Final Performance Task Options for Unit 6

Important Information for Both Options

The following are the main ideas you are to understand from this unit. They should appear in this final performance task so your teacher can assess whether you have learned the most essential content:

* New philosophies developed during the Age of Reason—including rationalism, deism, and empiricism—and greatly transformed the course of history.
* The Enlightenment and the French Revolution took a terrible toll on the Church and society in Europe, but these events also emphasized the Gospel values of liberty and equality for all and led to a renewal of Catholic piety and worship.
* Pope Pius IX strived to affirm the Church’s place in the modern world through a strengthening of lay spirituality, a renewal of devotional practices, and a call for a new Ecumenical Council.
* Vatican Council I produced important statements about papal infallibility and the relationship between faith and reason.

Option 1: Interview Questions for Pope Pius IX

Working independently, imagine that you are a reporter who has been granted a rare exclusive interview with Pope Pius IX. Prepare your list of initial interview questions, as well as follow-up questions to answers that you can anticipate he will give.

As a professional reporter, you will need to do background research on the Pope and on the issues of the day to help you craft good questions to invite his insights. You must locate three background sources and write a one-paragraph summary of key points you learned from each and how they informed your interview questions.

Make sure your interview questions cover the following themes:

* the Pope’s goals for his papacy
* problems the Pope sees within the Church
* the Pope’s thoughts about the philosophical movements of the Enlightenment
* the Pope’s thoughts about the lasting effects of the French Revolution for the Church in Europe
* dogmas declared by the Pope
* religious renewal
* Vatican Council I
* the documents produced by Vatican Council I

Your project must include or demonstrate the following:

* an understanding of the four main concepts of unit 6, as listed at the beginning of this handout
* an annotated bibliography listing three research sources, with one paragraph summarizing each source and explaining how it guided your interview questions
* a list of twenty-five to thirty detailed and insightful questions for Pope Pius IX that, if asked of him, would further your understanding of the issues facing the Church during the nineteenth century
* appropriate content and maturity level for a high school religion class

Option 2: The Front Page of a Newspaper from the Day after Vatican Council I Adjourns

Working in a group of three or four, imagine that you are on the staff of a diocesan newspaper, and you are putting out a special edition the day after Vatican Council I adjourns. Write and lay out the front page of your newspaper for that day. Your front page must include the following:

* the name of your diocesan newspaper
* an original lead story, including headline
* at least three other original news or feature stories, including headlines
* at least three images, with captions and photo credits

Your project must include or demonstrate the following:

* an understanding of the four main concepts of unit 6, as listed at the beginning of this handout
* news stories that illustrate the main events and results of the First Vatican Council
* appropriate content and maturity level for a high school religion class.