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