

Summary, vocabulary and texts on the Old Regime and liberalism

ABSTRACT. The words in bold are defined on another sheet and those underlined in the previous vocabulary

- 1. In the eighteenth century in Europe, the current system was that of the **Old Regime** characterized by **absolutism** political **protectionism** economic <u>society</u> divided into **estates** and a <u>economy</u> around **manors** worked by **serfs**. Except in England where **parliamentarism** with the English Revolution (17th century). The army of the bourgeoisie led by *Cromwell* defeated the absolutist king Charles I because it could afford a larger army as it was the richest in Europe. It was the country with the richest bourgeoisie because they were the ones that had developed the most crafts and trade. They achieved this in three stages: in a first they created workshops and protected them with high tariffs (protectionism) and in a second stage they put an end to their main competitor (wars against the Netherlands) and in a third stage they defended free trade to be able to sell their products to them. The main theorist of parliamentarism was *Locke* who justifies this <u>ideology</u> in the name of **rights** (life, liberty and property). This <u>ideology</u> will later be known as **liberalism**. While for the absolutists their model was the medieval world, for the liberals their model and mythical reference was in the ancient world: ancient Rome and Athenian democracy.
- 2. Carlos II, the last Spanish monarch of the Austrian dynasty, died without issue in Spain, which caused the War of the Spanish Succession (1700-14). The France of Louis XIV de Bourbon (model absolutist monarch) faced defending his candidate and the rest of Europe defending another. After that <u>war in Spain</u>, the Bourbon family also began to rule with *Felipe V* and the autonomy of the historical kingdoms was reduced, reforming the <u>institutions</u>.
- 3. Among the French intellectual elite a cultural movement called **Enlightenment** that defended the following ideas: rationalism or the use of reason to explain reality instead of using religious texts or consecrated sages. They admired the progress of the **scientific revolution** and wanted to spread education and end illiteracy. They defended the ideas of progress (they thought the future was going to be better), individual freedom, tolerance with different ideas and beliefs (*Voltaire*), secularism (intervention of the churches in politics), **sovereignty** of the people or nation, division of political powers: executive, legislative and judicial (*Montesquieu*), of popular will (*Rousseau*) which means that the rulers must act according to the opinion of their people. Meanwhile in England *Adam Smith* defended what we now know as **economic liberalism**. Although the Enlightenment criticized **absolutism**, several absolutist kings, such as the Spanish Carlos III, adopted some ideas from the Enlightenment. This was called **enlightened despotism**.
- 4. The **liberal revolutions** that ended absolutism were <u>triggered</u> a <u>crisis</u> by **subsistence** (bad harvests and lack of food) or a (bankruptcy **crisis** the kingdom had no money). Then there was a <u>social conflict</u> that pitted the nobility against the rest led by members of the bourgeoisie. The bourgeoisie wanted to put an end to the Old Regime in order to gain access to political power, until then reserved for the nobility. These ideas were applied for the first time with the <u>Revolution</u> (1642-88) and the North American War of Independence, also called <u>Revolution</u> North(1776-83), in which the English colonists confronted their King *George III* and created the United States. Its first president was *Washington*. They approved the first **Constitution** that was applied equally to all citizens and to which the rest of the laws had to conform. These political changes contrary to the Old Regime are known as **liberalism** and they were applied more deeply in the **French** (1789-99) ending the absolutist monarchy of *Louis XVI*. It went through several stages. In the 1st a parliamentary monarchy is attempted like the one that already existed in England (1791 constitution) and a list of **rights**. Then the republic (without a king) with universal suffrage (1793 constitution) was established, in which for the 1st time in history all men could vote. The most important parties were the Girondins (moderate) and the Jacobins (radical) whose leader *Robespierre* established a regime of terror persecuting the opposition. Later, power passed into the hands of a directory (several people) and suffrage returned to being **census**, that is, only the owners vote (1795 constitution). Ultimately, infighting led to the rise of General *Napoleon* in 1799. The general maintained equality before the law, but became emperor. He initiated a policy of conquest that turned France into an <u>empire</u> that dominated Europe.
 - Describes the Old Regime with regard to the economy, society and politics
 - Explains why parliamentarism triumphed in England and the same did not happen in other countries
 - Explains the causes and consequences of the War of the Spanish Succession.
 - Recognize and explain the two types of crises that triggered liberal revolutions.
 - Identifies defenders, goals and mythical referents of the ideology of liberalism.



