Age of Reformation

AP European History · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
Reformation	The **Reformation** split the Christian church in western Europe.
wars of religion	The **wars of religion** set Catholics against Protestants.
religious pluralism /rɪ'lɪdʒəs 'plʊərəlɪzəm/	**Religious pluralism** means several religions exist side by side.
capitalism /'kæpɪtəlɪzəm/	**Capitalism** is an economy based on private ownership and profit.
sovereignty /'sɒvərɪnti/	The **sovereignty** of a state is its right to rule itself.
centralisation /ˌsentrəlaɪ'zeɪʃn/	**Centralisation** put power in the hands of the king.
Martin Luther /'mɑːtɪn 'luːðə/	**Martin Luther** posted 95 complaints against the Church in 1517. 1517 95
John Calvin /dʒɒn 'kælvɪn/	**John Calvin** led the Protestant church in Geneva.
doctrine /'dɒktrɪn/	A **doctrine** is a belief taught by a church.
salvation	Christians believed **salvation** saves the soul after death.
Protestant	Lutherans and Calvinists are **Protestant** groups.
justification by faith alone	Luther taught **justification by faith alone**: belief, not good works, saves you.

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indulgence	The Church sold an **indulgence** to reduce punishment for sins.
Diet of Worms	At the **Diet of Worms**, Luther refused to take back his ideas.
German Peasants' War	The **German Peasants' War** was a large revolt in 1525. 1525
predestination	Calvin taught **predestination**: God has already chosen who is saved.
Huguenots	The **Huguenots** were French Protestants.
printing press /'prɪntɪŋ pres/	The **printing press** made books cheaper and faster to produce.
Anabaptist	An **Anabaptist** believed only adults should be baptised.
secular	**Secular** ideas focus on this world, not on religion.
Peace of Augsburg	The **Peace of Augsburg** let each German prince choose his region's religion.
Habsburg	The **Habsburg** family ruled Spain and Austria.
Ottoman Empire	The **Ottoman Empire** reached as far as Vienna.
Edict of Nantes /'iːdɪkt ɒv nænts/	The **Edict of Nantes** gave French Protestants some freedom.
Act of Supremacy	The **Act of Supremacy** made Henry VIII head of the English church.

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St Bartholomew's Day Massacre	Thousands of Huguenots were killed in the **St Bartholomew's Day Massacre**.
nobility	The **nobility** owned most of the land.
Peace of Westphalia (1648) /piːs ɒv west'feɪlɪə/	The **Peace of Westphalia (1648)** ended the Thirty Years' War. (1648)
universal Christendom /ˌjuːnɪ'vɜːsl 'krɪsəndəm/	The idea of **universal Christendom**, one church for all, came to an end.
Holy Roman Empire	The **Holy Roman Empire** was a group of many small German states.
Catholic Reformation /'kæθlɪk rɪfɔː'meɪʃn/	The **Catholic Reformation** tried to reform the Church from within.
Jesuit Order /'dʒezjuːɪt 'ɔːdə/	The **Jesuit Order** set up schools and sent out missionaries.
Council of Trent /'kaʊnsl ɒv trent/	The **Council of Trent** set out Catholic beliefs clearly.
missionary	A **missionary** travels to spread a religion.
Inquisition	The **Inquisition** questioned and punished people accused of heresy.
hierarchy /'haɪərɑːki/	Society had a strict **hierarchy**, with nobles at the top.
separate but complementary tasks /'seprət bʌt ˌkɒmplɪ'mentəri tæsks/	Men and women were given **separate but complementary tasks** at home and work.

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Social dislocation /'səʊʃl dɪsləʊ'keɪʃn/	**Social dislocation** happened as people lost land and moved to towns.
rituals of public humiliation /'rɪtʃuːəlz ɒv 'pʌblɪk ˌhjuːmɪlɪ'eɪʃn/	Villages used **rituals of public humiliation** to shame wrongdoers.
witchcraft	Thousands of women were accused of **witchcraft**.
Mannerist /'mænərɪst/	**Mannerist** painters made bodies long and twisted.
Baroque /bə'rəʊk/	**Baroque** art is full of movement, light and drama.
distortion /dɪ'stɔːʃn/	Mannerist art used **distortion** to make figures look strange.
drama	Baroque painters loved **drama**: strong light and big emotions.
illusion /ɪ'luːʒn/	The ceiling painting creates the **illusion** of an open sky.
commissioned	The king **commissioned** a huge painting for his palace.
patron	A **patron** pays an artist to make work.
toleration	**Toleration** means allowing people to practise other religions.