The Ultimate AP® European History Unit 2 Cheat Sheet

2.1–2.2 Luther & the Protestant Reformation

Causes & Context

Church abuses: simony, pluralism, absentee bishops, poorly educated clergy & worldly Renaissance popes.
Indulgences: Tetzel sells them to fund St. Peter's Basilica in Rome & repay Archbishop Albrecht's debts.
Earlier critics: Wycliffe (England) & Hus (Bohemia, burned 1415) attacked church wealth & papal power.
Enablers: printing press, Christian humanism (Erasmus), German resentment of money flowing to Rome.

Luther's Break

95 Theses (1517, Wittenberg): Luther attacks indulgences; printed copies spread across Germany in weeks.
Leipzig Debate (1519): vs. Johann Eck, Luther says popes & church councils can err → open break w/ Rome.
1520 pamphlets: *Address to the Christian Nobility*, *Babylonian Captivity*, *Freedom of a Christian*.
Diet of Worms (1521): refuses to recant before Charles V; declared an outlaw by the Edict of Worms.
Wartburg Castle: Frederick the Wise of Saxony protects him; he translates the New Testament into German.

Core Lutheran Beliefs

Issue	Luther	Catholic Church
Salvation	Faith alone	Faith + good works
Authority	Scripture alone	Scripture + tradition
Sacraments	2 (baptism, Eucharist)	7 sacraments
Clergy	Priesthood of all	Priests mediate

Married clergy: Luther marries ex-nun Katharina von Bora (1525); monasteries & convents closed in Lutheran lands.

⚠ Luther wanted to REFORM the Church, not split it. The break came after Rome rejected his ideas (1519–21).

✓ Printing press + princes' protection explain why Luther survived when Hus (1415) was burned at the stake.

2.2 Reformation Politics in the Holy Roman Empire

Why Princes Backed Luther

Political motives: princes gain power over local churches, seize church lands & stop sending taxes to Rome.
Religious motives: many princes & city councils sincerely accept Lutheran ideas & reform their churches.
Weak emperor: HRE is ~300 semi-independent states; the emperor can't force religious unity on them.

Charles V's Problems

Charles V (r. 1519–56): Habsburg ruling Spain, the HRE, the Netherlands & Italy; a devout Catholic.
Distractions: Habsburg-Valois Wars w/ France (Francis I) & Ottoman threat (Siege of Vienna, 1529).

Peasants & Radicals

Peasants' War (1524–25): peasants cite Luther's "Christian freedom" in **Twelve Articles** demanding relief.
Luther's response: *Against the Murderous, Thieving Hordes* urges princes to crush the revolt (~100,000 die).
Effect: Lutheranism ties itself to princes & order; many peasants turn to radical sects or back to Catholicism.

Road to Compromise

Year	Event	Outcome
1530	Augsburg Confession	Lutheran creed (Melanchthon)
1531	Schmalkaldic League	Lutheran princes ally
1546–47	Schmalkaldic War	Charles wins, can't undo
1555	Peace of Augsburg	Cuius regio, eius religio

Peace of Augsburg: each prince picks Lutheran or Catholic for his land; Calvinism left out → future conflict.

⚠ Augsburg = toleration of STATES, not individuals. Subjects had to follow the prince's faith or move away.

✓ Charles V abdicates (1556), splitting lands: Spain to Philip II, Austria & HRE title to brother Ferdinand I.

2.3 Calvin & the Radical Reformation

Zwingli in Zurich

Zwingli: Swiss reformer; strips churches of images & music; city council governs the reformed church.
Marburg Colloquy (1529): Luther & Zwingli split over the Eucharist (Zwingli: purely symbolic) → no alliance.

Calvinism

John Calvin: French reformer; *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (1536) systematizes Protestant belief.
Predestination: God has already chosen the **elect** for salvation; good conduct is a sign of being chosen.
Geneva: model Protestant city; **Consistory** of ministers & elders polices morals (no dancing, gambling).
Servetus (1553): burned in Geneva for denying the Trinity → shows Protestants also punished heresy.
Spread: Calvinism is the most international Protestant faith, spread by refugees trained in Geneva.

Region	Calvinist group	Leader / note
France	Huguenots	Many nobles
Scotland	Presbyterians	John Knox
Netherlands	Dutch Reformed	Revolt vs. Spain
England	Puritans	Purify Anglicanism

Anabaptists

Beliefs: adult baptism only, separation of church & state, pacifism, refusal to swear oaths or hold office.
Münster (1534–35): radicals seize the city & allow polygamy; Catholic & Lutheran armies crush them.
Persecution: killed by Catholics & Protestants alike; survivors become **Mennonites** (Menno Simons).