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- 5. Napoleon also invaded Spain taking advantage of the bad relationship between the King of Spain *Carlos IV* and his son the heir *Ferdinand VII*. With the invasion, Napoleon named his brother *José I* king of Spain, but the Spanish revolted against the French army, beginning the <u>War of Independence</u> (1808-1814). An example of the resistance against the French army was the official *Agustina de Aragón* or the guerrillas such as *the Empecinado*. During the <u>war against</u> the French, the Cortes (**parliament**) met in Cadiz and drew up the **Constitution** of 1812, the 1st in Spain.finally *Napoleon* defeated by a coalition at the Battle of Waterloo (1815) and *Ferdinand VII began his reign*.
- 6. Ferdinand VII was an absolutist so he did not respect the system, repealed the Constitution of 12, replaced absolutism and persecuted the liberals, an example of this was the execution of the liberal Mariana Pineda. In the Spanish territories of America the liberal Creoles (descendants of the Spaniards) revolted against the king. The War of Independence of Spanish America took place and the rebels led by Simón Bolívar and San Martín, among others, won. Most of the Spanish possessions in America from Mexico in the north to Argentina in the south (except Cuba and Puerto Rico) became independent republics governed by systems or military dictatorships.
- 7. The victorious powers of *Napoleon* met at the Congress of Vienna and tried to restore the absolutist situation prior to the French Revolution. This period (1815-48) is called the Restoration (of absolutism). But they did not achieve it for a long time due to the rejection of the bourgeoisie, whose wealth increased without stopping thanks to the Industrial Revolution. After several revolutionary waves: 1820, 1830, and 1848, the historical process by which **liberalism** triumphed and **parliaments** took power ended. In Europe, the kingdoms with absolutist monarchies became parliamentary monarchies with **suffrage**. Then the suffrage was increased until universal male suffrage was reached, a system known as democratic. Women's right to vote took longer to arrive. It was achieved at the beginning of the 20th century thanks to the political movement that fought for it called suffragism. With the liberal revolutions, social groups: estates were replaced by a class society according to your wealth, but equal before the law. The bourgeoisie joined the nobility and they formed the new oligarchy. The peasants ceased to be serfs and were able to abandon the manor, thus ending the system manorialAll this occurs in a context of industrial growth that further enriches the bourgeoisie. Liberalism spread at the beginning of the 20th century, it regressed after the crisis of 1929 due to fascism and Soviet communism, but it recovered after the Second World War and today it is the basis of system political State.
- 8. In Spain, after the death of *Ferdinand VII*, the <u>War (1833-40)</u> broke out between the supporters of *Carlos María Isidro* (traditionalist absolutists) and the liberals, the latter winning. With the Spanish queen *Isabel II* (1843-68), a <u>system liberal parliamentary monarchy</u> census which had various constitutions and put an end to the **Old Regime**. As the queen always ruled with them, she ended up being overthrown and a constitution with universal male suffrage was approved, being the first <u>system democratic</u>. this <u>period</u> it was called the Democratic presidential term (1868-71). In the end, a Republic (1871) without a king was attempted, but it failed due to the riots, so the monarchy returned with the Bourbons thanks to the politician *Cánovas del Castillo*. *Cánovas* devised a <u>system of parliamentary monarchy</u> in which two parties took turns through electoral fraud. This <u>period</u> was called the Restoration (of the Bourbons).
- 9. Simultaneously with liberalism, **nationalism** based on the idea of <u>nation</u> (group of people with common political or <u>cultural</u>). Nationalism **sovereignty** was applied in two types of projects depending on which group has <u>:</u>disintegrative **nationalism** when they seek the independence of a region from a <u>State</u> to divide it, such as those that appeared in Austria, Russia, Turkey or Spain (in America). On the other hand, **nationalism** when they seek the union of several <u>states</u> to create a larger one, such as those that led to the unification of Italy and Germany in 1871.
 - Describes the economic, social and political changes that occurred after the liberal revolutions
 - Recognizes the ways in which nationalism can be divided.
 - Match the protagonists with the corresponding facts and ideologies (they can be repeated) and order them chronologically. The protagonists appear in the summary in italics:
 - Louis XIV, Louis XVI, Philip V, Cromwell, Charles I, Charles II, Locke, Adam Smith, Washington, Rousseau, Montesquieu, Voltaire, Robespierre, Napoleon, George III, Augustine of Aragon, El Empecinado, Mariana Pineda, Fernando VII, Cánovas del Castillo, Carlos III, José I, Isabel II, Simón Bolívar, San Martín, Locke, Carlos María Isidro
 - French Revolution, English Revolution, American Revolution, Spanish War of Independence, War of Independence Latin American, War of the Spanish Succession, liberalism in Spain, theoretical liberalism, absolutism, enlightenment, enlightened despotism.

