

Questio: _____

Central Europe in Transition

Directions: Examine the maps on pages 526 and 536 in your textbook. Then answer the questions.

1. What happened to Poland between 1648 and 1795?
2. What countries are now dominating Central Europe?
3. Based on what you learned about Poland in the Nunc Agenda, what might the governments of Austria, Prussia, and Russia have that Poland's government lacks?

Biographies of Rival German Autocrats

The 1700s saw the growth of Austria, Prussia and Russia. Leading these lands were three powerful rulers of German descent who changed the future of their countries. In your group, create a biographical summary of your assigned leader using information from your textbook.

Maria Theresa: Austria (527-528)

What family was she from? What religion?

How did she come to power?

What caused the War of the Austrian Succession?

How did she maintain power despite the challenges?

What actions showed her to be an absolute ruler?



Frederick II the Great: Prussia (1724-1797)

What family was he from? What religion?

How was his father, Frederick William I, an absolute ruler?

How did his father train him to be an absolute ruler? Give details.

What role did he play in the War of the Austria Succession?

How did he earn the name Frederick the Great?



Catherine II the Great: Russia (1729-1796)

Where was she originally from? Why did she change her religion?

How did she come to power?

How was Catherine similar to Peter the Great?

What actions showed her to be an absolute ruler?

What happened to Poland during Catherine's reign?



