

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Prologue

- What do world historians argue about the Rise of the West?
- In what sense can we say Europe developed more ecologically than other cultures?
- Why did the societies in Eurasia have an advantage over others?
- How did political fragmentation influence Europe's development?
- What factors influenced the development of European culture?
- What cities or regions of the world were most developed ca. 1000 A.D.?
- How developed was Europe at this time?
- In what sense can we say Europe developed more ecologically than other cultures?
- Why did the societies in Eurasia have an advantage over others?
- How did political fragmentation influence Europe's development?
- What factors influenced the development of European culture?
- What does Daly emphasize in explaining the Rise of the West?

Chapter 1

- What key factor does Daly believe explains the rise of civilizations?
- How does he understand the concept of "random innovations"?
- Our earliest ancestors made what first three big innovations?
- What was the world's first great nonbiological revolution?
- H. sapiens sapiens* emerged thanks to what development?
- How did the domestication of plants and animals change human societies?
- Where did civilization first emerge?
- Which great invention did the Phoenician people bequeath to humanity?
- What did the German philosopher Karl Jaspers call the Axial Age?
- How did the ancient Hebrews' great innovation change history?
- What did the ancient Greeks contribute to human development?
- Why was Roman law a valuable achievement?
- Did the Chinese contribute more intellectual or practical innovations?
- How can one explain China's extraordinary inventiveness for over 1,000 years?
- What impact did Chinese inventions have in China? In the world?
- Most of China's brilliant minds pursued what career?
- How did China compare to the Roman Empire? To ancient Greece?

What does it mean, historically, to say “China produces hardware; India writes software”?

In what consisted the Islamic cultural synthesis?

How would you describe the typical Islamic societies?

What features of Islamic culture promoted commerce?

What did Muslims contribute to the development of science?

Explain “The Achilles’ heel of Islamic intellectual life was philosophy.”

In what sense has every people on earth achieved miracles of adaptation and innovation?

Name some specific, if lesser known, instances?

Was Europe one of the core areas of civilization?

What did Europeans figure out how to do that no others every managed?

How would you describe Europe’s geography?

Who preserved culture in Europe during the “Dark Ages”?

Chapter 2

What three factors made possible the European medieval agricultural revolution?

Describe the significance of the three-field crop rotation system.

Define the so-called Malthusian Law.

How did public order break down in early medieval Europe?

What is the nature of feudalism?

In what sense did the feudal system mark the triumph of social over state power?

How were medieval European cities different from those in other cultures?

How did they gain independence?

What was meant by the expression, “City air makes you free”?

How did Confucianism influence social and economic developments in China?

In what sense did European society “learn to organize itself”?

How did gunpowder develop for military purposes?

What roles did wind- and watermills play in medieval Europe?

Why was the invention of corrective reading glasses so important?

Contrast the role of clocks in European and other major cultures.

What sophisticated business practices developed in medieval Italy?

Define “bills of exchange.”

What philosophic ideas lay behind the design of Gothic cathedrals?

What other large construction projects proliferated in the Middle Ages?

Describe the origins and development of the Art of Courtly Love.
In what ways was the status of women higher in Europe than in other major cultures?
What was significant, historically speaking, about The Divine Comedy?
Within the Christian worldview, why was studying creation important?
Why is it important that European art changed more radically than the art of other cultures?
What does the emergence of polyphonic music say about European culture?
How was Giotto a revolutionary?

Chapter 3

What impact did Europe's political fragmentation have on church-state relations?
Describe Judaism's signal contribution to world history.
Talk about the powerful tensions within Christianity.
How did Jesus granting "the keys of the kingdom of heaven" to Peter impact history?
How did Christianity spread in the early centuries?
Who were the early Church Fathers and what roles did they play?
How did Constantine influence the development of Christianity?
On what basis did Pope Gelasius I claim to possess an authority higher than the emperor?
What did St. Augustine mean by "The City of God"?
How did monasticism emerge within Christianity?
What contributions did monks make to European culture?
In what sense was the rule of St. Benedict democratic?
How did the deeds of Christian martyrs influence spread of Christianity?
Why did Christianity develop such a complex theology? How did it influence history?
How did the relationship between the Franks and the Western church develop?
What was the "Carolingian Renaissance"?
What roles did bishops play in the Carolingian Empire?
How did the Benedictine Abbey of Cluny contribute to church reform?
Why did Christianity experience powerful movements for reform throughout its history?
What was the moral state of the church around the year 1000?
What was the "Peace of God" movement and how did it arise?
Which specific changes did the church reformers call for?
How did Christianity unify the medieval European societies?
What tools did the papal reformers use to extend their authority?