VOCABULARY Defined words should be found in the abstract where they are in bold.



5.

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- Political system in which the king or monarch had all the powers and the inhabitants were his subjects. He justified himself by saying that his power is the fruit of God's will, that is, it is by divine right.
- 2. English political and ideological movement contrary to absolutism emerged that managed to get the king to share his power with a parliament. The king was left with the executive power (govern) and parliament with the legislature (make laws). The members of the parliament were chosen by census suffrage in which only the owners of the bourgeoisie and the nobility participated.
- Put rates or tariffs on foreign products to benefit their own products.
- Meeting of the representatives of a kingdom or a nation. Also called Assembly or Courts.
 - Individual actions that the State must not prevent or must guarantee. All rights are limited to guarantee other rights. So the application of a right is never absolute, but rather a matter of degrees. At first the rights were of divine origin (gifts from God) then they were qualified as natural (established by the natural order) and finally they were called human (that all human beings deserve them).
- 6. social and political economic system of Europe during the eighteenth century. It was characterized by its absolutist political system, its stately economic system and its social estate system.
- 7. Crisis that occurs when subsistence agriculture (self-consumption) does not give enough due to a bad harvest (climatic changes, pests, etc.). Then comes the famine and the peasant revolts called bread riots.
- 8. Latifundios (large agricultural holdings) and their villages that are owned by a nobleman (lordship of the nobility) or of the Church (lordship of the church).
- Workers of a manor who are semi-free, since they could not leave the land without the permission of their lord.
- 10. Closed social groups that formed the society of the Old Regime. There were two privileged: the nobility and the clergy (accessed political power and did not pay taxes). Below the common state or third state, which were all the others who did not have privileges: peasants, bourgeois (artisans and merchants) and declassed (servants, vagabonds, etc.).
- 11. Reforms made by some absolutist kings adopting some ideas of the Enlightenment to improve the lives of their subjects, but without counting on them "everything for the people but without the people".
- 12. Supreme law that is above the rest of the laws and that guarantees the equality of all before the law.
- 13. European cultural movement (18th century) that defended the use of reason to explain things without resorting to sacred texts or consecrated sages, tolerance, the idea of progress, a parliamentary system, the extension of education, the secularism (that the Church did not intervene in politics), etc.
- 14. It indicates who has, in origin, the right to exercise political power directly or indirectly. In an absolute monarchy the king has it, in a democracy the nation or the people have it.
- 15. Revolution that put into practice the most advanced liberal ideas applying universal male suffrage for the 1st time in history (all men vote, women could not vote until the 20th century).
- 16. Type of economic crisis in which a State runs out of economic resources and cannot pay its expenses.
- 17. Ideology and political system derived from parliamentarism that defended the division of powers with a parliament that makes the laws (legislative power) made up of representatives voted by the citizens, an executive power (government) subject to the laws and a judicial power (courts) that guarantee the equality of all before the law. They are no longer subjects but citizens.
- 18. Type of liberal system in which only those who have property have political rights, that is, only the rich voted. It is the first type of liberalism.
- 19. Political system derived from liberalism in which all citizens vote regardless of their wealth. First it affects all men (19th century) and then it is also extended to women (beginning of the 20th century)
- 20. Requests from the bourgeoisie to increase their profits by removing the limitations of the Old Regime: end of monopolies (guilds, mesta,...), end of internal customs, less taxes, remove tariffs from other countries, etc.
- 21. Those that establish liberal systems (with parliaments) and equality before the law (ending class privileges) in most of Europe. In economic terms, they liberalized internal trade. After the defeat of Napoleon in 1815 absolutism was restored, it is the period called Restoration (1815-48). But after the revolutions of 1820, 1830 and 1848 the liberal system was established in almost all of Europe.
- 22. Political ideology based on the cultural nation. It has two currents: unifying when it seeks to unite territories and states into a larger one and disintegrating when it seeks to divide a state into several smaller ones.
- 23. Succession of advances in science since the s. XVII thanks to the empirical method (experimentation)
- 24. Political movement that fought for women to vote the same as men.
 - Place the words that are in bold in the abstract here.