

Name _____

Test: Major Dates in Western History

(Fill in the blanks with the century – expressed as “hundreds” – in which the event took place)

- _____ Muslim Arabs drive Crusaders out of the Middle East at the end of the century but allow new commercial + intellectual relations to continue
- _____ Cromwell establishes a short-lived Puritan Commonwealth in England
- _____ Theodosius makes Christianity the only authorized religion for Rome
- _____ Beginning of Age of Exploration – in the quest of a direct route to the wealth of East Asia
- _____ The Age of northern (Gothic) cathedrals and cathedral schools (future universities)
- _____ French *philosophes* (Voltaire, Diderot, Condorcet, etc.) call for a rule in France of Human Reason – or Human Instinct, untainted by traditional social conventions (Rousseau)
- _____ Rome burns, destroying 2/3s of the city; Christians are blamed and persecuted
- _____ Charlemagne crowned Emperor by Pope in Rome (hope for revived Rome)
- _____ The publication of Darwin’s *Origin of Species* and *Descent of Man* stirs up the idea of the necessity of the strong to rule over the weak – in the West and in the world
- _____ Visigoth chief Alaric conquers the city of Rome
- _____ France comes under “Absolutist” King Louis XIV, bringing French culture to a position of dominance in Europe
- _____ Very Catholic Hapsburg Spain (Charles V and Philip I) rules supreme in Europe based on plundered wealth from Mexico + Peru
- _____ Luther and Calvin develop Protestantism as a separate Christian branch
- _____ Roman Emperor Constantine makes Christianity legal, ending persecution of Christians
- _____ Karl Marx demonstrates “scientifically” that a workers’ revolution would inevitably bring about a state-less, property-less society – *Communist Manifesto* and *Capital*
- _____ The settling of English America: Puritans to New England, aristocratic “wannabes” to Virginia, other religious refugees to the Middle Colonies
- _____ England (Henry VIII and Elizabeth I) and France (Francis I) on the rise politically
- _____ Muslim Arabs are stopped by Frankish general Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours
- _____ Octavian Augustus (*not* Julius!) Caesar builds up Imperial Rome
- _____ Roman Emperor Justinian attempts to rebuild Roman (Byzantine) civilization in the East
- _____ Democratic impulses collapse France into a chaotic, bloody “Revolution”

_____ Alexander the Great conquers from the Nile to the Indus and Hellenistic culture is thus born

_____ England torn by Civil War between Royalists and Puritans

_____ Muhammad's Arabs conquer huge portions of Eastern (Byzantine) Rome (+ Persia)

_____ English Absolutist "wannabe" George III drives English colonies to rebellion

_____ Rome is supreme in the Mediterranean: Carthage destroyed / Greece defeated

_____ The division of Charlemagne's lands among his warring grandsons

_____ Saxon England conquered by French Normans at Hastings

_____ Victoria becomes queen – and symbol of mighty Victorian England

_____ Diocletian tries to restore Roman discipline – and the purity of "original" Roman society

_____ Cavour, Mazzini and Garibaldi birth the nation-state of Italy

_____ The Thirty Years War between Protestants + Catholics exhausts Europe spiritually

_____ The nation-state of Germany is founded by Bismarck

_____ Plato and Aristotle

_____ Fine arts and literature begin to stir (Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Chaucer)

_____ Rise of Greek philosophy in Ionia + Southern Italy / Jewish culture in the East

_____ Socrates

_____ The Absolutist hold of the French monarchy slips as royal wealth dries up

_____ Hellenistic culture cynical, passive – and scientific

_____ Spain lost to Islam

_____ The height of the Renaissance

_____ Black Death and Pope's "Babylonian Captivity" undermining Christianity's moral/political hold – and help end the "Middle Ages"

_____ Medieval scholarship develops under French monks Abelard, Bernard, and Lombard

_____ Royal families of Europe (Russia, Prussia, Austria, England) mimic French royalty

_____ Golden Age of Greece / the "Age of Pericles" in Athens / Height of Hellenic (Greek) culture

_____ The height of the Viking Age

_____ The Age of Western imperial domination in the world