy group of merchants controlled the Florentine government, led a series of successful wars against their neighbors, and established Florence as a major city-state. In 1434, Cosimo de’ Medici took control of Florence. He, and later his grandson Lorenzo de’ Medici, dominated Florence when it was the cultural center of Italy.

E. In the late 1440s, Florence’s economy declined because of English and Flemish competition for the cloth market. At the same time a Dominican preacher named Girolamo Savonarola condemned the Medics’ corruption and excesses. Many people followed him, causing the Medicis to give them control of Florence. Eventually people tired of Savonarola’s regulations on gambling, swearing, dancing, painting, and other such activities. He was convicted of heresy and executed in 1498 after criticizing the pope. The Medicis returned to power.

F. Attracted by Italy’s riches, Charles VIII of France led an army of thirty thousand men into Italy in 1494. He occupied Naples in the south. Northern Italian states asked Spain to help. For the next 30 years, France and Spain made Italy their battleground.

G. In 1527 thousands of Spanish troops along with mercenaries arrived at Rome. They had not been paid for months and demanded money. The leader let them sack Rome as their pay. The soldiers went crazy in a frenzy of bloodshed and looting. The authorities had to establish order. This sacking of Rome ended the wars and left Spain a dominant force in Italy.
III. Machiavelli and the New Statecraft (pages 378–379)

A. *The Prince* by Niccolò Machiavelli is one of the most influential works on political power in the western world. It concerns how to get and keep political power. Previously authors had stressed that princes should be ethical and follow Christian principles. Machiavelli argued the prince’s attitude toward power should be based on understanding that human nature is self-interested.

B. A prince, therefore, should not act on moral principles but on behalf of the interests of the state. Machiavelli was among the first to abandon morality as the basis for analyzing political activity. His views influenced political leaders who followed.

IV. Renaissance Society (pages 379–381)

A. The Renaissance saw some changes in the medieval division of society into three estates, or social classes.

B. The noble or aristocrat was expected to fulfill certain ideals. The Italian Baldassare Castiglione expressed these in *The Book of the Courtier*. He described the characteristics of a perfect Renaissance noble. Nobles were expected to have talent, character, and grace. They also had to develop two skills: they had to perform military and physical exercises, and they had to gain a classical education and enrich life with the arts. The noble also had to follow a standard of conduct. Nobles were to show their achievements with grace. The goal of the perfect noble was to serve his prince honestly. Nobles followed Castiglione’s principles for centuries.
Daily Lecture and Discussion Notes

Chapter 12, Section 1

C. Peasants made up 85 to 90 percent of the total European population, except in highly urban centers. Serfdom decreased with the decline of the manorial system. More peasants became legally free. Townspeople comprised the remainder of the third estate. Patricians, burghers, and workers and the unemployed made up the three classes of the towns. Patricians had wealth from trade, banking, and industry. The burghers were shopkeepers, artisans, and guild members who provided goods and services for the townspeople.

D. Workers made pitiful wages. During the late 1300s and the 1400s, urban poverty increased dramatically.

E. To maintain the family, parents arranged marriages, often to strengthen family or business ties. The agreement between families was sealed with a marriage contract, which included the terms of the dowry, a sum of money the bride’s family paid to the groom.

F. The father-husband was the center of the Italian family. He gave it his name, managed the finances, and made decisions that determine his children’s lives. The mother’s role was to supervise the household. The father’s authority over his children was absolute. Children did not become adults simply by reaching an age. Rather, the father had to go before a judge and formally free a child from his authority for that person to be recognized as an adult.

Discussion Question

What are the criteria that indicate a person has reached adulthood today? (Answers will vary. Accept relevant, thoughtful answers. Develop a list of criteria on which the class agrees.)
Did You Know? The first recorded patent for an industrial invention was granted in 1421 in Florence to the architect Filippo Brunelleschi. The patent gave him a three-year monopoly on the manufacture of a barge with hoisting gear used to transport marble.

