

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

The Congress of Vienna: 1814-1815

Part 1: Fill in the Blank: Instructions: For each item below, use the word bank to complete the sentences.

Crimean, Boer, Vienna, St. Helena, Quadruple, Entente, Russia, Haiti, Waterloo, Constitutional, Theocratic, Liberals, Metternich, Monarchies, Buffer States, Horatio Nelson

1. During Napoleon's first exile, a meeting of European leaders gathered in _____, Austria to forge a new Europe.
2. _____ argued that a return to absolute monarchies would create stability.
3. _____ were those who felt that representative governments should be a part of Europe's future.
4. Many argued that peace would only be achieved if European nations created _____ around France.
5. The Conservatives wanted to restore the past _____.
6. _____ Monarchies meant the monarchs had to share power with legislative leaders.
7. Austria, Prussia, _____, and others took a conservative approach and restored absolute monarchs.
8. Napoleon suffered a major defeat at the Battle of _____.
9. To further protect themselves from nationalistic uprisings, Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia formed the _____ Alliance.
10. Napoleon's final place of exile was in _____.
11. The _____ War started in 1853.

Part 2: Open Response: Instructions: Write at least one full paragraph to answer the questions below.

1. What was the purpose of the Congress of Vienna? Why events led to this meeting?



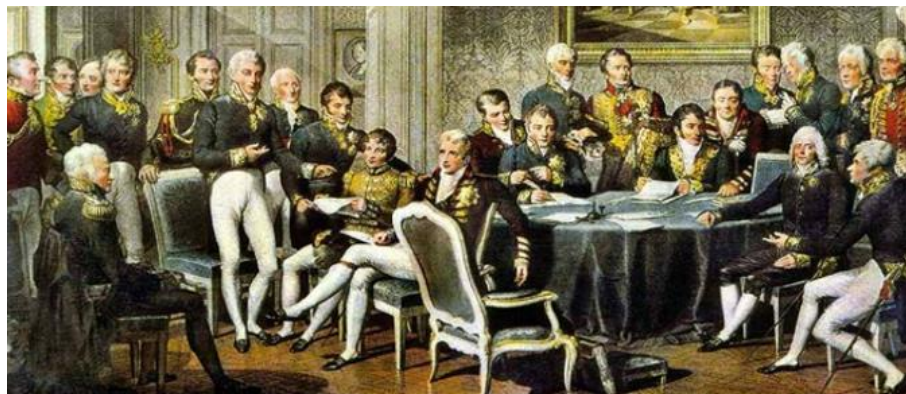
2. In terms of the opinions present at the Congress of Vienna, what is the difference between a Liberal and a Conservative?

3. What happened when Napoleon returned from his first exile? What ultimately happened to Napoleon?



The Congress of Vienna: 1814-1815

By 1814, the European nations had suffered severe consequences from the horrific Napoleonic Wars and other conflicts. During Napoleon's first exile, a meeting of European leaders gathered in Vienna, Austria to forge a



The Congress of Vienna 1814-1815

new Europe. Austria's Klemens von Metternich (1773-1858) led the meeting. The goal was to restructure the political map of Europe and bring stability to the continent. Other leaders present were Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord of France (1754-1838), Robert Stewart of Britain (1769-1822), and Czar Alexander the 1st of Russia (1777-1825).

The French Revolution and other movements argued for freedoms, like the freedom of speech, representative governments, and an end to monarchies.

Yet, Metternich and others argued these movements simply led to chaos, mob rule, and a plague of violence throughout Europe. Metternich argued that a return to absolute monarchies would create stability. He asserted this system would halt more revolutions and wars from manifesting in the future.

Conservative Reactionaries were those who felt the remedy to cure the problems that came from the Enlightenment Revolutions and the Napoleonic Wars was to return to the old system of absolute monarchies. Liberals were those who felt that, despite the chaos that came from the movement, the Enlightenment's priorities of individual rights, representative governments, and the like should be a part of Europe's future. While Conservatives and Liberals differed on these areas, one thing most nations agreed on was steps should be taken to ensure France never tried to conquer all of Europe again.

The French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars had devastated Europe. The Congress of Vienna did not want severely to punish France for fear of antagonizing the nation to pursue future conflicts. Yet, the Congress wanted deliberately to take steps to ensure France was never positioned to try and conquer Europe again. One major step toward this endeavor was creating buffer states that bordered France and could challenge the nation, if it expanded again. The buffer states included a stronger Kingdom of the Netherlands, several areas in the German Confederation combined as a group, and a renewed independent Switzerland. This new political map of Europe looked more like Europe did before the Napoleonic Wars.



Austria's Klemens von Metternich (1773-1858) led the Congress of Vienna. The goal was to restructure the political map of Europe and bring stability to those that had suffered through the Napoleonic Wars and other conflicts.

The Conservatives wanted to restore the past monarchies. By in large, they did so. Yet, the power each nation gave to their monarchs differed from nation to nation. For instance, the Enlightenment desire to restrict the power of monarchs could not be stopped in Britain in France. In these nations, Constitutional Monarchies were



formed. This meant the monarchs had to share power with legislative leaders and were limited in power by constitutions. Austria, Prussia, Russia, and others took a conservative approach and restored absolute monarchs. While Britain and France took a more liberal route, all nations recognized the monarchs of each area as authentic and deserving of power, a practice called legitimacy.

