**Standard 6 Notes**

I. Revolution v. Evolution

a. Evolutions occur slowly and take long periods of time. Change is gradual.

b. Revolutions occur quickly and take shorter periods of time. Change is drastic.

II. Revolutions of Mind

a. Intellectual movements that drive progress and growth.

b. Scientific Revolution

i. Time of change in thinking about the physical universe. Marked by questions about nature and

natural laws.

ii. Led to innovations in science and mathematics, and a new understanding of the outer world

(gravity) and the inner world (human body)

iii. Famous Figures of the Scientific Revolution:

1. Galileo Galilei – challenged Catholic Church over the Heliocentric Theory (theory that

sun is at the center of the universe). Built his own telescope to study the sky. Faced

the Inquisition and was forced under house arrest for the rest of his life.

2. Francis Bacon and Rene Descartes – pioneered the Scientific Method for

experimentation.

3. Isaac Newton – came up with three laws of motion and the law of universal gravitation.

c. Enlightenment

i. Movement for change in thinking about the human universe. Marked by questions about human

nature and institutions (religion, education, government, etc.)

ii. Led to new ideas about the relationship between humans and government, and was an indirect

cause of many revolutions of the period.

iii. Figures of the Enlightenment:

1. John Locke – Believed in a social contract between governments and their people. The

social contract said that the government is obligated to serve the people and if they

don’t, the people have the right (or duty) to overthrow them. He also believed in

three natural rights for all people (life, liberty and property).

2. Baron de Montesquieu – Believed in a system of checks and balances, an idea which

became a cornerstone of U.S. Government structure.

3. Jean-Jacques Rousseau – Fought for personal liberties and individual freedom.

4. Mary Wollstonecraft – Female philosopher who wrote *A Vindication of the Rights of*

*Women* and advocated for equal education for women.

5. Thomas Jefferson – Wrote the Declaration of Independence advocating that America

separate from Great Brtain. Adapted ideas from Locke’s three natural rights and

the social contract.

6. Thomas Paine – Wrote *Common Sense* which advocated declaring independence – was

more drastic in his language than Jefferson.

7. Simon Bolivar – Led uprisings against Spain in Venezuela, freeing it from Spanish rule,

and joined with Jose de San Martin in freeing Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

8. Adam Smith – Wrote the book *Wealth of Nations* outlining the advantages of the free

market (capitalism).

III. Revolutions of Power

a. Political movements that involve changes in power structure; usually violent.

b. American Revolution/Revolutionary War (1770’s-1781)

i. American colonies revolted against British rule, angered by a lack of representation in British

Parliament and taxation through various British acts (Sugar Act, Stamp Act, Townsend

Acts)

ii. Revolutionary events (Boston Massacre of 1770, Boston Tea Party of 1773) raised fervor to

revolt.

iii. April 1775 – first fighting takes place at Lexington and Concord

iv. 1776 – Thomas Paine writes *Common Sense* and Thomas Jefferson writes *Declaration of*

*Independence* (adopted on July 4, 1776)

v. British dominated early battles until 1777, when Americans won the Battle of Saratoga and

convinced the French to join the war on their side.

vi. War ends in 1781 when British army surrenders at Yorktown, Virginia. Treaty of Paris

signed two years later.

vii. First American government – Articles of Confederation, a loose system of allegiance with

state power. Was too weak to govern federally.

viii. 1787 – Delegates met in Philadelphia and drafted the Constitution, which is the blueprint for

our government that still lasts today. It created a federal republic with power divided

between the federal government and the states.

ix. The first ten amendments to the Constitution are the Bill of Rights, which recognize some

basic freedoms we have as Americans, including free speech, assembly, religion, right to

jury trial, etc.

c. French Revolution (1789-1800’s)

i. French citizens revolted against the French king (Louis XVI) and his queen (Marie

Antoinette) in the wake of terrible economic hardship.

ii. The poor Third Estate (majority of the population) were overtaxed to support the rich First

and Second Estate.

iii. French government spends more money than it makes (deficit spending) for years, and when

Louis XVI took over the government it was bankrupt. Louis ignored financial advice and

called the Estates-General (a meeting of reps from all three estates) to solve the problem.

iv. At this meeting (May 1789 in Versailles), delegates complained of the king’s abuses of power

and swore to stay together as the newly formed National Assembly until France had a new

Constitution (Tennis Court Oath).

v. Fear over this clash spread among the people of France, and they stormed a prison in Paris

called the Bastille looking for weapons on July 14, 1789. They freed prisoners and killed

guards.

vi. The National Assembly dissolves the old system in France (Ancien’ Regime) and issues the

Declaration of the Rights of Man in August 1789.

vii. A mob marches to Versailles and forces Louis and Marie to move 13 miles back to Paris.

viii. A new government is set up in 1791 with a new constitution. Louis attempts to escape

France with his family and fails in June. He is arrested and thrown in jail.

ix. The revolution got more radical with the action of the sans-culottes, who demanded a

republic. In 1792 another constitution was drawn up and in 1793 Louis and Marie were

both executed by the guillotine.

x. In 1793, the Committee of Public Safety is created to govern France, led by Maximilien