What special roles did they expect monks to fulfill?
Why did Pope Gregory VII oppose the monastic withdrawal from the world?
Which people and interests opposed papal reform?
How did the role of the law differ in Western Europe and the Islamic world?
Which discovery sparked a legal revolution that made the Papal Revolution possible?
What characterized the intellectual revival at the start of the millennium?
What was the scholastic method and how did it function?
Why did Peter Abelard claim that all knowledge is good?
How was the scholastic method used to harmonize legal texts?
How did the first universities emerge in Europe? What were they like?
In what ways was the European university a revolutionary institution?
How did it differ from institutions of higher learning China and the Islamic world?
Why was the corporation a significant institution?
What is the rule of law and why is it important?
What is canon law?
What is the importance of the “Concordance of Discordant Canons”?
How did English common law develop?
How did legal fragmentation foster the development of freedom in Europe?
What was the investiture conflict?
How did monarchs eventually curb the power of the papacy?
Discuss the role of the pilgrimage in medieval Christian society.
How did the newer monastic orders (like the Franciscans) differ from the older ones?
What was the Twelfth-Century Renaissance?
Why were medieval Christian philosophers so open to non-Christian thought?
Describe Aquinas’s Summa Theologica.
How did the approach to philosophy ultimately differ in Islamic lands?
What is meant by the concept of “papal monarchy”?
Why did the papal Inquisition first emerge?
What means did the great European monarchs use to strengthen their positions?
What role did assemblies of estates play in medieval European political life?

Chapter 4

Describe the historical impact of the chariot.
How did iron democratize warfare?
Where did a cavalry revolution begin in the 600s B.C. and why?

How did Philip of Macedon and his son bring about a military revolution?
Contrast the Roman and Chinese civilizations.
What military formation predominated in the Roman army?
Who were the barbarians?
Describe the military changes implemented by Charlemagne.
What explanations have been advanced to account for the ferocity of European warriors?
When and why did mounted warriors come to predominate in Europe?
What social and political roles did they play in medieval Europe?
What was the most effective military tactic of the age?
How did battles usually play out in those times?
How would you characterize the knights in the century after the year 1000?
Describe the siege tactics of the Middle Ages.
Of what value were fortifications to smaller polities?
Which region was most advanced militarily in the high Middle Ages?
What role did mercenaries play in this time?
What did states need most just to survive in this age?
How did the commercial revolution affect warfare?
How did the democratic action of ordinary people start the medieval military revolution?
How did the Swiss win their independence?
What were the advantages of the English longbow?
How did war contribute to the development of representative government in Europe?
Describe the steps by which gunpowder was developed for weapons in Europe.
Why did gunpowder weaponry favor large states?
What was the “artillery revolution”?
How did year 1453 mark the emergence of the world’s first “gunpowder empires”?
How did Italian architects and engineers again revolutionize warfare?
Why did gunpowder not lead to a military revolution in China?
How did European armies become more specialized and why?
What was the nature of modern military training and drill?
Why was volleying in ranks necessary?
How did knowledge about advances in warfare spread in early modern Europe?
Why did the changing nature of warfare in Europe lead to the rise of political absolutism?
What military reforms did King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden implement?

In what ways did the scale of war change in the early modern period?

Chapter 5

When did the Great Migration occur and what was its impact?

What is meant by the “internal colonization” of Europe?

Describe the early Franks.

How did they help spread Christian culture and Western Civilization?

How did conquering knights populate their newly conquered regions?

What legal rights did charters of liberty give to towns?

