**The Catholic Counter Reformation**

*Read the following section then answer question 1*

In a counter reformation, the Catholic Church established the Inquisition, a church court designed to try people accused of heresy which often included Protestants as victims of this church justice. Additionally, the church created an index of forbidden books in order to stamp out heretical rebellious doctrines. To further promote Catholicism, new religious orders were found such as the Jesuits.

1. What was the reaction of the Catholic Church to the early reformers?

*Read the following section then answer question 2*

***Catholic Church Response to Early Reformers***

The Catholic Church used multiple methods to respond to perceived heresies within the Church. Punishments ranged from recantation, to excommunication, to death. In addition, the Catholic Church developed a list of approved books and a list of subversive books for the benefit of their members. The list of subversive books was known as the Index of Forbidden Books.

***Stopping the Spread of Protestantism***

The Catholic Church formed two new institutions to combat the spread of Protestantism and to return people to the fold. The Jesuit Order, founded by Ignatius of Loyola, used education as a means to stem the tide of Protestantism. They established schools and universities to aid them in the process achieving considerable results. Also, the Ursuline Order, founded by Teresa of Avila, was established by the Catholic Church to educate and regain the loyalty of young girls. On a darker note, the Court of the Inquisition sought harsher means of combating heresy and preventing dissent from Church teachings. Likewise, the Index of Forbidden Books was an unsuccessful attempt to stop the spread of Protestant theology.

2. How did the Catholic Church combat the spread of Protestant ideals? List some positive and negative methods used by the church in this endeavor.

*Read the following section then answer question 3 & 4*

***The Council of Trent Convenes***

The Council of Trent was convened in 1545 to confront the growing Protestant threat to the supremacy of the Roman Catholic Church and its doctrine. The most important conclusion that the Council reached was to reaffirm the equal validity of Scripture and church tradition. The Church also retained the right of sole interpreter of the meaning of the Scriptures. In addition the Church repudiated the Protestant claim that faith alone secured salvation. The Church would continue to preach instead the doctrine of faith and good works.

3. What did the Council of Trent Reaffirm?

4. What was the impact of the Council of Trent?

*Read the following section then answer question 5 & 6*

***The Inquisition: Success or Failure?***

Prior to the Protestant Reformation, the church had occasionally used Inquisitions to stamp out perceived heretical activities, the most famous being the Spanish Inquisition in 1478. With the Reformation, the Church established a more permanent institution called the Roman Inquisition to vigorously pursue and stamp out this new and more virulent heresy. Similar to the early Spanish Inquisition they employed tactics such as: imprisonment, confiscation of property, and using the secular authorities to torture victims to extort confessions and carry out punishments. Contrary to the hopes of the Roman Inquisitors, they did not succeed in stamping out the Protestant Churches nor bringing the majority of their members back into the fold of the Roman Catholic Church. Ultimately the secular authorities in Italy would end the Roman Inquisition in mid eighteenth century.

5. What was the purpose of the Inquisition?

6. Would you judge the Inquisition to have been a success or failure? Why?

**Video:** Torture: *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-cI0F1ConY*

* 1. **Torture:** Beneficial or Ineffective Mean of Interrogation? Why