1. What was Europe like politically and religiously on the eve of the Thirty Years’ War?

2. Why did the war begin in Bohemia? What was the Defenestration of Prague?

3. How did the Protestant Union and Catholic League shape the early phase of the Thirty Years’ War?

4. Why did Spain renew its war against The Netherlands?

5. Who did the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II hire to build an imperial army? Why did Ferdinand want a powerful army?

6. How did the individual states within the Holy Roman Empire react to Ferdinand II’s centralizing policies made possible by military victories?

7. Who was Gustavus Adolphus? What were his motives for joining the Thirty Years’ War?

8. What was France’s interest in joining the Thirty Years’ War?
9. What was the nature of the religious, territorial and constitutional settlement of the Peace of Westphalia?

10. What were the general results of the Thirty Years’ War?

11. What was the status of France in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

12. What was the status of Austria in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

13. What was the status of The Netherlands in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

14. What was the status of Brandenburg-Prussia in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

15. What was the status of Sweden in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

16. What was the status of Poland in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

17. What was the status of England in the aftermath of the Thirty Years’ War?

---Palmer Chapter 16 • pp. 135-43---

Directions: Using sentences or detailed bulleted notes, identify & explain the evidence Palmer uses to support the thesis listed above.

---AP European History • The Thirty Years’ War • J.F. Walters, G.W. Whitton & M.A. Prokosch---
Evaluate the relative importance of the religious rivalries and dynastic ambitions that shaped the course of the Thirty Years’ War.

On the Eve of War: Europe about 1560
On the Eve of War: Holy Roman Empire

- federated state loosely ruled by the Austrian Habsburgs (Holy Roman Emperors)
- most important cities: Prague & Vienna
- politically decentralized: German states/princes maintained local, feudal rights and exercised some autonomy
- religiously divided: Catholic states, Lutheran states, and growing Calvinist populations
- Holy Roman Emperors
  ✓ sought greater centralization around their dynasty and capital city (therefore, weakening the power of the local states/princes)
  ✓ desired a permanent standing army
  ✓ religion: Habsburgs were Catholic

Matthias (1612-19)
Holy Roman Emperor

On the Eve of the War: the Protestant Union

- Protestant Union: alliance of 12 Lutheran states in the Holy Roman Empire and three major states outside the Holy Roman Empire
  ✓ goal: Protect the interests and liberties of Protestants in Europe
  ✓ formed in 1608
  ✓ led by Frederick of the Palatinate, the Holy Roman Empire’s most powerful Protestant leader (had converted to Calvinism)
  ✓ agenda of the Protestant Union was complicated because many of the states had significant Calvinist populations
  ✓ Lutheran Sweden, Lutheran Denmark and Catholic France were also allied with the Protestant Union
- Protestant Union was challenged by the formation of the Catholic League

Frederick V (of the Palatinate)
On the Eve of the War: the Catholic League

- Catholic League: alliance of Catholic states in the Holy Roman Empire
  - goal: Protect Catholic interests in the Holy Roman Empire and in Europe
  - formed in 1609, to counteract the Protestant Union
  - led by Maximilien, Duke of Bavaria, one of the Holy Roman Empire’s most powerful princes
- Catholic League would play an important role in the Thirty Years’ War

Maximilien of Bavaria

On the Eve of War: Spain

- ruled by the Spanish Habsburgs
- capital city: Madrid (royal palace was El Escorial, outside of Madrid)
- religion: fiercely Catholic country that sought a Universal Catholic Church for Europe
- Europe’s most powerful country had been weakened by the failure of the Spanish Armada to defeat England (1588) and the secession of The Netherlands at the end of the 16th century
- economy
  - huge colonial empire rich in gold, silver & cash crops
  - suffered from inflation (Price Revolution) in the 16th century
  - economy weakened by loss of talented artisans and craftsman (many of whom were Moriscos and Marranos that had been driven out of Spain by Philip II & Philip III)

Philip III (1598-1621)
On the Eve of War: United Provinces of the Netherlands

- former territory of the Spanish Empire that had declared its independence from Spain in 1581
  - struggle for independence from Spain had begun as a revolt against Spain’s Philip II in 1568
  - Dutch led by William the Silent (House of Orange) and his descendants (Dutch leaders referred to as "Stadtholder")
  - Spain refused to recognize The Netherlands as an independent country, although a truce was called in the fighting in 1609
  - Thirty Years’ War: Dutch were led by Stadtholder Frederick Henry, Prince of Orange
- religion
  - Protestant country, many of whom were Calvinists
  - Dutch sought religious toleration
- economy: prelude to the Dutch Golden Age
  - rich due to trading, banking and shipbuilding
  - Amsterdam: one of Europe’s most important commercial cities
  - eventually The Netherlands would become a colonial power

On the Eve of War: France

- ruled by the Bourbon dynasty from Paris
  - Henry IV (1589-1610): first Bourbon king
  - Louis XIII (1610-43): government dominated by Cardinal Richelieu, who served as Louis’ Chief Minister
- religion
  - Catholic: both the French crown and approximately 90% of the population
  - Huguenots (French Calvinists): about 10% of the population with limited rights of freedom of conscience
- foreign policy
  - sought to weaken the Spanish & Austrian Habsburgs because France was surrounded by Habsburgs in the Holy Roman Empire & Spain (Habsburg encirclement)
  - wanted to keep the Holy Roman Empire weak and disunited
  - Cardinal Richelieu: a politique who was willing to aid Protestant states in his effort to weaken the Holy Roman Empire & Spain
On the Eve of War: Republic of Poland