How did the Cistercian and mendicant religious orders spread European culture?

What impact did the Crusades have on Europe?

Why did the church call for the Crusades?

Why did people join them?

What was remarkable about them?

How successful were they?

Why did Europeans go on pilgrimages through the Middle Ages?

Why were numerous European scholars passionate about translating books from Arabic?

How did early travelers from Islamic countries differ from those from Europe?

What was the main reason why Italians explored the wider world?

How did they expand their commercial operations in the Mediterranean?

What was the “nautical revolution” of the late 1200s?

How did the governments of Venice and Genoa foster seaborne commerce?

How did the rise and fall of the Mongol Empire impact the Eurasian economy?

Why did Europeans discover America (instead of Muslims or the Chinese)?

What drove Europeans to explore the globe?

Which ideas transformed the Renaissance view of terrestrial geography?

How were European ships outfitted with cannon?

How were merchants viewed in Europe compared to in other cultures?

Which Europeans first explored the world and why?

What did Adam Smith consider the two great human achievements of all time?

Who were the dominant traders in the Indian Ocean before the Europeans?

How did Portuguese traders manage to take control of these markets?

How did the Spanish conquerors overpower the Aztec and Inca Empires?

How did the various European intellectuals view the American natives?

What effects on the world economy did the discovery of huge American silver deposits cause?

How did the Dutch come to dominate international trade and when?

What international positions did England gain from military victories?

Why did slavery develop in European colonies?

What are the main scholarly views about the contribution of slavery to the Industrial Revolution?

What is meant by the “Columbian Exchange”?

What was revolutionary about European commercial developments in this period?

Contrast European and Chinese geopolitical power.

Chapter 6

Why is language so important to human beings?

What are the most rich and sophisticated artifacts of the earliest cultures?

How did writing first emerge?

In what sense was the alphabet more democratic?

How could tiny Greece be compared to huge China culturally?

What was the first portable writing material?

Where did paper first come from?

What is a codex, and why did Christians favor this medium?

When did lower-case letters first emerge? Why were they important?

What was so great about codices?

Where was the world’s first great library located?

What innovations first emerged there?

Where were the greatest libraries in medieval times and why?

Why did China lack great libraries (at least on the scale of those in the Islamic world)?

Where did one find the most books in medieval Europe?

What new collections emerged during the Renaissance?

How did wood-block printing work, and who invented it?

Why did movable-type printing not take off in China?

What technical elements were necessary for the invention of movable-type printing?

Which books did Gutenberg first publish? Which was the most important?

How did printing spread in Europe and where?

What books did the first European printers concentrate on?

How did printing help the development of science and technology?

How did travel literature gradually become more “scientific”?
Why is the history of no other civilization so well documented?
Where, beyond Europe, did printing first spread and not spread?
When did Europe finally have a library to rival that of ancient Alexandria?
What feature of some early printed books made it easier to use them?
Define the “style of Paris.”

Chapter 7

What distinguished Renaissance humanists from scholastic philosophers?
Why was translating the Bible into vernacular languages such a big deal?
What effects did the recovery by scholars of the treasury of Classical learning and letters have?
How would you describe a humanist? Was he typically religious?
Which literary forms did humanists revive?
How did some Renaissance humanists begin to interpret history differently?
Why did universities become rather sterile intellectually?
What distinguished Renaissance humanists from scholastic philosophers?
Describe some artistic achievements of the Renaissance.
How did the church authorities view the developments of the Renaissance?
In what ways were church leaders of this period less than models of moral perfection?
Define the Western Schism.
What were indulgences and how did the practice develop?
Describe reform movements in the church.
Why was translating the Bible into vernacular languages such a big deal?
What is the doctrine of transubstantiation? And why did it give rise to controversy?
What was meant by the “priesthood of all believers”?
How did the idea of conciliarism develop and what did it mean?
What were the main goals of the Council of Constance and were they achieved?
Who were the Hussites and how did they achieve some autonomy within the church?
How did German national consciousness contribute to the Reformation?
Which two central Christian paradoxes troubled Martin Luther and why?
What did Luther consider the most important elements of a person’s religious life?
What did he mean by Sola scriptura, and why was this concept revolutionary?
Why did the Lutheran doctrine empower ordinary people so enormously?
What political implication did the doctrine have?