I. Italian Renaissance Humanism (pages 382–383)

A. The secularism and individualism of the Renaissance was most apparent in its intellectual and artistic movements. One intellectual movement was humanism.

B. Humanism was based on the classics, the literary works of ancient Greece and Rome. Humanists studied the subjects that are now known as the humanities—for example, poetry, philosophy, and history.

C. Petrarch (fourteenth century) did the most to foster humanism’s development. He generated a movement of finding forgotten Latin manuscripts, especially in monastic libraries. He emphasized using pure classical Latin (Roman Latin, not medieval Latin). Cicero was the model for prose and Virgil for poetry.

D. Fourteenth-century humanists had emphasized that the intellectual life was solitary, rejecting family and community engagement. Humanists of the early 1400s took an interest in civic life. They believed that the humanities and humanists should serve the state. Many humanists served as secretaries to popes and princes.

Discussion Question
What might have been the effect on many people of the new study of the classics and the humanities? (People felt freed from the constrictions of medieval life and felt a new sense of discovery and self-reliance.)

II. Vernacular Literature (page 383)

A. Some writers wrote in the language of their regions, such as Italian, English, or French. In the fourteenth century the Italian works of Dante and the English works of Geoffrey Chaucer helped make such vernacular literature more popular.

B. Dante’s vernacular masterpiece is the Divine Comedy. This long poem is in three parts: Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven (Paradise). Dante is led on an imaginary journey through these realms, ending in Paradise, where he beholds God: “the love that moves the sun and the other stars.”
Chapter 12, Section 2

C. Chaucer’s most famous vernacular work is *The Canterbury Tales*. His beauty of expression and clear and forceful language helped make his dialect the chief ancestor of modern English. This collection of stories is told by a group of 29 pilgrims going to the tomb of Saint Thomas à Becket at Canterbury. Chaucer portrays the entire range of English society.

D. Christine de Pizan was a woman who wrote in French. Her 1404 book, *The Book of the City of Ladies* denounced the many male writers who argued that women by nature are not able to learn and are easily swayed. She argued that women could learn if they were able to attend the same schools as men.

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Discussion Question

Does contemporary society in general treat girls and boys equally in terms of educational capacities and opportunities? *(Answers will vary. Students should use examples. Accept relevant, thoughtful answers.)*

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III. Education in the Renaissance *(pages 383–384)*

A. Renaissance humanists believed that education could dramatically change human beings. They wrote books on education and opened schools.

B. Liberal studies—history, moral philosophy, rhetoric, grammar and logic, poetry, mathematics, astronomy, and music—was at the core of humanist schools because it was thought that these subjects allowed individuals to reach their full potential. Liberal studies helped people attain virtue and wisdom, which develop the highest gifts that ennoble people. Liberally educated people also learned the rhetorical skills to persuade others to take the path of wisdom and virtue.

C. Following the Greek ideal, humanist educators also stressed physical education, including dancing.

D. The goal of humanist education was to create complete citizens. Humanist schools provided the model for the basic education of the European ruling classes until the twentieth century.

E. Females rarely attended these schools. Those that did received an education that emphasized religion, morals, and domestic, artistic skills like singing and lute playing, so they could become good Christian wives and mothers. They were not taught mathematics or rhetoric.
Daily Lecture and Discussion Notes

Chapter 12, Section 2

Discussion Question
What are the true goals of education? (Answers will vary. Accept relevant, thoughtful answers. Obvious possibilities are individual development, civic participation, and employment.)

IV. The Artistic Renaissance in Italy (pages 384–386)

A. Renaissance artists sought to imitate nature in their works so viewers would see the reality of what they were portraying. They also had a new world perspective, one in which human beings were the “center and measure of all things.” Many of the artistic breakthroughs occurred in Florence.

B. Masaccio’s fifteenth-century frescoes are considered the first masterpieces of early Renaissance art (1400–1490). A fresco is a painting done on wet plaster with water-based paints. Unlike the flat figures of medieval painting, Masaccio’s figures have depth because he used the laws of perspective to create the illusion of three dimensions.

