Key Events and from 1750-1919

Social Studies – Cause and Consequence

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Below you will find a list of events/ major happenings between 1750 and 1919 with a brief description of what happened.

Many of these events are intertwined. By exploring what caused the events and what some of the consequences were, you will begin to see the connections emerge.

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| **Event** | **Description** |
| World War I | A war across Europe with the Allied Powers defeating the Central Powers. New military technologies and trench warfare led to unprecedented destruction and more than 16 million deaths (soldiers and civilians) |
| The Spanish Flu | A pandemic that emerged toward the end of World War I, infecting a third of the planet’s population and claiming 50 million lives. More WWI soldiers died of the flu than were killed during the war. |
| Women’s suffrage | Women fought and were successful in changing voting laws to allow them to vote across the world. |
| The French Revolution | The Ancien Régime (the French monarchy) was abolished in favour of a constitutional monarchy. This was not a smooth process. |
| Napoleonic Wars | A series of major conflicts involving the French Empire (led by Napoleon) and other European powers wherein the French came to dominate much of continental Europe…but not for long. |
| The Russian Revolution | A violent revolution that marked the end of the Romanov dynasty and Russian Imperial rule. The Bolsheviks led by revolutionary leader Vladimir Lenin seized power from tsarist rule. |
| The American Revolution | The Americans in the Thirteen Colonies defeated the British, gaining independence from the British Crown and establishing the United States of America. |
| The War of 1812 | A war between Britain and the United States wherein civilian soldiers and First Nations allies repelled American invaders in Eastern Canada. |
| The 7 Years’ War | A struggle for global domination between Britain and France with a decisive event in Canada – The Battle of the Plains of Abraham. Ever wonder why Canada ended up being a British colony, not a French one? |
| The Industrial Revolution | Transition to new manufacturing processes in Europe and the United States. People moved to cities en masse, diseases spread rampantly, children were forced to work in factories in horrific conditions. |
| The Haitian Revolution | The overthrow of the French regime in Haiti by the Africans and their descendants who had been former slaves, leading to the establishment of an independent country founded and governed by former slaves. |
| The Red River Resistance | Uprising sparked by the transfer of the vast territory of Rupert’s Land (many inhabitants were Métis who feared the loss of their culture and land rights) to the new Dominion of Canada. Ever heard of Manitoba or Louis Riel? Find out more… |
| Transportation innovation  | Trains, planes and automobiles were invented and produced on a massive scale to move people and products. Fossil fuels were needed to power these new modes of transport. |
| The Treaty of Paris and The Royal Proclamation | The Treaty of Paris marked the end of the 7 Years’ War and the Royal Proclamation that followed was a declaration by the British crown at the same time to prevent American colonists from moving West. |
| The Indian Act | This act introduced a number of colonial laws that aimed to eliminate First Nations culture in Canada. |
| The Trans-Atlantic slave trade | 10-12 million African people were enslaved and moved to the Americas. |
| The Irish Potato Famine | A fungus spread rapidly throughout the potato crop in Ireland, leading to the death of about 1 million people. Over 1 million others immigrated to other countries around the world.  |
| Construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway | The completed railway connected Eastern Canada to British Columbia and played an important role in the development of Canada as a nation. Chinese temporary workers were key in its construction and the Chinese Immigration Act was a kick in the teeth by the government. |
| Canadian confederation | The three colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were united into the Dominion of Canada |
| Tokugawa Shogunate | Tokugawa Ieyasu’s dynasty of shoguns led to 250 years of minimal external influence in Japan. A merchant class emerged and urbanization increased. |
| Meiji retoration | Imperial rule was restored to Japan and the country changed from being a feudal society to having a market economy. Japan rapidly industrialized and adopted Western ideas. |
| American Civil War | Northern states loyal to the Union and southern states that had come together to form the Confederate States of America began fighting over their conflicting beliefs about the enslavement of black people . |
| Opium Wars | Two conflicts between China and Western powers took place. The trade of the drug opium by the British was the catalyst for the conflict. |
| Fraser Canyon War | During the Fraser Canyon gold rush, a young Nlaka’pamux woman was assaulted by white miners in the newly declared Colony of British Columbia. The First Nations retaliated by killing several miners and conflict mounted. |
| Crimean War | A three year military conflict over Christian minorities in the Holy Land in which Russia lost to an alliance of Western powers. |
| Franco-Prussian War | Independent German states came together (and stayed together…) to defeat France in Napoleon III’s attempt to regain control of continental Europe. |
| Boer War | When diamonds and gold were discovered in the Boer states (present-day South Africa), the British Empire seized control of the region when the Boer leadership surrendered. |
| Chinese Rebellion of 1911 | This revolution was the culmination of a decade o revolts and uprisings and ended China’s last imperial dynasty, establishing the Republic of China. |
| Yukon Gold Rush | Some Tagish First Nation members discovered gold on Rabbit Creek which led to 100 000 prospectors migrating to the Klondike region of the Yukon. |

What overarching themes or trends do you observe for this period of time throughout history?

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| Event: |
| Date range:  |
| Significant dates:1)2) | Significant Person: |
| Causes: |
| Consequences: |