- **geography**
  - Poland in the early 17th century was physically the largest in the country’s history
  - fertile soil that was ideal for agriculture
  - land was overwhelmingly flat, making it easy to expand yet difficult to defend

- **government**
  - elected monarchy: weak and ineffective
  - nobility (szlachta): compared to the rest of Europe, Poland had a disproportionately high percentage of nobles (c. 8%); retained significant feudal rights and privileges (paid no taxes)
  - inability of the Polish government to develop either an absolute monarchy or a constitutional monarchy would eventually weaken the country

- **economy**
  - agriculture: Poland was one of Europe's great exporters of grains (wheat, barley, etc.) to the Baltic region and beyond
  - Sweden, Spain and the Holy Roman Empire (and, later, Russia) all wanted to gain control of the lucrative grain trade

On the Eve of War: Sweden

- **government**
  - ruled by the Vasa dynasty: most notable king was Gustavus Adolphus (1611-32)
  - elected monarchy

- **economy**
  - had grown to be an economic power as a result of being a key member of the Hanseatic League (medieval/early modern European economic alliance in the Baltic region)
  - sought to control more of the Baltic economy, including Poland’s lucrative grain trade

- **religion**
  - had turned Protestant (Lutheran) during the 16th-century Reformation
  - Gustavus Adolphus was a devout Lutheran
    - wanted to protect Protestants in northern Europe
    - made his troops sing Lutheran hymns while they marched
On the Eve of War: Denmark-Norway

- government
  - monarchy led by the Oldenburg dynasty
  - Denmark-Norway were united in a personal union
  - Christian IV (1588-1648)
    - most important king of Denmark-Norway
    - also was the Duke of Holstein, one of the states of the Holy Roman Empire
    - Christian was concerned with protecting Protestants in northern Europe and the growing power of Sweden

- religion: Lutheran state since the middle of the 16th century

The Thirty Years’ War: Reflections On

“There is no limit to the fascinations of the Thirty Years’ War...The central point is that this was a war with origins which were genuinely about religion. There have been attempts to make it an economic war or come up with other class or Realpolitik reasons, but it is clear that most of those involved in its initial stages felt that what they were doing was steeped in prayer and missionary zeal. It was to mutate into something else, but by then there was no going back.”

In *Germania: In Wayward Pursuit of the Germans and their History*, what does author Simon Winder regard as the driving force behind the start of the Thirty Years’ War? Explain his argument.

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**The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): War in Bohemia**

- **Bohemia: background**
  - one of the states of the Holy Roman Empire; capital city: Prague
  - the king of Bohemia was traditionally the person who was in line to become the next Holy Roman Emperor
  - over the course of the 16th and early 17th centuries, Bohemia had become a Calvinist region which embraced religious toleration

- **Ferdinand Habsburg: fanatical Catholic**
  - the Holy Roman Emperor Matthias persuaded Calvinist nobles to allow the fanatical Catholic Ferdinand Habsburg to become King of Bohemia (1617), placing him in a position to be the next Holy Roman Emperor
  - soon after becoming king, Ferdinand initiated a ruthless anti-Protestant campaign in Bohemia
  - outraged Bohemian nobles secured a meeting with the imperial government in order to air their grievances (see Defenestration of Prague, 1618)
“Ferdinand as a ruler of southern Austria had already cut a hideous swathe through a region then riddled with Protestantism. His minions left a landscape of blown-up churches and pyres of burnt books, with the corpses of Protestants dug up from their graveyards and scattered across roads and draped over fences. From his base in Graz, Ferdinand imposed a ferocious orthodoxy..... Ferdinand therefore had form, even before it became clear he would inherit the Habsburg lands and potentially become Emperor. The smaller Austrian territories he already ruled—Styria, Carniola and Carinthia—were by now effectively ‘clean.’ To the Protestants who formed a substantial majority in many areas of Austria and Bohemia, this man, educated by Jesuits, a passionate and unyielding Catholic, was a mortal danger.”


The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): War in Bohemia

- Defenestration of Prague (1618): the start of the war
  - setting
    - meeting between Protestant Bohemian nobles and five Catholic representatives of the Holy Roman Emperor at Hradcany Castle in Prague
    - meeting was held in an attempt to settle disputes between the Bohemian nobles and the Holy Roman Emperor regarding King Ferdinand and the persecution of Protestants in Bohemia
  - event
    - meeting did not go well as tensions flared between Protestant Bohemian nobles and representatives of the Holy Roman Emperor
    - two of the emperor’s representatives were thrown out of a third-story window (defenestrated)
  - results
    - Defenestration began what would become known as the Thirty Years’ War
    - the first phase of the war (the Bohemian phase) was largely fought over religious issues, but political and economic ambitions began to emerge alongside
    - NOTE: upon the death of Matthias in 1619, Ferdinand Habsburg became Holy Roman Emperor (known thereafter as Ferdinand II, Holy Roman Emperor)
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): War in Bohemia

- Protestant Union vs. Ferdinand II & the Catholic League
  - Protestant Union
    - Frederick of the Palatinate and the Protestant Union took up arms to protect the rights of Protestants in Bohemia
    - Following Ferdinand Habsburg’s ascension to the imperial throne in Vienna (1619), Bohemians elected the Protestant Frederick of the Palatinate as King of Bohemia
  - Catholic League
    - Fought to protect Ferdinand II and the rights of Catholics in the Holy Roman Empire
    - Ferdinand II, the Holy Roman Emperor, had no standing army and, as a result, had to rely on the forces of the Catholic League, supplied by Maximilien of Bavaria
  - Results of the Protestant Union vs. Catholic League
    - Protestant Union initially did well until Ferdinand II secured the support of the Catholic League
    - Catholic League defeated the Protestant Union at the Battle of White Mountain (1620), on the outskirts of Prague
    - Frederick was forced into exile and Bohemia was re-Catholicized as Ferdinand was restored as King of Bohemia (he was also, of course, Holy Roman Emperor)
    - The king of Denmark, Christian IV, assumed the leadership of the Protestants after Battle of White Mountain
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): War in Bohemia