C. The realism of perspective became a signature of Renaissance painting. The study using geometry of the laws of perspective and the organization of space and light, and the study of human movement and anatomy perfected this realistic style of painting. The realistic portrayal of individual persons, especially the human nude, became one of the chief aims of Italian Renaissance art.

D. There were similar stunning advances in sculpture. Donatello modeled his figures on Greek and Roman statues. Among his most famous works is the realistic, freestanding figure of Saint George.

E. The architect Filippo Brunelleschi created a new architecture based on Roman classical buildings. His church of San Lorenzo in Florence does not overwhelm the worshipper, as Gothic cathedrals might, but offers a space to fit human needs. Renaissance architects also sought to reflect a human-centered world.

F. The last stage of Renaissance painting is called the High Renaissance (1490–1520). The artistic giants Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and Michelangelo dominated this period. Leonardo mastered realistic painting, but his goal was to create idealized forms to capture the perfection of nature and the individual.

G. By age 25, Raphael was recognized as one of Italy’s greatest painters. His madonnas, in which he also tried to achieve an ideal beauty surpassing human standards, were especially admired. His famous fresco, School of Athens, reveals a world of balance, harmony, and order—the underlying principles of classical art.
Daily Lecture and Discussion Notes

Chapter 12, Section 2

H. Michelangelo was an accomplished painter, sculptor, and architect known for his great passion and energy. His paintings on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome show the beauty of an idealized human being who reflects divine beauty. The more beautiful the body, the more godlike the figure.

Discussion Question
Look at Raphael’s painting School of Athens on page 386 of your textbook. The figures under the arch are the Greek philosophers Plato (left) and Aristotle (right). Remembering what you learned about the differences between their philosophies, why is Plato pointing to the heavens and Aristotle pointing to the earth? (Plato is pointing to the realm of ideal Forms that he believed contained reality, while Aristotle is indicating that reality is found in the realm of observation and experience.)

V. The Northern Artistic Renaissance (pages 386–387)

A. The artists of the Low Countries—present-day Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands—took a different approach to realistically portraying the world. They illustrated books and wooden panels for altarpieces, in part because their Gothic cathedrals did not have the wall space of the Italian churches on which to paint frescoes. The small scale made the northern painters masters of detail.

B. The most important artistic center in the north was Flanders. The Flemish painter Jan van Eyck was among the first to use oil paint, which allowed the artist to use a wide variety of colors and create fine details. Each detail was appointed as it was seen. At first, northern Renaissance painters did not study the laws of perspective, however, but achieved realism through observing reality.

C. Then such artists as the German Albrecht Dürer incorporated the laws of perspective. His famous Adoration of the Magi keeps the northern emphasis on details but fits them together harmoniously according to the laws of perspective. Like the Italian artists of the High Renaissance, Dürer tried to achieve a standard of ideal beauty based on a careful examination of the human form.

Discussion Question
In the classroom library, look up the term genre painting. What is it, and why do you think it most notably flourished in the painting of seventeenth-century Holland? (Genre painting is the painting of scenes from everyday life. One reason it flourished in seventeenth-century Holland is that it developed from the painting in the northern Renaissance because of the latter’s emphasis on the material details of the scenes being painted.)
Did You Know? Half the proceeds of the German sales of indulgences was to be used to pay off the large debt of the archbishop and elector Albert of Mainz, who had incurred the debt to pay the pope for his appointment to office.

I. Erasmus and Christian Humanism (pages 389–390)

A. The Protestant Reformation, begun by Martin Luther in the early sixteenth century, divided the western Church into Catholic and Protestant groups. Earlier developments set the stage for this event.

B. Italian humanism spread to northern Europe creating a movement called Christian humanism. Christian humanists believed in the ability of human beings to reason and improve themselves. They wanted to reform the Catholic Church. This reform would occur through developing inner piety, or religious feeling, based on studying the works of Christianity.

