

**Part 1: Geography and Outline of History**

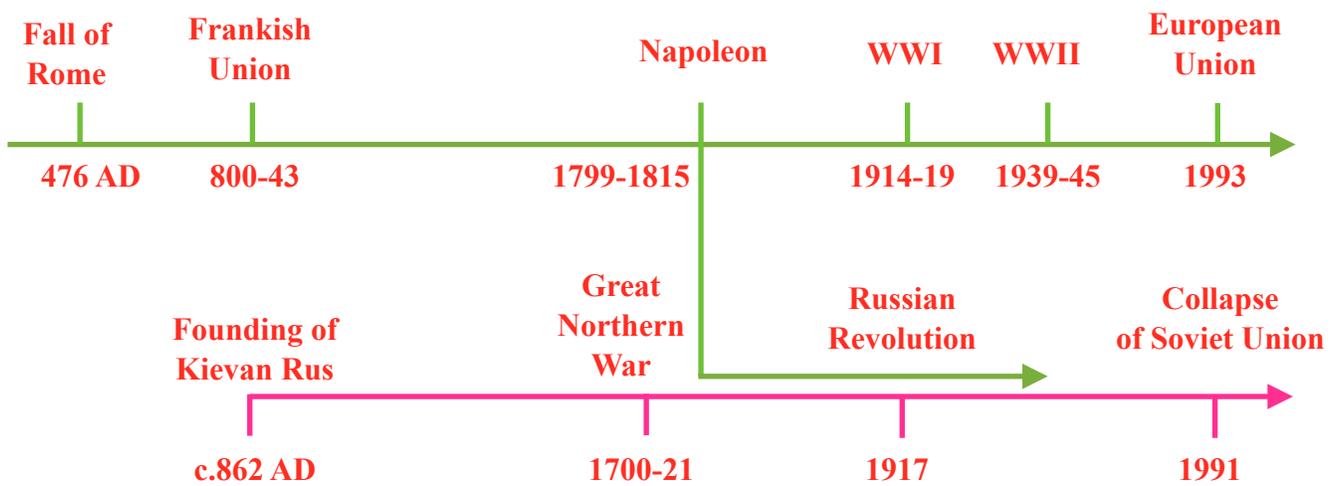
1. Label the ten European countries indicated.

- 1. Ukraine
- 2. France
- 3. Estonia
- 4. Latvia
- 5. Lithuania
- 6. Belarus
- 7. Poland
- 8. Germany
- 9. Finland
- 10. Spain



**(5 pts: 1/2 point per country, including spelling)**

2. Label the given diagram of European and Russian history with anchor facts (*dates and labels*).



**(10 pts: 1/2 pt for each fact; 1/2 pt for each date)  
Total Points This Page: 15 pts**

**Part 2: Russian History 1.0**

3. What was Russia's status among the world's cultures during the Cold War? What is its status now, and how is it trying to continue to be a cardinal culture?

During the Cold War Russia was one of only two cardinal cultures in the world, along with the United States. Now it is one of five cardinal cultures, because of its strong military, but other than that it is no longer a leading culture, its population is shrinking, and it has chosen to attack neighboring Ukraine to prevent it from leaving the "Russosphere" to join Europe and the America-centric world. This war effort will probably backfire and lead to Russia losing its status as a cardinal culture, because it will be treated as a pariah in the America-centric world.

**(4 pts: 1 pt for one of two then; 1 pt one of five today; 1pt for Ukraine War; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

4. Who was Rurik, and why is he an important person in Russian (and Ukrainian) history?

Rurik was a Varangian/Viking leader who invaded the region inhabited by the Slavs that is today Russia and Belarus and Ukraine. He conquered these people and created the first incarnation of Russia that was known as Kievan Rus. This gave the initial impulse to Russian and Ukrainian history, with the two countries starting as one, with the capital of Kyiv, and staying as one country from most of history, until 1991.

**(4 pts: 1 pt - Viking conqueror; 1 pt - Kievan Rus; 1pt for connected rise of Russia and Ukraine; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

5. What kind of Christianity is practiced in Russia? What idea in Russian culture captures the belief in the unique importance of Russia to Christianity?