“The Battle of White Mountain,” Pieter Snayers (1620)

The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Spain Resumed War Against the Dutch

- Spain’s attempt to regain control of The Netherlands, which had declared their independence in the previous century, resumed after a twelve year truce
  - politically: Spain wanted the region brought back into the Spanish Empire
  - economically: Spain wanted to regain control of the powerful Dutch economy, known for its international trade, banking, and shipbuilding
  - religiously: Spain wanted The Netherlands to be re-Catholicized
- Dutch resistance
  - fought to retain their independence from Spain
  - aided by both England and France, both of whom wanted to weaken Spain
- Surrender at Breda (1625)
  - Spanish military, led by Ambrogio Spinola, defeated the Dutch after besieging the city of Breda
  - Dutch surrender led to renewed resistance to Spain, both in and out of The Netherlands
  - NOTE: Breda would eventually be re-taken by the Dutch in 1637

Ambrogio Spinola
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Spain Resumed War Against the Dutch

“Surrender at Breda,”
Diego Velázquez
(1635)

The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Ferdinand on the Offensive

- Ferdinand built an imperial army
  ✓ fearing the ambitions of Maximilien of Bavaria, Ferdinand II relieved Maximilien of his duties as the leader of the Catholic forces
  ✓ hired Albrecht von Wallenstein to build an imperial army for Ferdinand II
- Albrecht von Wallenstein (1583-1634)
  ✓ Bohemian soldier, businessman and politician; a former Protestant who had converted to Catholicism
  ✓ was commissioned by Ferdinand II to raise an army that would help Ferdinand achieve his economic goals (gain control of the Baltic trading ports in northern Germany) and social goals (convert Protestants to Catholicism)
  ✓ Wallenstein raised a fierce army of 40,000 men
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Ferdinand on the Offensive

- Ferdinand successfully drove the army north in the Holy Roman Empire, taking control of the valuable Baltic trading ports in northern Germany
  - once in control of the northern states, Ferdinand re-Catholicized many regions
  - Edict of Restitution (1629): Ferdinand gained control of former Church lands that had been secularized during the Protestant Reformation
- Ferdinand’s army defeated Christian IV’s Denmark
  - Danish defeated at the Battle of Lutter (1626)
  - Denmark was occupied and pillaged by the imperial army
- Wallenstein grew even richer has he sold armaments and supplies to both his army and to the enemy

Ferdinand II: sought greater centralization of the Holy Roman Empire

- empowered by the success of Wallenstein’s army, Ferdinand sought to gain greater political centralization around the imperial crown (at the expense of the individual princes/states)
- the states of the Holy Roman Empire, faced with the threat of the loss of their autonomy, rallied against Ferdinand
  - Protestant and Catholic states within the Holy Roman Empire put aside their religious differences and demanded that Ferdinand fire Wallenstein, whom the princes deemed was the source of Ferdinand's power
  - France threatened to intervene on behalf of the German princes in order to keep Ferdinand from centralizing the monarchy
  - Wallenstein was fired (1630)
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Sweden on the Offensive

- Gustavus Adolphus
  - King of Sweden (1611-32)
  - religious motives for entering Sweden in Thirty Years’ War
    - Adolphus was a devout Lutheran, even going so far as to make his troops sing Lutheran hymns while they marched
    - wanted to protect Protestantism in northern Europe
    - became the champion of Protestantism after the defeat of Denmark
  - dynastic motives for entering Sweden in Thirty Years’ War
    - hoped to drive back the advancing Habsburgs
    - hoped to gain a foothold on continental Europe along the Baltic Sea so Sweden could control the lucrative grain trade coming out of Poland

Gustavus Adolphus: “The Lion of the North”

The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Sweden on the Offensive

- Sweden was able to make significant territorial gains in northern Europe
  - Battle of Breitenfeld (1631)
    - first major Protestant victory in Thirty Years’ War
    - Sweden, with military support from Saxony, defeated the Holy Roman Empire (once again dependent on the Catholic League), Hungary and Croatia
    - Swedish campaign financed largely by France
    - Swedish troops eventually advanced deep into central Europe, almost taking over the imperial capital of Vienna
  - Battle of Lützen (1632)
    - one of the most spectacular battles of the Thirty Years’ War
    - Sweden faced the imperial forces, which were once again led by Wallenstein (who had been recalled in light of Swedish victories coupled with the death of General Tilly, the commander of the Catholic League’s forces)
    - Sweden, financed by France, won a military victory at Lützen; Sweden was supported by some Protestant states in the Holy Roman Empire
    - Adolphus was killed in action during the battle
After Lützen, the Swedish army continued to advance into the Holy Roman Empire but Sweden suffered a major loss in 1634; following the loss, the major combatants sought a truce.