C. The best known Christian humanist was Desiderius Erasmus. He developed what he called “the philosophy of Christ,” meant to show people how to live good lives on a daily basis rather than how to achieve salvation. He stressed inward piety, not external observance of rules and rituals. To reform the Church, Erasmus wanted to spread the philosophy of Christ, educate people about Christianity, and criticize the abuses of the Church. In his 1509 work The Praise of Folly, he especially criticized the monks. Erasmus did not want to break away from the Church, as later reformers would. Yet people of his day said, “Erasmus laid the egg that Luther hatched.”

Discussion Question
Why might the clergy object to the movement of Christian humanism? (Its belief in the ability of human beings to reason and improve themselves would lessen the need for the clergy and the Church to teach and lead people.)

II. Religion on the Eve of the Reformation (pages 390–391)

A. People were calling for reform in part because of corruption in the Catholic Church. Between 1450 and 1520 a series of popes failed to meet the Church’s spiritual needs. They were more concerned with the political interests of the Papal States. Julius II, the “warrior-pope,” even led armies against his enemies. Many people were disgusted with him and the Catholic Church.
B. Many Church officials used their offices to advance their careers and wealth, and many local priests seemed ignorant of their spiritual duties, especially instructing the faithful on achieving salvation—acceptance into Heaven. As a result, obtaining salvation became almost mechanical, for example by collecting relics. Venerating a saint could gain an indulgence—release from all or part of punishment for sin—according to the Church of the time.

C. Some people sought salvation in the popular mystical movement called the Modern Devotion, which stressed the need to follow the teaching of Jesus, not Church dogma. Most people found the Church unconcerned with their spiritual needs. This environment helps explain Luther’s ideas.

**Discussion Question**

Why might Christians have been so disgusted with Pope Julius II? *(They believed that it was unholy for a Christian, spiritual leader to be a military commander. As one critic wrote, “How, O bishop standing in the room of the Apostles, dare you teach the people the things that pertain to war?”)*

**III. Martin Luther** *(pages 391–393)*

A. Martin Luther was a monk and professor at the University of Wittenberg, where he lectured on the Bible. Though his study of the Bible, Luther came to reject the Catholic teaching that both faith and good works were necessary for salvation. He believed human deeds were powerless to affect God and that salvation was through faith alone. God grants salvation to the faithful because he is merciful. The idea of justification (being made right before God) by faith alone is the Protestant Reformation’s chief teaching. For all Protestants, the Bible, not the Church, became the primary source of religious truth.

B. The widespread selling of indulgences upset Luther. This practice simply harmed people’s chances of salvation, he believed. Angered by the practice, in 1517 Luther posted his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. They attacked abuses in selling indulgences. Thousands of copies were printed.

C. In 1520 Luther called for the German princes to overthrow the papacy and establish a reformed German church. Luther wanted to keep only two sacraments—baptism and Communion—and called for the clergy to marry. Luther continued to emphasize his new doctrine of salvation.
Daily Lecture and Discussion Notes

Chapter 12, Section 3

D. The Church excommunicated Luther in 1521. He was summoned to appear before the imperial diet [legislative assembly] of the Holy Roman Empire in the city of Worms. The emperor Charles V thought he could get Luther to change his ideas. Luther refused, which outraged the emperor. The Edict of Worms made Luther an outlaw in the empire. His books were to be burned and Luther delivered to the emperor. Luther’s local ruler, however, protected him.

E. Luther’s religious movement soon became a revolution. It gained support from many German rulers, who took control of Catholic churches and formed state churches supervised by the government. Luther set up new services to replace the Mass, featuring Bible readings, preaching the word of God, and song. His doctrine became known as Lutheranism, the first Protestant faith.

Discussion Question
Why, according to Luther, would buying indulgences interfere with a person’s possibility of salvation? (If people thought they could get into Heaven through buying indulgences, they would not attend to the quality of their faith.)

IV. Politics in the German Reformation (page 393)

A. From the beginning Luther’s movement was tied to politics. He believed the state was called by God to maintain the peace and order necessary to spread the gospel. The Holy Roman Emperor Charles V ruled an empire consisting of Spain, the Austrian lands, Bohemia, Hungary, the Low Countries, Milan, Naples, and Spanish territories in the New World. He wanted to keep all this Catholic and under the control of his Hapsburg dynasty, but he faced many problems.

