

10 People/Events Comparison List

1. **French Aristocracy and Thirty Years' War:** Both had a cause to battle for but had ulterior motives and/or other purposes to fight/be fought. The years leading up to the French Revolution, the French aristocracy attempted to regain their power after King Louis XIV's reign of absolutism. They had popular support, and shared similar goals with the wealthy professional and commercial classes such as French liberty, while also portraying the monarchy as tyrannical. When the Estates General was called in 1789, voting rules needed to be established, but the First and Second Estates attempted to make them in their favor in order to have complete influence over the fate of France. Their declaration for French liberty became doubted by the Third Estate, and showed how they were only concerned to protect their own privileges. Though the Thirty Years' War had been instigated by conflicts over religion, many countries who participated had ulterior motives other than religious issues, such as gaining territory or wealth.
2. **John Locke and French Revolution:** Both fought for similar ideas and were able to influence and inspire others. John Locke is considered to be the most renowned and influential philosophical thinker of the seventeenth century. He was able to set the foundation for the Enlightenment. His beliefs included those of how a government needed to listen to the consent of the governed, and all of mankind had natural rights of life, liberty, and property. Locke's ideals represented what those in the French Revolution fought for. The corrupt French monarchy had taken away natural rights and oppressed the citizens. The effects of the Revolution were felt all around the world. The idea of social reform inspired other revolutions that followed suit, and established a strong middle class. The concepts of democracy/democratic ideas had began to arise from the aftermath of the Revolution as well, which had shaped our own government today.
3. **Marie Antoinette and Rococo Art Period:** Both represented the ideas of sexual activity and extravagance, and were heavily criticized. Marie Antoinette was the wife of Louis XVI. Because of her Austrian background, many were suspicious of her. Their reign was very unpopular among the citizens, and she was constantly accused of and viewed for sexual misconduct and personal extravagance. The subject of Rococo Art was typically of the aristocracy, mainly the French. They were depicted in idealized landscaped as being carefree and pursuing lives of leisure, romance, and seduction. These portraits convinced many of the corruptness of the monarchy and increased hostility towards them. Many contemporaries criticized Rococo art for the superficiality of it as opposed to art from the ancient world.

4. **Voltaire and the Enlightenment:** Both represented the ideas of speaking freely and challenging traditional and ecclesiastical authority. Voltaire was an influential philosophe whose power lay in his writings. He always criticized French authority and society, which had him imprisoned, harassed, and even had him escape his country. He praised the English society and their religious liberty, which questioned traditional ideals of the French. The Enlightenment itself was an era of reason and rationality, which including opposition to traditional thought and ideas. Enlightened thinkers had many interpretations of how humans could become better and improved, and spoke as they wished.
5. **Copernicus and the Reformation:** Both had been springboards for revolution. Copernicus was a Polish priest and astronomer who published a book that provided an intellectual springboard for the Scientific Revolution. In other words, he had set the stage for it to occur. The Reformation had done what Copernicus did, but for the Thirty Years' War. The rise of conflicting religious views had paved the way for an eventual war to transpire in Europe.
6. **John Wesley and the Counter-Reformation:** Both embraced and stressed the importance of traditional ecclesiastical thought as a part of life and fought for its revival. Wesley was the founder of an English religious movement known as Methodism during the age of Romanticism. It accentuated inward, heartfelt religion and the possibility of obtaining Christian perfection in this life. In response to the Enlightenment, Methodism was an attempt at reviving what had been lost during that era. The Counter-Reformation was a reaction against the Protestant Reformation. It was a movement in the Roman Catholic Church that belabored the traditional religious ideas of Catholicism that originally dominated Europe, vanishing as a result of new rising religions that opposed the Church.
7. **Machiavelli and Reign of Louis XIV:** Both embraced similar ideas of how to rule. Machiavelli believed that any good ruler must "rule with an iron fist." To be successful, a leader must govern his people with brutality and force versus gaining their love and support. The reign of Louis XIV was an age of absolutism. He had ruled as an absolute ruler, meaning he would rule without much/any influence or support of nobility, assemblies etc. He had been able to make France a major European power and did so by ruling independently and doing what needed to be done in order to make sure France was in a state of stability and success.
8. **Luther and the Scientific Reformation:** Both had to do with social reforms and were not accepted immediately. Martin Luther was one of the first to begin to question the credibility of the Church. He believed that what the Church had said of God, such as the

righteousness of God coming from charitable acts and religious ceremonies, was not true, but rather believing and trusting in Christ was satisfying to God. He attacked the selling of indulgences as well. The Church had been central to European life up to this point, and his questioning of its validity could not be accepted quickly, especially since this was a new concept. The Scientific Revolution was the same way. There had always been a certain way the universe had been perceived, with knowledge from ancient Romans and Greeks. When this knowledge came into question and new evidence arose, it was also not received instantly.

9. **Cromwell and the Reign of Terror:** Both represent times of fear and and brutality. Oliver Cromwell was a Puritan who had led the parliamentary army during the English Civil War. After England had become a Puritan republic, he turned into a military dictator who savagely conquered other countries. He was harsh and hated, resented by the people. The Reign of Terror was a time of violence and executions during the French Revolution. Thousands died due to the guillotine. If any were suspected of opposing or working against the revolution, they were often carted off and executed. It was an era of fear and blood.

10. **Montesquieu and the Glorious Revolution:** Both connect to the idea of a limited monarchy. Montesquieu was an Enlightened thinker who believed that the type of government was dependent on the country's size, population, customs etc. He favored a monarchical government whose power was limited by other bodies such as France's parlements, as well as division of power in government. He had a strong belief that monarchs needed to be subject to constitutional limits on their power. The Glorious Revolution was an era of peace when William and Mary became the English monarchs in 1688. It had marked the beginning of a constitutional monarchy in Great Britain. The monarchs were subject to law and ruled by the consent of Parliament. This demonstrates Montesquieu's strong views of how a monarchy becomes successful in its reign.