Wallenstein’s demise (1633-34)

- Wallenstein did not want the war to end (he would lose the money his business was generating selling weapons and supplies to the warring armies)
- Wallenstein began secret negotiations with the Swedish and French governments in hopes of making an alliance against the Holy Roman Emperor
- Wallenstein was assassinated soon after Ferdinand was made aware of Wallenstein’s treachery
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-48): Spain vs. France

• France: prior to 1635, France supported states fighting the Holy Roman Emperor by sending money, weapons and supplies
  ✓ France, led by Louis XIII and his chief minister Cardinal Richelieu, wanted to weaken the power of the Habsburgs (Spain and the Holy Roman Empire)
  ✓ unsatisfied by the 1635 Peace of Prague (which had called a truce in the fighting), France entered French troops into the war in 1635

• Battle of Rocroi (1643)
  ✓ France was led by the recently crowned Louis XIV (who was 5) and his chief minister Cardinal Mazarin (who replaced Richelieu)
  ✓ battle took place in the northeastern region of France, near the border of the Spanish Netherlands
  ✓ battle was a French victory over Spain, marking the end of the dominance of the Spanish army
  ✓ following Rocroi, sporadic fighting continued but European powers looked for a peace settlement (note: France was dealing with The Fronde on the home front)

The Peace of Westphalia (1648): Background

• peace negotiations began in 1644 while the war continued to be fought
• France and Sweden wanted all states of the Holy Roman Empire to participate as individual and independent entities

• participants
  ✓ major powers: France, Spain, The Netherlands, Sweden
  ✓ Holy Roman Empire: individual states were represented
  ✓ minor powers Portugal, Papal States, Switzerland, Venice

• general goals of the Peace of Westphalia
  ✓ religious settlement for the Holy Roman Empire
  ✓ address territorial issues in Europe and reestablish a balance of power for Europe
  ✓ constitutional settlement for the states of the Holy Roman Empire

• Peace of Westphalia: comprised of two treaties, one at Münster and one at Osnabrück
• NOTE: France and Spain never settled on a bilateral peace agreement until 1659
The Peace of Westphalia (1648): Religious Settlement

- reaffirmed the Peace of Augsburg (1555) with an additional choice
  - princes of the Holy Roman Empire could decide between Catholicism or Lutheranism for their individual state
  - added Calvinism as an additional choice for the princes
- consequences of religious settlement
  - right of states in the Holy Roman Empire to decide faith of their subjects reaffirmed, although minority religions were granted limited rights to practice their faith discreetly
  - secured the Protestant Reformation in Europe
  - effectively ended the Catholic Reformation’s goal of reunifying Europe under a Universal Catholic Church

The Peace of Westphalia (1648): Territorial Settlement

- The Netherlands
  - recognized as an independent state
  - no longer a part of the Holy Roman Empire
- Switzerland
  - recognized as an independent state
  - no longer a part of the Holy Roman Empire
- France: gained territories from the Holy Roman Empire, including parts of Alsace & Lorraine
- Sweden: gained territories in northern Germany
The Peace of Westphalia (1648): Constitutional Settlement

- states of the Holy Roman Empire became virtually sovereign as powers of the Holy Roman Emperor’s were weakened
  - ✓ each state could conduct their own diplomacy
  - ✓ each state had the right to make treaties with foreign powers
  - ✓ Emperor did not have the right to issue taxes without the consent of the member states
  - ✓ Emperor did not have the right to recruit an army without the consent of the member states
  - ✓ Emperor did not have the right to declare war or sign peace treaties without the consent of the member states

- results
  - ✓ Holy Roman Empire was further decentralized and localized
  - ✓ French foreign policy of preventing a unified, centralized Germany was maintained

Video Spot: The Peace of Westphalia (1648)
The Thirty Years’ War: General Results

- **Spain**
  - ✓ power was checked by the Thirty Years’ War (balance of power)
  - ✓ Spain ceased to be one of Europe’s great powers

- **Holy Roman Empire**
  - ✓ further decentralized and localized
  - ✓ German land, people and economy were devastated by the Thirty Years’ War
    - ➡ agriculture fell into decline
    - ➡ people suffered from undernourishment, famine and disease
    - ➡ fire had destroyed many German towns and cities (such as Magdeburg, which was burned in 1631)

- **France**
  - ✓ kept the Holy Roman Empire decentralized
  - ✓ gained territory
  - ✓ came out of the Thirty Years’ War as Europe’s most powerful country

- **religion as a major cause of war ended in Europe**

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Europe after the Peace of Westphalia (1648)
Results of the Thirty Years’ War: Reflections On

“When the Peace of Westphalia was signed in 1648 almost all the leaders who had begun the war were dead, except for the gruesome old Catholic zealot Maximilian of Bavaria, who kept gloomily praying away for a further three years. Nobody really knows how many people were killed, but a reasonable guess would be eight million, making it in relation to population quite as horrible as the wars of the twentieth century. Many regions were so devastated that they only really recovered with the spread of industrialization over two hundred years later. The fighting had burned out the religious impulse that had begun it. Ferdinand II seems genuinely to have believed (as did many of his Protestant opponents) that the war was related in some way to the end of the world, and that what was at stake was religious salvation itself. Such an idea was almost immediately undermined by other factors, from personal loyalty (Protestants nonetheless supporting the Emperor) to realpolitik (Catholic France supporting the Protestants). By the time it ended the Habsburgs had indeed successfully cleansed most of their direct dominions—Austria and Bohemia had been substantially Protestant and from now on be famously not Protestant. But for the wider Holy Roman Empire the project failed and Europe remained politically and religiously hostile but exhausted.”


Exam Skills (ES): Secondary Source Interpretation

In Danubia: A Personal History of Habsburg Europe what does author Simon Winder argue are the results of the Thirty Years’ War?
Exam Skills (ES): Synthesis

Explain how in the age of religious upheaval, from the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation to 1648, religious issues blended with political, constitutional, economic or social questions.

