Routes of Reform

Trace how Protestant movements spread and changed European society.

MWH.C.2.3.D "Trace the spread of Protestantism across Europe, including Lutherans, Reformed (Calvinist) Church of England, Anabaptists, and the effects on European society (e.g., idea and practice of religious tolerance, Calvinist work ethic)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline where each movement began, circle places it reached, and put a star beside each effect on European society.

Different Roads Across Europe

1 In 1517, Martin Luther challenged the sale of indulgences in Wittenberg, in the German lands. Printers copied his arguments, and travelers carried them to other towns. Lutheran churches took root across parts of the Holy Roman Empire and in Denmark and Sweden, where rulers supported religious change. These rulers often organized new churches, so a border could also mark a change in worship. Protestantism did not follow just one route: printed pages moved quickly, while rulers decided which churches could operate openly. For families, a new church might mean different sermons, schools, and expectations about religious practice.

2 In Swiss cities, reformers including Huldrych Zwingli promoted changes that differed from Luther's. John Calvin later made Geneva a major center of Reformed Christianity. Students and ministers carried Reformed ideas into France, the Netherlands, and Scotland, where supporters faced different levels of resistance. Anabaptists also emerged in the Swiss lands. They insisted that baptism should follow a person's own decision to believe, rather than occur in infancy. Their groups spread into German lands and the Netherlands. Both Catholic and other Protestant authorities persecuted many Anabaptists, showing that new religious movements did not automatically bring tolerance.

3 England followed another path. In the 1530s, Henry VIII broke with papal authority, and Parliament recognized the king as head of the Church of England. Later, Elizabeth I shaped its Protestant worship. Across Europe, conflict between churches led to laws that sometimes allowed limited religious practice by minorities, but tolerance remained uneven. In the Dutch Republic, some dissenting groups could worship more freely than in many neighboring states, though restrictions remained. Reformed teaching also stressed disciplined work as part of a believer's calling, an outlook sometimes called the Calvinist work ethic. Belief, government, and daily life changed together, but not everywhere alike.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Trace Lutheranism from Wittenberg to two kingdoms. What helped it spread and take root?

2. Trace Reformed Christianity from Geneva to two other places. Who carried its ideas?

3. How did the Church of England's path differ from the Anabaptists' path? Include the role of authorities in each.

4. How did Protestant movements affect daily life and religious tolerance? Use one example of each from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 70 to 100 word museum label titled "One Reformation, Many Routes." Trace three Protestant movements through at least three named European places, explain two different ways beliefs spread or faced resistance, and connect one movement to a change in European society.

ANSWER KEY

Routes of Reform

HIGH SCHOOL · MWH.C.2.3.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline where each movement began, circle places it reached, and put a star beside each effect on European society. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Trace Lutheranism from Wittenberg to two kingdoms. What helped it spread and take root?	**Lutheran ideas spread through printed arguments and travelers. Lutheran churches took root in Denmark and Sweden with rulers' support.**
2	Trace Reformed Christianity from Geneva to two other places. Who carried its ideas?	**Students and ministers carried Reformed ideas from Geneva into places such as France, the Netherlands, and Scotland. Accept any two destinations.**
3	How did the Church of England's path differ from the Anabaptists' path? Include the role of authorities in each.	**In England, Henry VIII broke with papal authority, and Parliament recognized him as head of the Church of England. Anabaptists emerged in Swiss lands and spread into German lands and the Netherlands, where many faced persecution by Catholic and Protestant authorities.**
4	How did Protestant movements affect daily life and religious tolerance? Use one example of each from the passage.	**Reformed teaching stressed disciplined work as part of a believer's calling. Some dissenting groups could worship more freely in the Dutch Republic, but restrictions remained.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

One Reformation, Many Routes. A single Reformation took several routes. Lutheran ideas moved from Wittenberg through print and gained rulers' backing in Denmark and Sweden. Reformed Christianity traveled from Geneva to Scotland with students and ministers. Anabaptist groups spread from Swiss lands into the Netherlands, but authorities often persecuted them. These routes show that rulers could make a new church official while blocking other believers. Conflict eventually helped prompt limited toleration in some places, including the Dutch Republic, although equal freedom of worship did not follow.

Accept other accurate routes and effects supported by the passage. Responses should distinguish limited toleration from full religious freedom.