

# Absolutism Through Images

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## Unit 2 Assessment DBQ – Absolutism Through Images

In this unit, we have learned about the 17th and 18th centuries in Europe. For this portfolio assignment, we want to see how well you understand the dynamic of power and society during the 17th and 18th centuries. You will be doing a Document Based Question (DBQ) assignment, which means you will read and examine a series of passages and pictures and then answer questions about various images and their influence on the society we studied in Unit 2.

Don't forget the [CheckMyWork](#)

The documents provided contain images of artwork from the 17th and 18th century. Take your time to read each picture carefully and identify the important parts of the pictures which give a message of the culture at the time.

**Essential Question: *How did art, physical appearance, and architecture symbolize power in the 17th and 18th centuries?***

Here are the directions for completing the assignment:

- Read the document and its corresponding question carefully.
- As you read each document, underline or highlight key phrases and words that will help you answer the document-based question.
- Answer the questions in **complete sentences**. Remember to indicate the **minimum** number of sentences required for each answer.
- **Please type your answers for this assignment. We won't accept handwritten work.**

Good luck with your DBQ assignment!

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## Source #1 - Prework

### **Step 1: Watch**

**Watch the following video about Absolutism in the 17th century.**

**CLICK HERE** → [Absolute Monarchy: Crash Course](#) \*note there may be occasional use of rough/inappropriate language

### **Step 2: Make**

Think about **examples of wealth in our current society**.

What are some things that wealthy and influential people wear? What kind of things do they have? What kind of homes do they live in?

1. Make a list of 5 things that people think wealth looks like today.

List Five things that show wealth in society today

2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .

## Source #2 - Painting of Louis XIV

Now look below at some art from the 17th and 18th centuries and answer the questions that follow each image.



1. What are some things you notice about what this person is wearing? (Hint: Look at the fabrics, colors, details)

*List three things your notice about what the person is wearing (give details)*

2. .
3. .
4. .

2. What does this image & his clothing say about this ruler's power and influence? How do you

know?

*His clothing in the image shows he is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*The background shows he is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.*

### Source #3 - Wealth Family Portrait



1. What are some things you notice about the clothing on the 6 people on the right in this image? Are they rich/poor? What clues in the picture make you think that? **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

*The six people's clothing in the picture is \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*Some of the things the people are doing in the picture are \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*I believe they are \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.*

2. What are some things you notice about the man on the bottom left corner in this image? What clues in the picture make you think that? **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

*The man in the corner is wearing \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*The man looks to be doing \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*I think he is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.*

3. What do you think this image says about the difference between the upper class and lower class during this time? Give at least two specific examples. **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

*I think this image shows that the classes are different because \_\_\_\_\_.*

The picture show \_\_\_\_\_ doing \_\_\_\_\_ which shows their upper class.  
The picture show \_\_\_\_\_ doing \_\_\_\_\_ which shows his lower class.

## Source #4 - Palace of Versailles in the 17th Century



1. What are your initial thoughts about the palace in this image? What clues in the picture make you think that? Look at the size, buildings, and landscaping of the palace. **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

The palace size is \_\_\_\_\_.  
The building of the palace are \_\_\_\_\_.  
The grounds of the place have \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Based on the size, how fancy, and impressive the palace is in the picture, what do you think the architects and the King were trying to convey with this palace? **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

The king seems to be trying to say \_\_\_\_\_ from the size of the palace.  
The fanciness of the palaces shows the king is trying to \_\_\_\_\_.

*I think the king is trying to show \_\_\_\_\_ because of the impressive gardens on the palace grounds.*

3. What do you think the average citizen of France felt about the size of this palace and amount of money it took to build and maintain? **Your answer should be 2 sentences minimum**

*I think the average citizen of France was \_\_\_\_\_ about the palace. At this time the average citizen in France was \_\_\_\_\_ so they were probably \_\_\_\_\_ about the money used to build the palace.*

## Source #5 - Poor Family Portrait



1. What are some initial observations about the people in this image?

**Your answer should be 2 sentences.**

*The people in this image are wearing \_\_\_\_\_. They seem to be doing \_\_\_\_\_ in the picture.*

2. What class in society do they represent? What clues in the picture help you know that? **Your answer should be 2 sentences.**

*I think the people in this picture are for the \_\_\_\_\_ class. One clue from the picture of their class is \_\_\_\_\_.*

3. What are some specific differences between the family in this image (#4) vs. the family in Image #2 above?

**Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

The family in picture 2 seem to be from the \_\_\_\_\_ class.  
I can tell this because the people in picture 2 are \_\_\_\_\_.  
The family in image 4 are \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.  
These two pictures show the difference of people in society in France was \_\_\_\_\_.

## Source #6 - Reflection

Use your knowledge from the unit and the images about to answer the following questions

1. After looking at the pictures above, what are some general assumptions you can make about what life was like in the 17th century? **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

Life seems to be \_\_\_\_\_ for the rich people because \_\_\_\_\_.  
Life seems to be \_\_\_\_\_ for the poor people because \_\_\_\_\_.  
There is a \_\_\_\_\_ difference between the \_\_\_\_\_ people and the \_\_\_\_\_ people.

2. What similarities do you see between life in the era of Absolutism vs. life in our current society when it comes to social classes? **Your answer should be 2 sentences.**

One similarity I see between life in Absolutism and today is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Another similarity between Absolutism era and today is \_\_\_\_\_.

3. What differences do you see between life in the era of Absolutism vs. life in our current society when it comes to social classes? **Your answer should be 2 sentences.**

On difference I see between life in Absolutism and today is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Another difference between Absolutism era and today is \_\_\_\_\_.

4. About 93% of France was poor, as compared to only 7% which was either clergy or nobles and the Monarch. What do you think might happen in France due to the difference between the lives of rich and poor? **Your answer should be 3 sentences.**

Because there were so many poor people and only a little wealthy people, I think the poor people will \_\_\_\_\_.  
Since there a so little wealthy people they will \_\_\_\_\_.  
The chapter reading let me know that \_\_\_\_\_ happened in France because of \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>Rubric</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
Pework completed	1	
Answered the questions for document 2 in complete sentences.	2	
Answered the questions for document 3 in complete sentences	3	
Answered the questions for document 4 in completed sentences	3	
Answered the questions for document 5 in completed sentences	3	
Answered the reflection questions for document 6 in completed sentences	8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	