In the Aftermath of War: France

- France emerged from the Thirty Years’ War as Europe’s most powerful country: militarily, politically, and economically

- triumph of absolutism: Louis XIV (1643-1715)
  - centralized power around his crown, weakening the power of the nobility, the Estates General (parliament) and the parlements (regional courts)
  - expanded the network of French bureaucrats (the intendants), who carried out the king’s law
  - built Versailles: symbol/tool of his power, glory and might

- expansion of France’s boundaries under Louis XIV
  - attempted to extend France’s boundaries to the River Rhine
  - sought to put a Bourbon on the throne of Spain
  - France was challenged by a coalition of forces, led by William of Orange of The Netherlands, in order to maintain the European balance of power

Louis XIV

NOTE: for more detailed information on 17th century France, see the “France: Triumph of Absolutism” notes (France_Absolutism)
# In the Aftermath of War: Spain

- **Spain’s decline was hastened by its loss in the Thirty Years’ War**
  - forced to recognize independence of The Netherlands in the Peace of Westphalia (1648): a major strategic, political, and economic loss for Spain
  - revolts against the Spanish government occurred in the late stages of the war and in the immediate aftermath
    - on the Iberian Peninsula: Catalonians (Barcelona region) and Portuguese sought independence or greater autonomy
    - outside the Iberian peninsula: Neapolitans (Naples region) on the Italian peninsula sought independence
- **Spanish Habsburgs: weak and ineffective**
  - Philip IV (1621-65): unable to deal with Spain’s many problems
  - Charles II (1665-1700): thanks in part to years of Habsburg intermarriage, the last Spanish Habsburg suffered from many physical, mental and emotional disabilities (his death in 1700 would lead to the War of Spanish Succession)
- **economic decline**
  - many talented Spaniards had been driven out in the previous century
  - population declined as a result of warfare and disease
  - Catholic Spain did not embrace the Scientific Revolution
  - competition from France, England and The Netherlands

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# The ‘Decline’ of Spain: Reflections On

The setbacks suffered by Spain from c. 1590 owed something to some serious domestic problems. Whereas the sixteenth century had been a period of remarkable population growth, the seventeenth was one of demographic decline. Serious outbreaks of plague around 1600, which returned with less intensity at various times between 1600 and 1700, and the expulsion of the Moriscos, Christianized Moors, between 1609 and 1614 contributed to a fall in numbers which struck foreign observers. The declining population helped depress Spain’s economy. Once prosperous industrial towns (Granada, Segovia, Toledo) decayed as their key industries fell into difficulty. For its part, Seville, which had prospered greatly in the sixteenth century as the hub of the Indies trade, suffered from the silting up of the river Guadalquivir – the trade re-locating to Cadiz later in the seventeenth century—and from a depression in the Indies trade from about 1620. One consequence of that recession was that less bullion was being remitted to Spain for the king, or for the merchants trading with the Indies. Spanish agriculture, too, was in growing difficulty.

(reading continued on next slide)
The ‘Decline’ of Spain: Reflections On (cont’d)

The government in Spain, short of revenue for its expensive imperial projects, increased the fiscal burden and manipulated the coinage, triggering inflation and further damaging the Spanish economy. The picture was less gloomy in some parts of Spain than in others – the coastal periphery suffered less than the interior, Old and New Castile – but a sense that things were not right in Spain stimulated a wave of commentators, the so-called *arbitristas* who sought, often in print, to diagnose and propose solutions to Spain’s (or rather Castile’s) travails. The existence of this group was among the most distinctive cultural or intellectual consequences of recession in Spain, although it is possible that historians have been too influenced by the sombre picture painted by these *arbitristas*. But other factors were also at work. Seventeenth-century Spain was the age of the “lesser Habsburgs” – Philip III (1598–1621), Philip IV (1621-1665), and Charles II (1665–1700) – who are widely thought to have been less able and less energetic than Ferdinand and Isabella, Charles V and Philip II.

Source: “The ‘Decline’ of Spain,” Christopher Storrs, University of Dundee (gale.cengage.co.uk/images/SpainChristopherStorrs.pdf).

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### Exam Skills (ES): Secondary Source Interpretation

*According to Christopher Storrs in his article, “The ‘Decline’ of Spain,” what developments contributed to Spain’s relative decline?*

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<th>Developments which contributed to Spain’s relative decline</th>
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<td><strong>Political</strong></td>
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Journal 23: The Holy Roman Empire was described by Voltaire as neither holy, Roman, nor an empire.

---Palmer Chapter 23 • pp. 190-99---

Directions: Using sentences or detailed bulleted notes, identify & explain the evidence Palmer uses to support the thesis listed above.

In the Aftermath of War: Holy Roman Empire

Journal 24: Though German influence was strong, the Habsburg empire was international or non-national.

---Palmer Chapter 24 • pp. 199-203---

Directions: Using sentences or detailed bulleted notes, identify & explain the evidence Palmer uses to support the thesis listed above.
In the Aftermath of War: Austria

- Austria had to reinvent itself in the wake of the Thirty Years’ War
  - their traditional Habsburg ally, Spain, had been defeated and severely weakened by the war
  - the Peace of Westphalia had further decentralized the Holy Roman Empire, therefore, weakening the power of the Holy Roman Emperors (who were traditionally Austrian Habsburgs)
  - Austrian Habsburgs continued to control the imperial government with its seat in Vienna

- territorial composition of Austria
  - Austria: large area around Vienna
  - Bohemia: large area around Prague
  - Hungary: large area around Buda and Pest

- Ethnically diverse: Germans, Czechs, Slovaks, Magyars, Poles, Italians, Slavs and others

Leopold I (1658-1705)

Hofburg Palace in Vienna, Austria: seat of the Habsburg dynasty
In the Aftermath of War: Austria