How did Luther become so successful in spreading his doctrine?
How did the church authorities react to what Luther was saying?
What specific changes did Luther propose in the religious experience of believers?
How did the reformers change the mass?
In what ways were Luther's disciples more radical than he?
How and why did the Reformation turn violent?
How were the massive peasant rebellions related to the Reformation?
What sense did the freedom of conscience remained at the heart of the Reformation?
What effects did the Peace of Augsburg have?
How did Calvinism differ from Lutheranism?
What is "predestination"?
Why did Calvinism spread throughout France but not convert the country?
Why did Calvinism have a much greater impact in the world than did Lutheranism?
How did Calvinism in Holland foster the development of religious toleration?
What was particular about the Church of England?
How did the Catholic Church respond to Protestantism—both positively and negatively?
What effects did this have on art?
How did the Reformation strengthen the movement toward individual rights?
Describe the public schools in Europe during the early modern period.
How did the Reformation influence?
How did the commercial vibrancy of the Dutch Republic foster religious toleration?
How did the Reformation contribute to the concept of the rights of refugees?
What theories of resistance to unjust political authority were developed by Protestants?

Chapter 8

Contrast ancient Greek and ancient Chinese explanations of natural phenomena.
How do artistic creation and scientific understanding differ?
In what way did the Pythagoreans anticipate a key element of modern science?
What were the key scientific insights of Plato and Aristotle?
Who developed the earliest theory about atoms?
Describe the scientific achievements of the Mohists.
What were some of the greatest achievements of Muslim scientists?
How did Western Europeans gain access to most of Greek learning?

Define the scholastic method and its functioning.

Why was Aristotle both a help and a hindrance in scientific development?

Which features of medieval European society fostered scientific inquiry?

How did medieval Europe legal experts contribute to the later emergence of modern science?

How did beliefs in magic and the occult lead to some breakthroughs in science?

What is alchemy, and how did it relate to science?

What was so important about the discovery of sulfuric acid?

How did Kepler use mathematics to understand nature?

In what areas of life did quantification play a role in medieval and early modern Europe?

Why did Francis Bacon write that scientists needed to see everything as if with new eyes?

What methods did scholars use to systematize information?

Define in practical terms what a “Renaissance man” was.

How did scholars collaborate and exchange ideas in the early modern period?

What was the “methodical doubt” of René Descartes?

Why did Chinese thinkers favor empirical over theoretical approaches?

What did Zhu Xi mean by “the study of things”?

What role did dissection play in the development of the life sciences in Europe?

How did the printing revolution improve anatomy, biology, and botany instruction?

Why was Harvey’s conceptualization of the circulatory system so important?

What instruments also contributed to the advance of medical science?

What was the alleged difference between the sublunary and the superlunary regions?

Why were “epicycles” conceived of?

How did medieval thinkers mean by the “great chain of being”?

Why did Copernicus’s major publications not have an immediate impact?

What did he argue in them?

Why did Kepler think he had grasped the mathematical inner-nature of the cosmos?

What was the Danish aristocratic stargazer Tycho Brahe’s main contribution to cosmology?

How did Kepler use mathematics to understand the cosmos?

How did Galileo undermine the Aristotelian worldview?

Why was Galileo placed under house arrest? Did this impact his scientific work?

What scientific laws did Newton formulate?

How did popular interest in science manifest itself during the early modern period?

Why did Robert Boyle insist upon publishing elaborate details of his experiments?
What valuable and effective research methods did he devise?
Scientists from which countries contributed to our understanding of the chemical elements?
Which non-European in the eighteenth century stood out as the “Newton of the Age” and why?
What did his accomplishments demonstrate about European scientific methods?
How did the Scientific Revolution influence many aspects of life in Europe and America?
What was referred to as a “reading revolution” in eighteenth-century Europe?
Why did modern science arise in Europe instead of the Islamic world or China?