Russians follow the Orthodox form of Christianity, which is most common in Eastern Europe. When Rome was conquered by barbarians, and the capital of Orthodox Christianity (Constantinople) was later conquered by the Muslims, Russian leaders proposed that Moscow had become the "Third Rome," i.e. that Russia was the greatest Christian nation and champion of Christianity.

**(4 pts: 1 pt - Orthodox; 1 pt for Third Rome and 1pt for fall of Rome and Constantinople; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

**Total Points This Page: 12 pts**

6. What is the importance of the Great Northern War in history?

In the Great Northern War, Russia, led by Peter the Great, defeated Sweden and gained territory on the Baltic Sea. The importance of this war is that Russia, which previously had been land-locked, now had access to Europe by sea, and effectively became a European country. This meant it would gain in terms of knowledge and technology, but also be entangled in European wars. It meant that Russia would have to adapt to being in contact with Europe, including a century of humiliation leading to the Russian Revolution.

**(4 pts: 1 pt for outcome of war; 1 pt for access to Europe; 1pt for good and bad; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

### **Part 3: Communist & Post-Communist Russia**

7. What happened in Russia's "century of humiliation"? What question preoccupied Russian thinkers during this period, and what answer was finally given the question (and by whom)?

Russia's century of humiliation was a series of wars that Russia lost, which were demoralizing, because Russia did not seem to be able to catch up to Europe, leading to the question "What is to be done?" It began with Napoleon's invasion of Russia, which the Russians could not stop, and which forced them to use scorched earth tactics. It continued with the Crimean War, when France and Britain ganged up on Russia, the Russo-Japanese War that Russia lost to modernized Japan, and finally WWI, where millions of casualties became the final tipping point for the rejection of the monarchy, and Vladimir Lenin's answer to the big question: communism.

**(5 pts: 1 pt for Napoleon; 1 pt for the question; 1pt for WWI; 1 pt for Lenin; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

8. Explain how communism is based on Marxism, but also how and why it is different.

Communism is the set of ideas put forward by Vladimir Lenin to answer the question "What is to be done?" for Russia. Lenin believed in the theories of Karl Marxism, known as "Marxism," which says that history progresses through cycles of oppression leading to revolutions, and that ultimately the most advanced societies will evolve to a society without oppression where everyone will be equal and serve the common good. Lenin accepted it all, except the timeline. Marxism was too slow for him, because Russia was too backward. So he decided to make a monarchical or dictatorial form of it, where he would command the Russians to advance into the future faster than all other nations.

**(4 pts: 1 pt for Marx's theory; 1 pt for too slow; 1pt for dictatorship to speed up history; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

**Total Points This Page: 13 pts**

9. What are the major examples of Russia being invaded by other nations/peoples? What is the impact of these events on Russian nationalism?

Russia has been invaded throughout its history. It was formed by an invasion by the Varangians. It struggled for centuries against a Mongol occupation that led to the rise of Russia's capital of Moscow. Its southern territory was invaded by the Ottoman Turks, and its northern territory held by Sweden until the Great Northern War. It was later invaded by Napoleon, attacked by Britain and France in the Crimean War, and finally invaded twice by Germany in the world wars. The result is a culture with a stronger sense of ultranationalism, which means not only patriotism, but a negative feeling towards other nations and cultures.

**(6 pts: 4 pmts for at least four wars; 1 pt for ultranationalism; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

10. Why is Vladimir Putin an important person in history, regardless of how the Ukraine war turns out?

Vladimir Putin has been the leader of post-communist Russia since 2000. This is why he is so important. Post-communist Russia is looking for answers. He is the charismatic leader who claims to have them. His most dramatic answer has been that Russia needs to use its powerful military in order to command respect as a cardinal culture. This has led him to fighting the Ukraine War to try to prevent the expansion of NATO into Ukraine, which he feels would endanger Russia as a nation to a level that is unacceptable. Even if he loses, the war has already had a huge impact, including an energy crisis in Europe; and Ukraine will probably be ruined as a country.

**(4 pts: 1 pt for post-communism; 1 pt for charismatic leader; 1pt for use of military power to affect history; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

**Total Points This Page: 10 pts**

**Total Points on the Test: 50 pts**