- invasions by the Ottoman Empire
  - Austria challenged for control of central Europe on two major occasions in the 17th century (1663-64 & 1683)
  - most important invasion by the Ottoman Empire: Battle of Vienna (1683)
    - Ottomans had driven up the River Danube and laid siege to Austria's capital, Vienna
    - eventually Vienna was saved and the Ottomans driven back after a multi-national coalition led by Poland’s John Sobieski defeated the Ottoman Turks

- Austria looked to expand their empire in the late 17th and 18th centuries
  - Balkans: wanted to gain land in southeastern Europe as the Ottoman Empire weakened (and, eventually, would)
  - Poland: wanted to gain land from Poland (and, eventually, would)
  - Spanish Netherlands: hoped to gain control of what remained of the Spanish Netherlands in the wake of the end of the Spanish Habsburg dynasty and the War of Spanish Succession, 1701-14 (and, eventually, would)

- Brandenburg-Prussia: Austria was concerned with the growing strength of German rival, Prussia

In the Aftermath of War: The Netherlands

Journal 18: Throughout the seventeenth century the Dutch engaged in vast commercial, colonial and banking undertakings.

—Palmer Chapter 18 • pp. 149-55—

Directions: Using sentences or detailed bulleted notes, identify & explain the evidence Palmer uses to support the thesis listed above.
In the Aftermath of War: The Netherlands

- **Dutch Golden Age (17th Century)**

  - **economic power**
    - Banking, shipbuilding (most notably an innovative Dutch transoceanic cargo ship called a “fluyt”), and international commerce (such as spices, silk, cotton, coffee, tobacco, sugar, furs, porcelain & Civets for perfume musk); centered in Amsterdam.
    - Colonial empire: southern Africa (Cape Colony), New Amsterdam, parts of Latin America and others.
    - Bank of Amsterdam (1602): one of Europe’s first central banks.
    - Dutch Stock Exchange: Dutch investors could trade on the stock market, promoting commerce and capitalism.
    - Dutch East India Company: monopoly on trade with certain parts of Asia.
    - Dutch West India Company: monopoly on trade with certain parts of the western hemisphere.
    - Burghers (Dutch citizen merchants) grew wealthy: allowed them to spend money on housing, food, and the arts (Rembrandt, Vermeer and Hals were all “Dutch Master” painters).

  

  "The Milkmaid," (1658-60)
  Johannes Vermeer

In the Aftermath of War: The Dutch Fluyt

Source: James Burke’s “Connections 1,” (Volume 7).” 1978.
When compared to the Spanish Galleon, what were the design innovations of the Dutch fluyt that helped make it the dominant cargo ship of its day?

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<th>Innovation</th>
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The Dutch “burgher”: Reflections On

“At the center of the Dutch world was a burgher, not a bourgeois. There is a difference, and it is more than a nuance of translation. For the burgher was a citizen first and homo oeconomicus second. And the obligations of civism conditioned the opportunities of prosperity. So that if any one obsession linked together their several concerns with family, the fortunes of state, the power of their empire and the condition of their poor, their standing in history and the uncertainties of geography; it was the moral ambiguity of good fortune.”


Exam Skills (ES): Secondary Source Interpretation

According to historian Simon Schama in The Embarrassment of Riches: An Interpretation of Dutch Culture in the Golden Age what are the values of a Dutch burgher? How are those values different from those generally associated with the European bourgeoisie?
The Dutch Economy: Reflections On

"In an age when plague and pestilence visited the largest towns with grim regularity, and could carry off up to a fifth of the population within a year, such rapid growth could only be the result of mass immigration. Amsterdam became home to tens of thousands of new citizens during these years. A few...were from elsewhere in the Dutch Republic, but the majority were Protestants refugees from the Southern Netherlands, driven north by Spanish persecution and the war. Many of the refugees were merchants from the great cities of Flanders and Wallonia, who possessed both capital and experience. They helped to establish Amsterdam as a trading power in its own right. A new bank, a stock exchange, and all the other paraphernalia of a mercantile economy followed, and by 1620 the town had unquestionably become the greatest entrepôt in northern Europe. During the first third of the seventeenth century, this flood of cash and expertise made it easier to exploit fresh opportunities and open up new markets. The most important of these was the spice trade.

Why spice? Amsterdam, in truth, was built upon the taste of rotting meat. In 1600, when the science of food preservation was still in its infancy, most of the cuts sold by butchers or hung in larders throughout Europe were sour and decaying. The only things that masked the tang of decomposing flesh were spices such as pepper, which thus became the most-sought-after luxury goods of the day."


In the Aftermath of War: The Netherlands

- Dutch Golden Age (cont’d)
  - government (republic)
    - federal state with many semi-autonomous provinces
    - regional governments were typically run by an oligarchy of merchants, which often established their own citizen militias
    - in times of war, The Netherlands often looked to the House of Orange
  - migration of people (often seeking religious toleration) from other regions to The Netherlands
    - Jews from the Iberian peninsula (like Portuguese Jews)
    - Protestants
    - others
  - Tulipmania: Dutch became obsessed with the beauty and variety of tulips

“Joseph Coymans,” (1644)
Frans Hals
In the Aftermath of War: The Netherlands

“The Night Watch,” (1642)
Rembrandt van Rijn

In the Aftermath of War: The Netherlands

• Hugo Grotius (1583-1645)

✓ background
  ➡ Dutch jurist, philosopher and playwright
  ➡ ideas impacted by the Dutch struggle for independence and the Thirty Years' War

✓ major ideas developed in his book On the Law of War and Peace (1625)
  ➡ advocated a system of international law based on natural law which would be applied to all countries
  ➡ sovereign states were subordinate to natural justice and reason
  ➡ argued that in some cases war was justified

✓ influence: considered the father of international law

Baroque in the Low Countries: Reflections On

“Dutch paintings in this era showed certain characteristics of the wider seventeenth century artistic style known as Baroque. The fascination with lighting, the representation of interior spaces, the use of distinctive colors or subtle hues, and a more naturalistic image of human beings often shaped the distinctive appearance of Baroque paintings. In contrast to most Dutch artists, however, many of the best-known Baroque painters identified with the Catholic Church or the Counter Reformation. The Flemish painter Peter Paul Rubens was one prominent example of this identification with Catholicism in the Low Countries; but art in the Netherlands tended to portray scenes of everyday life rather than passion of religious ecstasy.”