Chapter 9

Why is the legal protection of property so important for economic development?
Which commodities helped spark the greatest economic boom in world history and why?
What have some historians called the “sugar revolution”?
Why did European merchants’ obsession with maximizing profits lead to the triangular trade?
In what sense were early modern Europeans a prey to fads and crazes?
How did the peoples of other parts of the world apparently differ in this regard?
Name the one fashionable commodity Europeans invented for themselves?
What was the social role of tea and coffee in Western societies?
Why didn’t European governments ban tobacco (permanently)?
What was the early modern Agricultural Revolution?
When did it begin and what were its principal elements?
What was so important about the potato?
How did scientific innovation contribute to the improvement of agriculture?
How did medieval regulations affecting agricultural markets impede development?
What revolutionary demographic change occurred in Europe from at least the sixteenth century?
Why did Islamic inheritance law impede the emergence of large partnership companies?
What business practices did Muslim merchants pioneer?
What is primogeniture and what was its historical significance?
In what sense did medieval corporations exist as “legal persons”?

How did the limited liability of chartered companies promote entrepreneurship?
How did the commercial revolution affect religious faith in Europe?
What was significant about the Dutch East India Company?
Why did inexpensive credit give Dutch businesses an advantage over their rivals?
How did the tiny Dutch Republic manage to dominate international shipping?
Does the possession of vast natural resources necessarily lead to wealth?
What was the Glorious Revolution and what impact did it have on commerce?
Describe the benefits of a joint-stock company?
How did the Bank of England enable Britain to triumph in most of its major wars?
How did stock and commodity trading develop in London?
Which events of the seventeenth century show the working of the business cycle?
What was so important about liquidity—that is, capital availability?
What debate concerns the contributions of the slave trade to Britain’s economy?
When and where did the “banking revolution” occur? What was its impact?
Which kind of insurance first developed in Italy? Why was it important?
Describe the innovations in real estate that developed in London.
What specific event led to the development of fire insurance and where?
How did insurance companies contribute to safety?
What is meant by “moral hazard”?
Where and when did newspapers first begin to be published?
What roles did coffee houses play in financial innovation?
Why did the commercial revolution not happen in China or the Islamic World?

Chapter 10

What surprising argument did John of Salisbury make about subjects and rulers in the Middle Ages?
How did political fragmentation foster the development of liberty in medieval Europe?
Why did geography contribute to this as well?
How did Europe’s politico-religious makeup differ from those of the great empires to its southeast?
Briefly describe the range of authorities in medieval Europe.
How did the Germanic, Celtic, Slavic, and other tribes rule during early medieval times?
What “constituted bodies” stand between individuals and the state in medieval Europe?
How did assemblies of states emerge in medieval Europe and what roles did they play?
What role did property rights play in political struggles of medieval times?

In what sense was the law above rulers in medieval Europe?
How did medieval political theorists justify resistance to legitimate rulers?
What new ideas did Protestant thinkers contribute to theories of political resistance?
Where did the first successful experiments in self-government after antiquity occur in Europe?
Why did these experiences fail ultimately?
How did the tiny Swiss cantons manage to win their independence?
Why did geography favor the emergence of self-government in Holland?
What role did Calvinism play in the struggle for Dutch self-government?
In what sense was the Dutch political achievement extremely radical?
How did geography favor the emergence of limited government in England?
How did England's system of law limit royal power?
Why did the powers and prerogatives of Parliament steadily increase in Reformation England?
What was the English Civil War mostly about?
Why did England not remain a "Commonwealth"?
What were the main achievements of the Glorious Revolution?
How did Whig political thinkers like John Locke view the nature of government?
What role did Calvinism play in the English revolutions?
How did the English revolutions influence the American Revolution?
How did political and religious pluralism emerge in the American colonies?
When did slavery as an institution begin to develop in the colonies?
Why were the American colonies such a good place for ordinary (white) people?
What was the Great Awakening and how was it important?
How did the Seven Years War lead to the American Revolution?
In what sense was the revolutionary war history's first media war?
What advantages did the colonists have?
How was the building of the new political system fundamentally a grass-roots effort?
Why did North America become so extraordinarily innovative while South and Central America did not?
What social, political, and economic features of Old Regime France made innovation difficult?
How did intellectual fervor contribute to the French Revolution?
Why did political violence loom so large in the French Revolution?
What was the greatest legacy of the French Revolution?