B. Charles V’s chief political problem was his rivalry with Francis I, king of France. Pope Clement VII also opposed him. The pope joined the side of the French in their wars with Charles V. Charles also had to send troops against the advancing Ottoman Empire. Finally, many individual rulers of the German states supported Luther.

C. Charles was forced to make peace with the Lutheran princes, which he did in 1555 with the Peace of Augsburg. It accepted the division of Christianity within Germany. German states could choose between Catholicism and Lutheranism. All states would have the same legal rights. Rulers could choose their subjects’ religion. The settlement did not recognize the right of subjects to choose their own religion, however, so it did not recognize religious tolerance for individuals.
Discussion Question
What right that was not recognized by the Peace of Augsburg began to be recognized in the seventeenth century and was fully recognized in the U.S. Constitution? *(The right of individuals to worship according to their consciences.)*
Daily Lecture and Discussion Notes

Chapter 12, Section 4

Did You Know? On May 2, 1536, King Henry VIII of England committed Anne Boleyn—his second wife, who had failed to bear him a son—to the Tower of London on a charge of adultery. Tried by a court of her peers and unanimously convicted, Boleyn was beheaded on May 19. On May 30, Henry married Jane Seymour.

I. The Zwinglian Reformation and Calvin and Calvinism (pages 395–397)

A. With the Peace of Augsburg, the ideal of Christian unity was lost forever. Huldrych Zwingli, a priest in Zürich, began a new Christian group in Switzerland. Relics and images were forbidden in the city, and a new service of scripture reading, prayer, and sermons replaced the Catholic Mass.

B. The Swiss and German reformers sought an alliance, but they could not agree on the meaning of the sacrament of Communion. In 1531 Zwingli was killed in a war between Protestant and Catholic states in Switzerland. John Calvin assumed the leadership of Protestantism in Switzerland.

C. John Calvin fled Catholic France for Switzerland after he converted to Protestantism. He placed a new emphasis on the all-powerful nature of God—what Calvin called the “power, grace, and glory of God.” This led him to the important idea of predestination, which meant that God in an “eternal decree” had determined in advance who would be saved (the elect) and who would be damned (the reprobate).

D. Despite his injunction to the contrary, Calvin’s followers came to believe they were certain of salvation and were doing God’s work on Earth. Calvinism became a dynamic, activist faith. In 1536 Calvin began to reform the city of Geneva. He created a church government and a body called the Consistory, which enforced moral discipline. He set up a court to oversee the moral life and doctrinal purity of Genevans. People who deviated could be punished, even for such “crimes” as dancing and gambling.

E. Calvin’s success in Geneva made it a powerful center of Protestantism. Missionaries trained in Geneva were sent throughout the world. By the mid-sixteenth century, Calvinism had replaced Lutheranism as the most important form of Protestantism.
Discussion Question

Does Calvin’s doctrine of predestination make sense to you? (Answers will vary. Accept relevant, thoughtful answers. One consideration is that predestination seems to have the counterintuitive implication that salvation does not depend on how one lives one’s life or how one uses the God-given gifts of intelligence and will.)

II. The Reformation in England (pages 397–398)

A. Not religion but politics brought about the English Reformation. King Henry VIII wanted to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, whom he thought could not give him a male heir. The pope was unwilling to annul (declare invalid) his marriage, however, and Henry turned to England’s church courts. The archbishop of Canterbury ruled that Henry’s marriage to Catherine was null and void.

B. Henry then married Anne Boleyn, who was crowned queen and who gave birth to a girl. She later would become Queen Elizabeth I.

C. At Henry’s request, in 1534 Parliament moved to break England’s Catholic Church away from the pope in Rome. The Act of Supremacy of 1534 ruled that the king was the supreme head of the new Church of England. The king controlled religious doctrine, clerical appointments, and discipline. Thomas More famously opposed the king and was beheaded.