As argued by historian R.R. Palmer, explain the general differences in Baroque art as interpreted in Flanders and the Netherlands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17th Century Art in the Low Countries</th>
<th>Dutch Baroque in the Netherlands</th>
<th>Flemish Baroque in Flanders</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Artistic Characteristics</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Preferred Subjects</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Major Example</strong></td>
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In the Aftermath of War: Brandenburg-Prussia (B-P)

Journal 25: Until late in its history, Prussia was militaristic but not belligerent.

Directions: Using sentences or detailed bulleted notes, identify & explain the evidence Palmer uses to support the thesis listed above.

AP European History • The Thirty Years’ War • J.F. Walters, G.W. Whitton & M.A. Prokosch

In the Aftermath of War: Brandenburg-Prussia (B-P)

• background

✓ Brandenburg: a small state in the north-west section of the Holy Roman Empire
✓ ruled by the Hohenzollern dynasty
✓ Brandenburg was one of the electors of Holy Roman Empire
✓ Hohenzollerns inherited the Duchy of Prussia (1618), a large territory in eastern Europe surrounded by Poland
✓ B-P gained territory in the Peace of Westphalia (1648)
✓ Drang nach Osten: Brandenburg-Prussia’s historic “Drive to the East”: slow acquisition of territory in eastern Europe (17th-19th centuries), especially in what was once Poland

“Growth of Brandenburg-Prussia, 1600-1795”

AP European History • The Thirty Years’ War • J.F. Walters, G.W. Whitton & M.A. Prokosch
In the Aftermath of War: Brandenburg-Prussia (B-P)

- Frederick William (1640-88), the “Great Elector”
  - gained the support of the Prussian junkers (nobles)
    - gave junkers important positions in the military
    - gave junkers almost complete control over their serfs
    - in exchange for these privileges, junkers had to pay taxes to the crown and support the Hohenzollerns
  - laid the foundation of the powerful, efficient Prussian military
    - created the General War Commissariat: collected taxes to pay for the army
    - expanded the army to 40,000 men
    - sought to maintain the army to protect its diverse and scattered territories
  - economics
    - lived a relatively spartan life, choosing to spend tax money on state projects and the military instead of his own lifestyle
    - instituted mercantilism: established monopolies and raised tariffs on imported goods
    - welcomed the Huguenots, who had been driven from Louis XIV’s France

Frederick William, the “Great Elector”

Frederick William, the “Great Elector”: Reflections On

“In order to restore the independence of [Brandenburg-Prussia after the Thirty Years’ War], [Frederick William] needed a flexible, disciplined fighting force. The creation of such an instrument became one of the consuming preoccupations of his reign...Improvements in tactical training and armaments modeled on French, Dutch, Swedish and imperial best practice placed the Brandenburg army close to the cutting edge of European military innovation. Pikes and pikemen were phased out and the cumbersome matchlock guns carried by the infantry were replaced by lighter, faster-firing flintlocks. Artillery calibers were standardized to allow for more flexible and efficient use of field guns, in the style pioneered by the Swedes. The foundation of a cadet school for officer recruits introduced an element of standardized professional formation. Better conditions of employment—including provisions for maimed or retired officers—improved the stability of the command structure. These changes in turn improved the cohesion and morale of the non-commissioned ranks, who distinguished themselves in the 1680s by their excellent discipline and low rates of desertion.”

As identified in Christopher Clark’s *Iron Kingdom: The Rise and Fall of Prussia, 1600–1947*, what military innovations were made by Frederick William, the Great Elector?

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<th>Frederick William, the Great Elector’s Innovations</th>
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| 1 | ![Frederick William, the Great Elector](image)

**Exam Skills (ES): Secondary Source Interpretation**

**Frederick William, the Great Elector’s Innovations**

- ![Frederick William I, King of Prussia](image)
- **Frederick William I (1713–40), the “Soldier King”**
  - **government reforms**
    - obsessed with efficiency, discipline and responsibility
    - introduced merit to government service
    - often promoted the middle class in the bureaucracy (although *junkers* still dominated government and the military)
  - **increased the size and prestige of the Prussian army**
    - Frederick William always appeared in public in a military uniform
    - increased the size of the army to 83,000 men
    - Potsdam Regiment: built a unit of tall soldiers (6-7 ft. tall soldiers), presumably to intimidate potential enemies
    - invented a new system of recruiting soldiers (canton system)
    - founded a cadet system to train the sons of *junkers* to be military officers
In the Aftermath of War: Sweden

• Christina (1632-54)
  ✓ took over the throne of Sweden upon the death of her father, Gustavus Adolphus (he had died at Lützen)
  ✓ personal and academic
    ➡ slept little, hair was often unkempt, known to wear men's shoes, did not like topics traditionally associated with women, detested marriage and once remarked that women should not rule
    ➡ interested in theater, ballet, science and scholarly pursuits; she even met with René Descartes when he visited Sweden (Descartes died of pneumonia while visiting)
    ➡ refused to marry
  ✓ religion
    ➡ secretly converted to Catholicism, even though she was the ruling monarch of a Lutheran country
    ➡ advocated religious toleration
  ✓ led Sweden in the final stages of the Thirty Years’ War
  ✓ abdicated the throne (1654), citing reasons of her personal crisis with faith and a lack of desire to marry/bear children


Queen Christina’s Personality & Power: Reflections On

“She was a virgin queen like Elizabeth of England and a political intriguer like Mary Queen of Scots, but in variety of interests and cultural influence, she was superior to both. As she herself said, she thanked God that she had a man's soul in a female body. She was in fact uncommonly strong, loved hunting and riding unruly horses, wore low-heeled shoes, and had a voice that went from girlish to mannish without modulation. At birth she had been taken for a boy, her whole body being covered with hair. She viewed women with contempt, especially as rulers; and in this scorn she included herself.

