

Religion as a determinant element of both unification and segregation In European countries.

1. Short presentations of the countries' political, economical and social problems -16th century)
2. We mention: Why the idea of the new religion appeared in Europe?
3. Showing the maps: the religious division of Europe
4. The students have a short discussion about the protestant ideas, e.x.
 - Sinful thoughts (sex) has a bad influence on your character and hard work is good for you,
 - The orders of the authorities must be obeyed,
5. One example of the religious persecution: (St. Bartholomew Night) – show a picture
6. How did the religious division influenced other spheres of life e.x.: paintings, architecture: we show them two pictures on one slide and they must try to tell the difference.
7. Historical facts and processes which introduced the idea of religious freedom in Europe:
 - the philosophy of humanism (we introduce some ideas of humanism: e.x the man is in the centre, we give the most important names for this idea: Eras de Rotterdam)
 - the invention of printing which helped to spread the philosophy of humanism
 - the appearance of the first Encyclopedia
 - the ideas of Voltaire – (we give short text of Voltaire – they must find the main idea – criticism)
 - the idea of Enlightenment appeared –main results – the secularity of life
8. The religious problems in Europe now: the religious society vs. secular society: (brain storm idea: student introduce the problems e.x. abortion, euthanasia, sex before marriage etc.) –
9. We emphasize the idea of religious tolerance – we show an article about the European Constitution that refers to the religious freedom+ Our national constitutions.

We have to do:

1. Prepare a map of Europe after the Protestant Reformation
2. Prepare a short presentation about the political, economical situation
3. Find a picture of the Night of St Bartholomew
4. Articles about the European Constitution (in English) that deals with the religious freedom

Catholic Countries:

France

Italy

Portugal

Poland

Spain

Protestant countries:

Germany

Austria

Sweden, Norway, Denmark

Latvia