D. Henry dissolved the monasteries and sold their land and possessions to the wealthy. This gave him more money and supporters. He stuck close to Catholic teachings, however. The sickly nine-year-old Edward VI succeeded him. During his reign, church officials moved the Church of England, also called the Anglican Church, in a Protestant direction. Clergy could now marry and a new church service developed.

E. Henry’s daughter Mary came to the throne in 1553. She wanted to return England to Catholicism, but her actions had the opposite effect. She earned the name “Bloody Mary” by having 300 Protestants burned as heretics. By the end of her reign, England was more Protestant than ever.

Discussion Question

For what reason do you think Thomas More opposed King Henry VIII? (Thomas More believed that religious authority should be in the hands of religious leaders and that the supreme authority of the Church was the pope. Also, he knew that Henry was moving against the Church out of self-interest.)
Daily Lecture and Discussion Notes

Chapter 12, Section 4

III. The Anabaptists and Effects on the Role of Women (pages 398–400)

A. The radical Anabaptists rejected the involvement of the state in church affairs. To them the true Christian church was a voluntary community of adult believers who had undergone spiritual rebirth and had then been baptized. This belief in adult baptism separated the Anabaptists from both Catholics and Protestants, who baptized infants.

B. Based on New Testament accounts of early Christianity, Anabaptists considered all believers equal. Any member of the community could be a minister because all Christians were considered priests. Women were often excluded from the ministry, however.

C. Anabaptists believed in the complete separation of church and state. Government was not to even have political authority over real Christians. Anabaptists would not hold office or bear arms. They took literally the biblical commandment to not kill. Their political and religious beliefs caused Anabaptists to be branded dangerous radicals. Protestants and Catholics agreed on the need to persecute Anabaptists.

D. Contemporary Mennonites and Amish are Anabaptist communities.

E. Protestants developed a new view of the family. It had rejected the idea that special holiness stemmed from celibacy, and the family was placed at the center of human life. Protestants extolled the “mutual love between man and wife.” Protestantism continued the traditional subservience and obedience of the wife, however. Woman’s role was to bear children. This function was part of the divine plan, according to Luther and Calvin. Protestantism did not change women’s subordinate place in society.

Discussion Question

The Amish and Mennonites refuse to fight in wars. The American government allows them to forego military service. Is the government correct in this position? (Answers will vary. Accept relevant, thoughtful answers. One good answer is that the government’s recognizing the right to be a pacifist speaks is consistent with American ideals because this recognizes freedom of conscience.)

IV. The Catholic Reformation (pages 400–401)

A. By the mid-sixteenth century, things did not look good for Catholicism due to the spread of Protestantism. However, the Catholic Church revitalized in the sixteenth century for three chief reasons: the Jesuits, reform of the papacy, and the Council of Trent.
B. A Spanish nobleman named Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus, known as the Jesuits. The pope recognized Loyola and his followers as a religious order in 1540. Jesuits took a special vow of obedience to the pope. They used education to spread their message. They were successful in restoring Catholicism to parts of Germany and eastern Europe, and in spreading it to other parts of the world.

C. Pope Paul III saw the need to reform the papacy and appointed a Reform Commission in 1537 to determine the Church’s ills. It blamed the corrupt policies of the popes. Pope Paul III also convened the Council of Trent.

D. In 1545 a group of cardinals, archbishops, abbots, and theologians met in Trent. The council met off and on there for 18 years. Its final decrees reaffirmed traditional Catholic teachings in opposition to Protestant beliefs. Both faith and works were needed for salvation. The seven sacraments, the Catholic view of Communion (Eucharist), and clerical celibacy were upheld. Belief in purgatory and the use of indulgences was strengthened, though selling indulgences was forbidden.

E. After the Council of Trent, the Roman Catholic Church had a clear body of doctrine and was unified under the pope. It had a renewed spirit of confidence.

Discussion Question
What is the Catholic belief in purgatory? (Purgatory is the state in which the souls who have died in grace work off their sins before entering into Heaven.)