Timeline of Events c. 1400-1850

| c. 1400-early | Renaissance culture (arts, science, ideas) begins in Italy and spreads though |
|---------------|---|
| 1600s | Europe: freedom of thought, interest in classical Greece and Rome |
| 1400s-1500s | China grows under Ming Dynasty, with capital at Beijing. Agriculture, |
| | navigation, Confucianism, and art thrive. Chinese trading ships export tea, |
| | silk, and porcelain to India, Africa, and Europe, with Guangzhou as a major |
| | trading post. |
| 1450 | The printing press is developed. |
| Early 1500s | Rivalry for territory and trade between Portugal and Spain: |
| | Portugal establishes colony in Brazil (1501); Spanish <i>conquistadores</i> conquer |
| | Cuba, Aztecs (1521), and Incans (1523) in Central and South America |
| 1452–1519 | Life of Leonardo da Vinci, famous Italian artist and inventor |
| 1498 | Vasco da Gama travels around tip of Africa to India and returns with jewels |
| | and spices; Portugal establishes trading posts in Spice Islands (Indonesia). |
| Early 1500s | Moghul Empire in India grows to include the entire Indian peninsula. |
| 1500s | Swahili ("coastal people") culture thrives in east Africa along the coast |
| | bordering the Indian Ocean, trading with Arab Muslims, India, and China. |
| 1500s-1600s | European countries establish the slave trade in west Africa to obtain |
| | workers for the sugar and tobacco plantations in South America and the |
| | Caribbean, and the cotton plantations in the southern U.S. |
| 1500s | Portugal establishes trading posts and the colony of Angola in west Africa. |
| 1500s-1600s | Age of absolute monarchy in Europe: unlimited power and "divine right" |
| 1500s-1600s | Portugal, Spain, England, and France establish the slave trade from Africa to bring workers to sugar and tobacco plantations in South America and the Caribbean, and later to the cotton plantations in the southern U.S. |
| 1517 | Martin Luther officially protests against the Catholic Church and the |
| | religious Reformation begins. Protestant religions emerge in Europe. |
| 1519 | Magellan sails around the world and proves the Earth is round. |
| 1534 | England breaks away from the authority of the Catholic Church and becomes |
| 1500 | a Protestant country under King Henry VIII. |
| 1588 | Britain defeats the ships of the Spanish Armada and becomes ruler of the Atlantic Ocean. |
| 1558-1603 | Elizabeth I rules England: period of William Shakespeare. |

8.5.1 b

Timeline of Events c. 1400-1850

| 1600s-1700s | Scientific Revolution begins; scientific method is developed. Galileo proves solar-centred universe; Isaac Newton studies gravity; William Harvey |
|-------------|---|
| | studies human circulation; microscope is invented. |
| 1633 | The reigning Moghul emperor in India begins to build the Taj Mahal, an |
| 1000 | architectural wonder of the world. |
| 1643-1715 | Louis XIV, the Sun King, rules as the last absolute monarch in France. He |
| | builds the elaborate <i>Palais de Versailles</i> in ornate baroque style. The |
| | agricultural peasant class in France suffers great poverty. |
| 1652 | Holland (Netherlands) establishes a colony at the Cape of Good Hope, South |
| | Africa. They send Boers ("farmers") to colonize the lands. |
| 1600 | British East India Company is established and sets up trading posts in India. |
| Early 1600s | British and French settlements are established in North America. |
| 1642-1649 | English begin to question the divine right of monarchy. The English Civil War |
| | is fought between Charles I and Parliament led by Oliver Cromwell. Charles I |
| | is later tried and executed by Members of Parliament. |
| 1689 | After the "Glorious Revolution" of 1688, English Parliament passes the |
| | Declaration of Rights, making Parliament stronger and protecting the rights |
| | of the people. |
| 1700s | "Age of Enlightenment" in Europe: thinkers question the authority of |
| | religion, believe that reason and science can solve human problems. |
| 1717 | Moghul Empire in India allows the British East India Company to trade in |
| | India without paying duties. Company increases its power and control until it |
| . 1760 | virtually rules India by 1757. |
| c. 1760 | James Watt (England) works on perfecting the steam engine. |
| | Industrial Revolution begins in England. The country rapidly changes from mostly agricultural to mostly manufacturing. |
| 1763 | End of the Seven Years' War between England and France. Canada becomes |
| 1705 | a colony of Britain and Nouvelle-France ends. |
| 1770 | Captain James Cook claims all of eastern Australia for England and maps the |
| | Australian coast. |
| 1776 | The United States colonies compose the Declaration of Independence from |
| | Britain; the American Revolution, war between U.S. and England, lasts until |
| | 1783. |
| 1788 | British establish their first permanent settlement in Australia, sending |
| | shiploads of convicts to colonize the territory they claimed. |
| 1789 | The United States Constitution is signed, giving power to the government |
| | only as allowed by the people. |

8.5.1

Ь

Timeline of Events c. 1400-1850

| 1789 | French Revolution begins ("Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"), bringing absolute monarchy, feudalism, and the power of the aristocracy to an end in France. Ruling monarchs and many aristocrats are guillotined. |
|------------|--|
| 1790s | Movement to abolish slavery begins to grow in England and later in America. |
| 1800s | Russian empire under the czars extends from the Baltic Sea to Alaska and south into central Asia. Russia remains a mostly agricultural and feudal empire; it develops decorative arts and craftsmanship. |
| 1807 | Britain abolishes the slave trade. U.S. follows in 1808, but slavery is not made illegal in all states of the U.S. until 1865. |
| 1815 | British seize control of Cape Colony in South Africa from the Dutch. |
| 1825 | First steam railway is built in England. |
| 1842 | Hong Kong (China) becomes part of the British colonial empire. |
| Mid 1800s | Slavery comes to an end in most of the world. Much of Africa is divided into colonies of various countries of Europe. |
| 1858 | British Crown takes control of India from the British East India Company and makes India a British colony in 1862. |
| 1889 | Eiffel Tower is built in Paris as symbol of the Industrial Revolution. |
| Late 1800s | Countries of Central and South America fight for and obtain independence from Spain and Portugal. |



(page 3 of 3)

8.5.1

Ь