Robespierre. In order to restore order, Robespierre imposed a period called the Reign of

Terror on France from September 1793 to July 1794. Thousands were arrested for crimes

against the republic and executed by the guillotine. The Reign of Terror doesn’t end until

Robespierre himself is executed.

xi. In 1795, a third constitution was drawn up with the Directory as controlling body. Corruption

was widespread in this organization and by 1797 things were out of control. They turned to

a man named Napoleon Bonaparte to control the unrest. In 1804, Napoleon (with the

support of the French people) crowned himself emperor.

xii. Under Napoleon, France became a powerful nation as he annexed large areas of Western

Europe into the empire. Napoleon would have massive success until an unsuccessful

blockade of Britain and a disastrous attempt to invade Russia with 250,000 men.

xiii. Napoleon was deposed and exiled1814, only to be welcomed back into power in 1815 and

keep power for a mere hundred days. He was defeated again by the British, exiled farther

away and he died in 1821.

d. Russian Revolution (1905-1918)

i. Russians expressed displeasure over the policies of Tsar Nicholas II, specifically the new

social problems of industrial work and military failure against the Japanese in 1904.

ii. At a peacefully organized protest in 1905, Nicholas dispatched soldiers who fired on the

protesters, killing and wounding hundreds. This was known as Bloody Sunday and it killed

trust between the tsar and the people.

iii. In the backlash of Bloody Sunday, Nicholas did appoint a grouped called the Duma

(legislative body) to approve laws.

iv. These reforms did not solve the problems, and in the aftermath of World War I in 1917,

discontented Russians forced the tsar to abdicate. In the scramble for power after this,

Vladimir Lenin and a group called the Bolsheviks took power in November 1917 and made

Russia into a communist country. Lenin did this with the aid of two men – Leon Trotsky

and a young Joseph Stalin.

v. After fighting off dissenters in a civil war for three years (Reds v. Whites), Lenin united

Russia into the USSR in 1922. After his death in 1924, a power struggle between Trotsky

and Stalin emerged, with Stalin taking power in 1929 and murdering Trotsky 11 years

later.

e. Haitian Revolution (1791-1820’s)

i. Slaves on the island of Haiti rise up against their captors and led by Toussaint L’Ouverture

they fought a 7-year war against France, winning their independence in 1798.

ii. They continued to fight France until 1804, and after power struggles between individuals,

they became a republic in 1820.

f. Mexican Revolution

i. Inspired by the slaves in Haiti, Mexico rose up behind Father Miguel Hidalgo who called for

freedom during a sermon on September 15, 1810. Hidalgo led early protests in Mexico

City until he was captured and executed.

ii. Father Jose Morelos picked up the banner for rebellion until he was killed as well in 1815.

iii. In 1821, a creole in Mexico named Agustin de Iturbide joined with the natives and overthrew

the Spanish viceroy in command. Iturbide became an emperor himself until he was

overthrown and Mexico became a republic.

IV. Geography and Industrialism

a. How have physical geography and natural resources influenced industrialism and changes in the

environment?

i. Physical Geography/Natural Resources drives Industrialism through access to industrial

needs (land, labor, capital)

ii. Industrialism drives changes in the environment because of factory machines, use of coal to

heat steam engines, etc.

V. Revolutions of Innovation

a. Industrial Revolution

i. Shift from hand-made products to machine-made products in various trades (textile

production, etc.)

ii. Driven by innovations and inventions that drive progress

iii. Main invention of the early Industrial Revolution: steam engine (perfected by James Watt),

which allowed for widespread machine production of goods.

iv. Begins in Great Britain because of an abundance of natural resources, capital and labor

(people to work).

v. The later periods of the Industrial Revolution see the invention of steel, electricity and

automobiles.

b. Urbanization

i. As the Industrial Revolution grows, businesses build factories near sources of water (rivers),

and homes/businesses spring up around them, leading to major urban cities.

ii. Urbanization – city building and the movement of people to cities. Large numbers of people

move to cities to work in factories, where the labor is easy to learn and pays.

iii. Early cities are thrown together with no concern for sanitation and crime is a major problem.

c. Labor Organizations

i. Workers in early factories are treated horribly, with long hours, little pay and little rights.

Children are sent to work in factories repairing machines. People are often injured and

killed working on machines.

ii. Workers begin to band together to protest unfair treatment by factory owners in secret labor

unions. One of the first secret unions to clash with bosses was the Luddites.

iii. Over time they earned rights and protections, but it was slow going with little progress.

d. Socialism and Communism

i. During this period, a division evolves between laissez-faire thinkers (who think government

should allow businesses to operate independently) and socialist thinkers (who think that

industrial capitalism creates a massive gap between the rich and the oppressed poor).

ii. Socialism emerges, a system where the people as a whole own and operate means of

production and divide up earnings among everyone.

iii. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels push the idea farther in the *Communist Manifesto*, where

they argue that socialism would go even farther, and the oppressed poor (proletariat)

havenots would overthrow the rich (bourgeoisie) haves and create a classless society with

everyone being a community. His ideas (Marxism) give way to communism