Guiding Questions for Absolute Monarch Speed Dating Assignment

Spain-Philip II (pg 589-592)

1. How were you related to Charles V and what land did you inherit from him?
2. What was the name of your palace and what city was it near?
3. You reigned as an absolute monarch, what does that mean?
4. You believed in divine right, what is that?
5. What religion are you, did you tolerate other religions?
6. Did you use the Inquisition?
7. Why did Spain and the Netherlands fight a war?
8. Who won the war, what happened?
9. When and why did you attack England?
10. How did you do it? What happened to your armada?
11. Tell me about Spain’s Golden Age: what writers and painters became famous?
12. Can you give three reasons Spain lost its position as the most powerful European nation?
13. Who replaced Spain as the most powerful European nation?

France-Louis XIV (Chapter 21.2)

1. When did you become king and how old were you?
2. Who helped you rule France?
3. What was the Fronde?
4. Did you believe you had the divine right to rule?
5. Why did you choose the sun to represent your power?
6. What does “L’etat, c’est moi” mean?
7. Did you call on the Estates General to help you make decisions?
8. Wasn’t your army pretty weak?
9. Who was Colbert and what did he do for you?
10. What was the name of your palace?
11. How much did it cost?
12. What was the levee and why did you have it?
13. What did you do for the arts in France?
14. Did you fight any wars, did you win or lose?
15. What was your religion, who did you persecute, and do you think now it was a mistake?

England-Charles I (pg 614-615)

1. How did you try to rule England as an absolute monarch?
2. What did Parliament do, or what did they make you sign?
3. What did you do to the Parliament?
4. What religion are you?
5. When did England’s civil war take place?
6. Of the cavaliers and the roundheads, who supported you?
7. Who led the other side?
8. Who won?
9. What did Parliament do to you and why?
10. After you, who ruled England?
11. Who were the Puritans and what was their deal about Sundays?
12. In 1660, who took control of England, was he related to you?
13. In 1685, who inherited the throne?
14. What religion was he and what did he try to do?
15. How did Parliament react, what did they do?
16. What five things did the Bill of Rights do?

Austria-Maria Theresa (Hapsburgs/Austria) pg 605, 607

1. When did you take the throne from your father?
2. How long did you rule?
3. What lands did your family, the Hapsburgs, rule?
4. What happened to your land, Silesia?
5. Who did you ask for help?
6. Did they help you?
7. What did you do for your economy that helped the peasants?
8. How many children did you have?
9. Did any of them become rulers?
10. What religion were you?

Prussia-Frederick William I Hohenzollern (pg 606-607)

1. What religion were you?
2. When and where did your family rule?
3. What is your belief about armies?
4. Why did you put your son in solitary confinement?
5. How else did you punish him?
6. When did your son take control of Prussia?
7. What war did he fight and what land did he take?

Russia-Peter the Great (pg 609-611)

1. Did Russia experience the Renaissance or the Reformation?
2. Were you the first or second czar(ruler) in the Romanov Dynasty?
3. When did you take control of the government?
4. Where did you go in 1697 and what did you do?
5. What was your policy of westernization?
6. What does autocrat mean and why did you become one?
7. What were three of your goals for Russia?
8. What was a boyar in Russia and what did you make them do?
9. Why did you make peasants remain serfs even though the system of serfs had stopped in the rest of Europe?
10. How did you pay for your educational reforms (what economic policies did you practice)?
11. Why did you make boyars shave their beards?
12. What would you do to anyone who resisted your policies?
13. Why did you attack Sweden and what did you do with the land you finally won from them?

Russia-Catherine the Great (pg 638-639)

1. Where were you born and how did you come to take the Russian throne?
2. When did you begin to rule Russia?
3. What Western European country influenced you?
4. Did you make your nobles pay taxes?
5. How did you treat your peasants?
6. On what sea did you get a warm-water port for Russia?
7. Who joined you in ganging up on Poland to take their land?
8. What happened to Poland by 1795?
9. Would you say that you were a good ruler?