Christina, defying the traditions of royalty, refused to marry. She says in her autobiography that she did not lack normal desire—indeed, she thought that if she had been a man, she would have been a rake; but she could not bear the idea of pregnancy and of losing her independence. She began to be unpopular on this account, though she handled affairs of state with judgment, balancing the claims of the nobility by an alliance with the middle class and using in crises the good old method of deceit and delay that had served Elizabeth so well in England. Finally, the lack of an heir, criticism at home, and false rumors abroad about her lovers induced her to give up the throne to her cousin. She was 28.”

After reading the excerpt from Jacques Barzön’s *From Dawn to Decadence: 500 Years of Western Cultural Life* explain how issues of gender influenced Queen Christina’s ability to exercise power.

**Queen Christina’s Accomplishments: Reflections On**

“Christina’s many exercises brought her in touch with the great Baroque sculptor Bernini, who designed a carriage for her, and with Mazarin, the French king’s maker of policy, which she wanted more favorable to the pope. She took singing lessons and commissioned music from her resident composers, Corelli and Alessandro Scarlatti; she organized archaeological excavations, filled her palace with objects d’art and her library with classical and oriental manuscripts. She kept up with French literature and wanted to put on Molière’s *Tartuffe* as soon as she heard what a scandal it had created, but Louis XIV would not permit the export of the play. She founded three academies for art and science that sponsored lectures and discussions; she had an observatory and a “distillery”—a laboratory (her adored father having been something of an experimenter)—and she illustrated a work on chemical problems.”

As identified in Jacques Barzon’s *From Dawn to Decadence: 500 Years of Western Cultural Life* what accomplishments can be credited to Queen Christina of Sweden?

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<th>Accomplishments of Queen Christina</th>
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In the Aftermath of War: Sweden

- **Charles XII (1697-1718)**
  - attempted to maintain Swedish control of its territory on the Baltic Sea (the “Swedish Lake”) in northern Europe
  - defended Sweden from attacks by Denmark, Poland and Russia, all of whom wanted to weaken Swedish control in the Baltic region
  - eventually lost the Battle of Poltava (1709)
    - lost to Russia’s Peter the Great, who sought to secure a Russian foothold on the Baltic Sea
    - Charles was forced into exile (initially fled to the Ottoman Empire)
    - Battle of Poltava marked the end of the Swedish Empire and Sweden’s role as a great power of Europe
In the Aftermath of War: Republic of Poland

Journal 23: In Poland the monopoly of law and force, characteristic of the modern sovereign state, failed to develop.

Directions: Using sentences or detailed bulleted notes, identify & explain the evidence Palmer uses to support the thesis listed above.

AP European History • The Thirty Years’ War • J.F. Walters, G.W. Whitton & M.A. Prokosch
In the Aftermath of War: Republic of Poland

- John Sobieski: elected monarch of Poland (1674-96)
  - background
    - ethnic Pole
    - multilingual; trained in the military
  - government
    - created one of the more stable regimes in Poland’s tumultuous 17th century
    - military accomplishments bolstered his rule at home
  - Sobieski at the Battle of Vienna (1683)
    - led the multi-national forces in this battle against the Ottoman Empire who had driven its forces up the Danube River, threatening to take control of central Europe as it besieged Vienna
    - personally led the Polish cavalry in a successful charge against Ottoman janissaries (Ottoman elite troops)
    - Ottomans eventually retreated and Sobieski was regarded as a savior of western civilization and Christianity

In the Aftermath of War: England

- England and The Thirty Years’ War
  - England was not a major player in the war due to domestic issues centered around Charles I’s conflict with Parliament, which culminated in the English Civil War (1642-49)
  - England did, however, send some money and resources to states fighting Spain and the Holy Roman Emperor

- England & the Glorious Revolution (1688)
  - Parliament overthrew the Stuart king James II, who sought a return to Catholicism and the establishment of an absolute monarchy in England
  - Parliament installed the Protestant monarchs William (of Orange) and Mary (daughter of James II)
  - Parliament issued the English Bill of Rights (1689), which articulated the rights of Parliament and the limitations placed on the English monarchy

- England after the Glorious Revolution
  - Acts of Union (1707): England and Scotland unified into one political entity (the country, henceforth, known as Great Britain or Britain)
  - House of Stuart died out (1714) and was replaced by the German House of Hanover (starting with George I)
  - role of the British prime minister in executive matters increased as the power of the monarchy decreased

NOTE: for more detailed information on 17th century England, see the “Stuart England” notes (Stuart_England)
Additional Notes

Sources

- *Western Civilization*, 10/e, Edward McNall Burns, et. al. (New York: W.W. Norton, 1984).
- “The Thirty Years’ War” CD-ROM (Chicago, IL: Clearvue/eav, 1995).
- Wikipedia.com (en.wikipedia.com).