⚠ Calvinists resisted rulers (Huguenots, Dutch); Lutherans obeyed princes. Key contrast for comparison LEQs.

✓ Anabaptists = most radical: separation of church & state. Shows Reformation's range beyond Luther & Calvin.

2.3 The English Reformation

Henry VIII's Break

Motive: Henry VIII wants a male heir & an annulment from Catherine of Aragon (only daughter Mary survives).
Pope refuses: Clement VII is under the control of Charles V, Catherine's nephew, after the Sack of Rome (1527).
Act of Supremacy (1534): king becomes head of the Church of England; Cranmer grants the annulment.
Dissolution of monasteries (1536–41): Henry seizes church lands & sells them to gentry → loyal supporters.
Doctrine: Henry stays mostly Catholic in belief (Six Articles, 1539); the break is political, not theological.
Thomas More: refuses to accept Henry as head of the church & is executed (1535) as a Catholic martyr.

Tudor Swings

Ruler	Reign	Religion
Henry VIII	1509–47	Anglican, Catholic-ish
Edward VI	1547–53	Protestant
Mary I	1553–58	Catholic restored
Elizabeth I	1558–1603	Moderate Anglican

Edward VI: Cranmer's *Book of Common Prayer* (1549) puts English-language Protestant services in place.
Mary I: restores Catholicism, marries Philip II of Spain, burns ~280 Protestants at the stake → "Bloody Mary."

Elizabethan Settlement

Via media: middle way; Protestant doctrine (39 Articles) w/ Catholic-style bishops, robes & ritual.
Acts of 1559: new Act of Supremacy & Act of Uniformity require public conformity to the Anglican church.
Threats: Catholic plots (Mary, Queen of Scots, executed 1587) & the Spanish Armada (defeated 1588).

⚠ England's Reformation began from the TOP for political reasons (heir, power, land), not a popular movement.

✓ Elizabeth's settlement = religion serving state stability. Compare w/ Henry IV's Edict of Nantes in France.

2.4 Wars of Religion

France: Huguenots vs. Catholics

French Wars of Religion (1562–98): Huguenot nobles (Bourbons) vs. Catholic Guise family for the crown.
St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre (1572): thousands of Huguenots killed in Paris & beyond; Catherine de' Medici.
Henry IV (Navarre): Huguenot heir converts to Catholicism, "Paris is well worth a Mass," & ends the war.
Edict of Nantes (1598): Huguenots get worship rights in certain towns & fortified cities; Catholic state stays.
Politiques: leaders like Henry IV put political peace & a strong state above religious uniformity.

Spain & the Dutch Revolt

Philip II (r. 1556–98): defender of Catholicism; beats Ottomans at **Lepanto** (1571); Armada fails (1588).
Dutch Revolt (from 1566): Calvinist & noble anger at taxes & Inquisition; William of Orange leads the revolt.
Split: north (Union of Utrecht, 1579) becomes the Protestant Dutch Republic; south stays Spanish & Catholic.

Thirty Years' War (1618–48)

Phase	Key side	Turning point
Bohemian	Czech Protestants	Defenestration, 1618
Danish	Christian IV	Habsburgs win
Swedish	Gustavus Adolphus	Protestants revive
French	Richelieu	Catholic France vs. HRE

Devastation: armies, famine & plague kill up to 1/3 of the German population; trade & farms ruined.
Peace of Westphalia (1648): Calvinism recognized; German states gain sovereignty; HRE weakened for good.
Winners: France & Sweden gain land; Dutch Republic & Swiss Confederation independence formally recognized.

⚠ Westphalia marks a shift: wars now fought for STATE interests (balance of power), not religion. Key turning point.

✓ France (Catholic) siding w/ Protestant Sweden is the classic evidence that politics outweighed religion.

2.5 The Catholic Reformation

Council of Trent (1545–63)

Trent did this	Examples
Reaffirmed doctrine	Faith + works, 7 sacraments
Kept authority	Scripture + tradition, Vulgate
Fixed abuses	Ended indulgence sellers
Trained clergy	Seminaries in each diocese

Transubstantiation: Trent affirms bread & wine truly become Christ's body & blood in the Mass (vs. Protestants).
Discipline: bishops must live in their dioceses; no more pluralism; Latin Mass kept as the standard.
Result: clear line between Catholic & Protestant belief; no compromise; a renewed & stricter Church.