Chapter 11

What is modern economic growth, and when did it first begin?

What is most significant about Chinese civilization?

Name some of the greatest innovations achieved by Chinese inventors.

Is it easy to compare Chinese and European achievements in the Middle Ages?

What caused Marco Polo to marvel about China?

How did Europe's attitude toward innovation differ from that of other early civilizations?

How did Chinese elites view people who worked with their hands?

What intellectual features characterized European elites from the late medieval period?

Describe the development of commercial activity in England in the seventeenth century.

Which other factors favored industrial development in Great Britain?

What scholarly dispute centers on the question of "coal and colonies"?

Discuss what scholars have argued about the contribution of slavery to British industrialization.

What ecological problem did iron production lead to in early modern Europe?

Which innovation did Abraham Darby achieve that resolved this problem?

How did the mechanization of textile production unfold?

The production of which other popular Asian product was industrialized at this time?

What new marketing techniques emerged?

In what sense can we say that innovation accelerated during this period?

Which commercial ventures began to require vast inputs of capital?

What two profound effects did the limited liability corporation have on Western society?

How did railroad companies transform business practices?

In what sense did Britain become the "workshop of the world"?

How did the British government try to limit the diffusion of industrial technology?

Why was it unsuccessful in this effort?

How did industrialization develop in other countries?

What did people mean by the "American system of production"?

How did industrialization evolve in the United States?

Why did the pace of innovation keep accelerating?

What were the "dark sides" of industrialization and how did people react to them?

Chapter 12

What formed the understructure of nearly every economy in history and why?

What was the key way in which changes in agriculture contributed to industrialization?

Name the two areas of technological development that contributed to agricultural revolution.

Describe the progression of invention in these two areas.

Which farmers in the world became the most productive in the later nineteenth century?

Where were wages highest in the world and why?

What was the Homestead Act and why was it important?

How did grain-distribution and meat packing become highly mechanized?

What is meant by a vertically integrated business organization?

What else contributed to the efficiency of the meat-packing industry?

How did all of these innovations affect food prices?

How did scientific advancements lead to food-preservation techniques?

Name some of the key innovations in processed foods.

Describe the nature of the food-production industries in America around 1900.

How did scientific investigations revolutionize crop yields?

Where did Clarence Birdseye get the idea for producing frozen foods?

How did women get new ideas about homemaking starting in the late nineteenth century?

From what new businesses did people get food starting in the early twentieth century?

Describe the stages in the development of our understanding of electricity.

How did the telegraph develop?

Whose interests did it serve most?

What relatively new medium did the telegraph help to develop rapidly?

How did Thomas Edison manage to file over 1,000 patents in the United States alone?

What were some of his major inventions?

How did he contribute to the development of electrical service?

Why was alternating electrical current (AC) better and who developed it?

What is a turbine and how did it contribute to electrical generation and to shipping?

How did efficient patent law contribute to innovation?

How did the sewing machine and the typewriter develop?

What technologies did the electric motor make possible?

Which two new technologies made skyscrapers possible?

Name the new form of transportation that took off beginning in 1888.

How did electric motors make factories more efficient?
How did the use of the telephone differ from that of the telegraph?
Where did the internal combustion engine first develop?
Who invented the first practical automobile?
What other new form of transportation contributed to the development of the automobile?
What is “scientific management” and how did it contribute to economic development?
How did Henry Ford’s concept of the assembly-line dramatically increase production?
How did the diesel engine contribute to the transportation revolution?
What final element of the transportation revolution remains to be named?
How did higher education begin to contribute to the technological revolution?
Which academic discipline had the first big impact?
What was “Bakelite” and to what uses was it put?
What was the first important synthetic dye to be created and by whom?
Why were the big German pharmaceutical firms so successful?
How did a further printing revolution come about and where?
Who invented the world’s first entirely synthetic medication?
What breakthrough led to the concept of chemotherapy?
How did the petroleum industry develop?
What products were made possible by petrochemical technology?
Which “invisible realms” revealed their secrets to Western scientists?
Discuss the environmental dangers caused by the technological revolution.
How did radio develop and in which countries?
Why was RCA the industry leader for decades?
How did Japanese firms come to dominate the consumer electronics industry?
Describe the emergence of computer technology.
What were the two leading edges of innovation at the end of the twentieth century?

