

Notes: Chapter 1&2 – Part I

- we start in Europe in the 1500s
- time of the **Renaissance**:
 - rebirth of art, literature, and learning which paved the way for the modern world
 - began to question all aspects of life
- age of **Protestantism**:
 - still Christian, but separate from the Catholic Church
 - served to divide Europe
 - Henry VIII made himself the head of the Anglican Church
- changes in **Agriculture**:
 - consolidated small farms into larger fields
 - started specializing by growing “cash crops”
 - improved the soil: drainage ditches, drying marshes, etc.
 - new plants from North America (potatoes)
- changes in **Trade and Empire**:
 - trade began to link the world
 - Empires began to rise
- changes in **Philosophy**:
 - mainly in **humanism**: focused on humans and their place in the world
 - printing press invented – spread of ideas – MOST influential invention ever
- changes in **Science**:
 - **Scientific Method** – Francis Bacon – method of experimentation
 - anatomy, astronomy – challenged Church’s hold on people