New Orders & Leaders

Jesuits (Society of Jesus): founded by **Ignatius of Loyola** (1534), approved by Pope Paul III (1540).
Jesuit mission: obedience to the pope, schools for elites, win back Poland & S. Germany, missions abroad.
Francis Xavier: Jesuit missionary to India & Japan; Jesuits also work in China, Brazil & New France.
Ursulines (1535): order of women founded by Angela Merici to educate girls in the Catholic faith at home.
Teresa of Ávila: Spanish mystic who reforms the Carmelites; stresses prayer & personal devotion to God.

Tools of Enforcement

Roman Inquisition (1542): church court to root out heresy in Italy; it later tries Galileo for his views (1633).
Index of Prohibited Books (1559): bans heretical works, including Protestant writings & some of Erasmus.
Reform popes: Paul III calls Trent & backs Jesuits; later popes live less lavish lives than Renaissance popes.

⚠ Two sides: internal REFORM (seminaries, discipline) + COUNTER-attack (Jesuits, Index, Inquisition).

✓ Trent ended the sale of indulgences but not indulgences. Precision like this earns DBQ & LEQ credit.

2.6–2.7 Society, Politics & Art

Society & Family

Marriage: Protestants praise marriage & household over celibacy; wives subordinate but valued as partners.
Women: closing of convents removes a path for women; literacy grows so all can read the Bible at home.
Education: Protestant & Jesuit schools spread literacy; catechisms teach doctrine to ordinary believers.
Witch hunts (peak c. 1580–1650): tens of thousands executed, ~75–80% women; worst in fragmented HRE.
Price Revolution: American silver & population growth → inflation; landlords & merchants gain, poor lose.

Politics & State Power

Religion & state: rulers now decide official faith, so religious dissent is treated as political rebellion.
Nobles: use religion to resist kings (Huguenot nobles, Dutch nobles, German princes vs. the emperor).
Bodin: *Six Books of the Commonwealth* (1576) argues for undivided sovereignty to end civil war.

Art: Mannerism & Baroque

Style	Traits	Artists
Mannerism	Distorted, tense	El Greco, Parmigianino
Catholic Baroque	Drama, emotion, grandeur	Bernini, Caravaggio, Rubens
Dutch / Protestant	Everyday life, restraint	Rembrandt, Vermeer

Baroque purpose: Catholic Church uses awe & emotion to inspire faith (Bernini's *Ecstasy of St. Teresa*).
Protestant art: iconoclasm strips images from churches; music (Lutheran hymns) & prints spread faith instead.

⚠ Baroque art = Catholic Reformation propaganda: drama & emotion pulled viewers back to the Church.

✓ Witch hunts in war-torn, divided areas show how religious conflict created social fear & violence.

2.8 Causation & Exam Strategy

Causes of the Reformation

Type	Cause
Religious	Abuses, indulgences, desire for salvation
Political	Princes want power & church lands
Economic	Resent taxes sent to Rome
Intellectual	Humanism, printing press

Short-term trigger: indulgence sale of 1517; **long-term**: centuries of church corruption & criticism.

Effects of the Reformation

Religious: end of Western Christian unity; new churches; Catholic renewal at Trent; persecution on all sides.
Political: stronger states control churches; Westphalia (1648) makes state interest the basis of diplomacy.
Social: literacy & schooling rise; family & marriage praised; women lose convents; witch hunts spread.
Cultural: vernacular Bibles, Baroque art & Protestant music; later religious toleration debates grow.

Exam Skills

LEQ: "Evaluate the extent" prompts want a ranked claim: religion vs. politics as the main cause or effect.
DBQ sourcing: Luther, popes & princes all have clear purposes; explain how POV shapes each document.
SAQ: name the specific event & date (Peace of Augsburg, 1555), then explain its significance in 1–2 lines.
Continuity & change: rulers still control religion after Westphalia, but now within sovereign states.
Compare: Lutheran vs. Calvinist, Augsburg vs. Westphalia, Henry VIII vs. Elizabeth I are common pairs.

⚠ Avoid "the Reformation was only about religion." Top answers weigh religious, political & economic causes.

✓ Strong thesis: "Although religious, the Reformation succeeded mainly because princes gained power from it."