RS Notes: Impact of the Enlightenment

**The Arts**

* Because of the palace at Versailles, many other rulers around Europe built grandiose palaces.
  + Modeled after Italian baroque style
    - This created a new type of architecture- ***rococo***
      * It was highly secular, valuing the pursuit of pleasure, happiness, and love.
    - Enchantment and enthusiasm are also a part of rococo.
      * Giovanni Battista Tiepolo and Antoine Watteau are famous painters.
  + Johann Sebastian Bach- *Mass in B Minor*
  + George Frederick Handel- ***Messiah***
  + Franz Joseph Haydn- *The Creation*
  + Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
    - Mozart was a child prodigy, known for symphonies, concerti, and opera
* Literature
  + Henry Fielding wrote novels about people with no morals surviving by their wits, such as *The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling*.
    - His characters reflect real types in eighteenth-century England.

**Enlightened Absolutism**

* ***Philosophes*** believed in natural rights
  + Religious worship Assembly
  + Speech Property
  + Press Pursuit of Happiness
* Enlightened rulers were to protect these rights.
  + nurture the arts, sciences, and education, and to enforce the laws fairly over all subjects.
* ***Enlightened absolutism- monarchs of this time tried to govern by Enlightenment principles while retaining royal power***
* Frederick William I and Frederick II -Prussia
  + FW I- built an efficient bureaucracy and doubled his army
    - Valued honor, loyalty, obedience, and sacrifice.
    - Nobles were the officers of the army
  + ***Frederick II*** abolished torture except in treason and murder cases, and granted limited freedom of speech, limited freedom of the press, and greater religious toleration.
    - As a boy, mischievous Frederick II once escaped with a friend from his father. The king had them captured and made his son watch his friend’s beheading.
* Austria-
  + Maria Theresa centralized the Austrian Empire and strengthened the state’s power.
  + Joseph II- abolished serfdom and the death penalty
    - recognized equality before the law and enacted religious reforms, including toleration.
    - Nobles were alienated because of the serfs’ being freed.
    - Serfs were confused about the sudden changes.
* Russia-
  + ***Catherine the Great*** took power after several weak rulers (after Peter the Great’s death)
    - She invited Diderot to come speak to her “man to man.”
    - She did not adopt Enlightenment reforms because she needed the support of the Russian nobility, so **she favored them**.
  + Conditions for peasants worsened
    - She responded strongly to a revolt
    - Serfdom was expanded to newer parts of the empire
  + She expanded Russia’s territory
    - Controlled all the way into Poland

**War of Austrian Succession**

* ***Maria Theresa*** came to the throne in 1740
  + The Prussian king took advantage of having a woman on the throne and invaded Austrian Silesia.
  + France allied with Prussia, and Britain allied with Austria.
* The war was fought in Europe, the Far East, and North America.
  + Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle- occupied territories but Silesia were returned to their original owners.

**7 Years War**

* Two rivalries took center stage:
  + France vs. Britain (colonial empires)
  + Austria vs. Prussia (Silesia)
    - France, Austria, and Russia (saw Prussia as a threat)
      * ***Diplomatic Revolution***
    - Britain and Prussia
* The superb Prussian army was able to defeat the French, Austrians, and Russians for some time.
* Prussian forces were being worn down, however, and Frederick the Great faced disaster
  + But, the czar Peter III withdrew his troops from the war.
* ***Treaty of Paris- all occupied territories were returned and Austria officially recognized Prussia’s permanent control of Silesia***.
* The greatest conflicts took place in North America
  + The British and French fought in the waterways of the Gulf of St. Lawrence in Canada and in the Ohio River valley.
  + Native Americans allied with the French because the French were viewed as traders, not settlers.
  + At first the French were winning, but then William Pitt the Elder focused the British navy against the French colonial forces.
    - It defeated the smaller, weaker French navy
  + ***1763 Treaty of Paris transferred Canada and all lands east of the Mississippi to Britain***
    - ***Spain, an ally of France, transferred Florida to British control, and France gave Spain its Louisiana territory***

**Trivia Answer**: French & Indian War