Chapter 13

Chapter 14

What is meant by the idea of a “revolutionary middle class”?
To what extent did peasants contribute to innovation in European history?
What was the status of merchants in ancient and early modern China?
How did sociability manifest itself in early modern and modern Europe?

What were among the first prominent voluntary associations?
Where were voluntary associations most numerous per capita?
Were there any membership restrictions and, if so, which ones?
Who formed the backbone of charitable organizations?
Why were voluntary associations important for modern society?
How did professional associations fit into this picture?
What restrictions were there on labor associations?
How did the “associational life” of Western societies contribute to democracy?
What role did Gardiner Hubbard hope for the telephone to play in society?
Give some examples of the extraordinary success of European women in intellectual life.
When and how did a movement seeking to elevate women’s position in society emerge?
Where were women’s opportunities for advancement greatest?
What technologies opened up new careers for women?
Discuss some of the causes for reform spearheaded by women.
How did women’s voting rights in some countries worsen in the early nineteenth century?
Where, when, and why did that trend reverse?
What was meant by the ideal of “domesticity”?
How did women in Western societies come to have more time for activities outside the home?
What changes in domestic life did women’s magazines foster?
When and why did consumerism develop into an important aspect of Western societies?
Which Western country developed the most new genres of music?
Who contributed disproportionately to these developments?
Name some other aspects of the entertainment boom after 1900.
How did the domestic comforts of people in the West and of Americans in particular improve?
Describe the steps by which suburbanization occurred.
What is meant by the “managerial revolution”?
How did it contribute to the strengthening of the middle class?
Why did men and women in modern societies develop a broad range of abilities?
What is meant by the “proletarianization” of white-collar workers?
How did the large middle class contribute positively to Western societies?

How did the position of women in Western societies evolve over the twentieth century?

In what sense has discrimination always been a human feature?

How did the Roman concept of a “law of the nations” lead toward ethnic equality?

What contribution did Christianity make to this development?

How was the European attitude toward other cultures unusual?

In what sense were Europeans more self-critical than other peoples?

How did the philosophical acceptance of the equality of all persons emerge in the West?

Where did religious toleration develop most fully?

What role did slavery play in most early societies?

Who dominated the African slave trade for most of its history?

Which thinkers first opposed slavery on philosophical grounds?

Who in the Western world was most vociferous in their opposition to slavery?

Describe the steps by which slavery was abolished in Western countries.

What contributed to the rise of national consciousness in Western countries?

How did enlightenment thinking change Western prisons and mental institutions?

What other areas of public life were reformed in the nineteenth century?

In what country (aside from Israel) have Jews enjoyed the greatest success and why?

Describe the evolution of immigration policy in the United States.

Discuss the plight of native peoples in the United States.

How did entrenched discrimination against blacks gradually diminish in America?

Why are openness and pluralism so important for human development?

What is meant by the “sexual revolution”?

When did the attitude of Western people toward animals change?

How and why did the position of young people change in Western countries?

Why did the trend toward informality gain such strength in Western countries?

Conclusions

What factors enabled the great civilizations to flourish or to decline?

How have recent cyber innovators differed from Thomas Edison?

In what ways is the Internet similar to the Summa Theologica of Thomas Aquinas?

Give some examples of the acceleration of the information revolution.

How has it changed business and society more generally?

How has the decentralization of authority contributed to the strength of Western civilization?

What made this possible?

How are non-Western countries now beginning to contribute to global innovation?

Why did chaos not swallow up Europe, given the extreme political fragmentation?