

The Age of Powerful Monarchs

Directions: Read Chapter 6 Section 3 “The Age of Powerful Monarchs” on pages 170-177 in the *Medieval Times to Today* textbook. Answer the questions below from the selection.

1. Who governed most of Europe from the 1400s to the 1700s?	<i>Absolute monarchs</i>
2. What is the divine right of kings?	<i>The king's authority came directly from God, and was therefore divine</i>
3. Why did absolute rulers in Europe have so much power?	<i>People believed they were chosen to rule by God. Also, kings weakened the power of nobles to strengthen their own.</i>
4. Who was Cardinal Richelieu? (What position did he hold?)	<i>He was a cardinal, or a high official of the Roman Catholic Church, and chief minister to Louis XIII</i>
5. Why do you think Richelieu wanted to limit the power of the nobles and increase the power of the king?	<i>If he increased the King's power, he could greatly influence the king as the chief minister, and thus increase his own power</i>
6. How did Louis XIV raise money for his lavish life at Versailles?	<i>He taxed the peasants</i>
7. How did Louis XIV attempt to make France the most powerful nation in Europe?	<i>He encouraged the growth of industry and supported efforts to build an empire in Asia and in the Americas</i>
8. In what year did Elizabeth become queen of England? How did she help make England powerful and prosperous?	<i>1558; She strengthened England by preventing war between Protestants and Catholics through compromise; she used the possibility of her marriage to foreign kings as one way of preventing war; she supported the British navy and exploration of the Americas</i>
9. How did the English navy become the most powerful in the world during the Elizabethan Age?	<i>With the help of a storm, the English navy's more agile boats enabled England to defeat the Spanish navy in 1588</i>
10. What was the immediate effect of the marriage between Ferdinand and Isabella?	<i>They united their separate kingdoms and ruled almost all of what is now Spain</i>
11. What were some of the features of Ferdinand and Isabella's rule?	<i>They limited the power of the nobles, supported the Inquisition in Spain, and supported exploration, included those of Columbus</i>
12. How did the princes of Moscow gain power in Russia?	<i>They were tax collectors for the Mongols and controlled Muscovy. In the 1300s there was a rebellion against Mongol rule, and by 1505 Prince Ivan of Moscow had much of Russia under his control</i>
13. What is a tsar?	<i>The Russian word for “caesar” or “emperor”</i>
14. What were Peter the Great's accomplishments?	<i>He modernized the Russian military, improved farming and industry, expanded Russia's territory, and built the magnificent capital city of St. Petersburg</i>
15. How were Ivan the Great and Peter the Great similar? How were they different?	<i>Similar: They both limited the power of the nobles; they were both called “The Great” Different: They ruled in different time periods; Peter was a tsar, while Ivan was not</i>