The Congress of Vienna restructured the map of Europe to resemble how the continent existed before the Napoleonic Wars. They reestablished buffer states that could challenge France's power, in case of a future expansion of the nation.

Austria, Prussia, and Russia had each taken a conservative route with absolute monarchs. They

formed a group called the Holy Alliance. This group championed a Christian religious identity and the old system of absolute monarchs. While Britain and France had taken a more liberal path by establishing Constitutional Monarchies, all nations faced the risk of revolutions rising up again. To protect themselves from future revolutions, the Concert of Europe was formed between the nations that had various monarchies. They asserted that, if revolution broke out again, in any area, they would unite to crush the rebellion.

In the absence of Napoleon, the brother of King Louis the 16th, Louis the 18th, took control of France. Yet, many feared this would usher in the old institutions that were challenged by the Enlightenment, such as absolute monarchies. Napoleon utilized this opportunity to assert he wanted to remove the monarchy from France to continue to the French Revolution. He returned and took power declaring himself to be emperor. The members of the Congress of Vienna pledged to stop Napoleon and refused to allow him to regain power.



Napoleon was banished to the Island of Elba and was never supposed to leave the island again.

Furious that he had escaped his exile, Britain launched an invasion of mainland Europe. At a village in Belgium called Waterloo, they attacked Napoleon's forces. At the Battle of Waterloo, in 1815, to help Britain, the Prussians also invaded. Napoleon was eventually defeated and had to give up power. Once again, Napoleon was exiled, this time to St. Helena in the Atlantic Ocean. His rule had brought with it the deaths of millions and horrific wars that plagued the European people. He died in exile and never again was able to gain power in Europe.

Some areas in Europe were left not controlling their own nations, because they had massive foreign control of their area too. This led to nationalistic desires of autonomy for people groups like the Greeks, Poles, and others. To further protect themselves from nationalistic uprisings, Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia

formed the Quadruple Alliance. They agreed to put down any nationalistic uprisings, never allow Napoleon to regain power, and uphold the declarations of the Congress of Vienna. This group met periodically to discuss the security of Europe and determine if the plans of the Congress of Vienna were being carried out. This group became official in November of 1815, partially as a reaction to Napoleon's last attempt for power.

The Congress of Vienna, for the most part, did achieve the security it desired. Yet, this did not stop future rebellions that championed independence and the implementation of Enlightenment ideals. For instance, the Greeks tried to rebel against the Ottoman Empire control of their nation. Outside of Europe, many of the Spanish Colonies in the Western Hemisphere rebelled against Spain. These areas did eventually win their independence. However, generally, stability was achieved between the most powerful nations of Europe lasting all the way until the mid-1800s, when the Crimean War started in 1853 against Russia.

Answers:**The Congress of Vienna: 1814-1815**

Part 1: Fill in the Blank: Instructions: For each item below, use the word bank to complete the sentences.

Crimean, Boer, Vienna, St. Helena, Quadruple, Entente, Russia, Haiti, Waterloo, Constitutional, Theocratic, Liberals, Metternich, Monarchies, Buffer States, Horatio Nelson

1. During Napoleon's first exile, a meeting of European leaders gathered in Vienna, Austria to forge a new Europe.
2. Metternich argued that a return to absolute monarchies would create stability.
3. Liberals were those who felt that representative governments should be a part of Europe's future.
4. Many argued that peace would only be achieved if European nations created buffer states around France.
5. The Conservatives wanted to restore the past monarchies.
6. Constitutional Monarchies meant the monarchs had to share power with legislative leaders.
7. Austria, Prussia, Russia, and others took a conservative approach and restored absolute monarchs.
8. Napoleon suffered a major defeat at the Battle of Waterloo.
9. To further protect themselves from nationalistic uprisings, Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia formed the Quadruple Alliance.
10. Napoleon's final place of exile was in St. Helena.
11. The Crimean War started in 1853.

Part 2: Open Response: Instructions: Write at least one full paragraph to answer the questions below.

1. What was the purpose of the Congress of Vienna? Why events led to this meeting?

After the Napoleonic Wars, Europe was in shambles. Many asserted the radical ideas of the Enlightenment caused it. Many wanted to return to Absolute Monarchies. Some wanted to foster Constitutional Monarchies. All agreed that France needed to be limited from rising again. These were the issues the Congress of Vienna addressed.



2. In terms of the opinions present at the Congress of Vienna, what is the difference between a Liberal and a Conservative?

After the Napoleonic Wars, Liberals argued that, despite the chaos, representative governments were necessary. They asserted the notions of the Enlightenment demanded such freedoms and government participation. Yet, Conservatives disagreed. They felt the events leading up the Congress of Vienna displayed Enlightenment values led to chaos. They wanted monarchies reestablished for order.

3. What happened when Napoleon returned from his first exile? What ultimately happened to Napoleon?

Despite being exiled, Napoleon rose again. Even as the Congress of Vienna was trying to manage the chaotic aftermath of his wars, he still gained power. Yet, an alliance of European nations stopped him at Waterloo. Once again, Napoleon was exiled. This time, the exile worked. He died in exile and never gained power again.



Do you need more resources?

**We've got you covered with EVERYTHING you need to
teach World History ALL YEAR!**

**Come check us out at TeachWorldHistory.com to get
FREE curated videos, worksheets, PowerPoints,
quizzes, and more!**

www.TeachWorldHistory.com