

The Counter-Reformation (The Catholic Reformation)

I. The Protestant Reformation

A. During the Protestant Reformation, religious reformers called

_____ broke from the Catholic Church & started new
_____ denominations

1. _____ began the Reformation & believed in

2. John Calvin believed in _____ & a _____
code of living

3. _____, not the _____, was the head of the Anglican Church

B. In the 1500s, the new protestant faiths spread, especially into

_____ in areas away from the _____
of the Catholic Church

C. But, _____ Europeans, especially in Spain, France, Portugal, & Italy

_____ the Catholic Church which remained the
_____ religion in Europe but it had lost much of its power & influence

II. The Counter Reformation

A. The _____ of the Catholic Church to the Protestant Reformation became known as the

_____ (or the _____ Reformation)

B. One of the first _____ in the Catholic Church was

_____ who formed the Society of Jesus in 1540;

Members of the Society of Jesus were called _____ & focused on 3 goals:

1. Jesuits formed _____ to better educate Catholic priests

2. Jesuits tried to _____ the _____ of Protestantism

3. Jesuits sent _____ around the world to _____
non-Christians to Catholicism

C. In 1545, Pope Paul III created a _____ of Catholic leaders to

_____ church practices, known as the

1. Over the next 18 years, the Council of Trent made a series of _____

a. The Catholic Church stopped _____ false _____

b. New _____ were created to educate priests

2. The Council of Trent also _____ several core Catholic
beliefs & practices

a. The _____ interpretation of the Bible is _____ & all others
who interpret the Bible are _____ (non-believers)

- b. Salvation is gained through _____ in God &

- c. All _____ Holy _____ are legitimate means to
gain God's grace
3. To enforce these beliefs, the Church used the
_____ to accuse, hold trials, &
_____ heretics
4. The Church banned & _____ all offensive books, including Protestant

III. Impact of the Protestant Reformation

A. The Protestant Reformation left Europe

- B. Numerous religious _____ were fought between Catholics & Protestants
- C. The weakened authority of the _____ helped _____ gain power
& form nations
- D. _____ converted non-Christians throughout the

- E. The Reformation encouraged _____ & the
_____ of long-held beliefs

The Counter Reformation Problem Solving Activity

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: After 1517 when Martin Luther posted his famous 95 Theses, new Protestant religions—Lutherans, Anglicans, Calvinists—were popping up all over in Germany, Switzerland, England, Scotland, Scandinavia, the Netherlands. While these Protestants won many followers, millions of Catholics held fast to their traditional religious beliefs and the Roman Catholic Church remained the largest and strongest religious group in Western Europe. Nonetheless, many Catholic leaders were concerned as they witnessed the Catholic Church begin to lose some of its power and influence over the people of Western Europe. In 1545, Catholic bishops and cardinals met in the northern Italian town of Trent to discuss how they would respond to these changes.

1. What was the biggest problem that Catholic leaders had to solve at the Council of Trent?

2. Complete the following assignments IN ORDER.

- (A) Brainstorm as many possible solutions to this problem in the “Possible Alternative” category.
- (B) After you have listed 5 possible alternatives to solving the problem, list 1 positive consequence and 1 negative consequence for each alternative
- (C) After you have listed 5 possible alternatives and come up with consequences, rank order your alternatives (1 is the best thing you would do)

| POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE | WHAT WOULD BE A GOOD RESULT IF THIS DECISION WERE MADE? | WHAT WOULD BE A BAD RESULT IF THIS DECISION WERE MADE? | RANK ORDER |
|----------------------|--|---|------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

3. Based on your options, what would you decided to do to fix the Church’s problems if you were a Catholic leader at the Council of Trent? Why?