



State three significant events that occurred during the Protestant Movement. Use the rubric below to guide your answers. Type your answers (12 font, double-spaced).

The Ninety-Five Theses of Martin Luther

In examining the Protestant movement, Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses emerge as a pivotal moment. Dated October 31, 1517, this document challenged the Catholic Church's practice of selling indulgences, which were believed to reduce punishment for sins. Luther, a German monk and theologian, not only questioned the theological foundation of indulgences but also criticized the corruption it fostered within the church hierarchy.

What makes the Ninety-Five Theses historically significant is not just their content but also the method of their dissemination. Leveraging the power of the printing press, a relatively new technology at the time, Luther's ideas spread rapidly across Europe. This act marked a shift in how religious ideas were communicated and debated, moving away from closed scholarly circles to a broader public discourse. The Theses ignited the Reformation, leading to a fundamental shift in Christian theology and the eventual establishment of Protestant denominations.

The English Reformation and the Act of Supremacy

Another significant event in the Protestant movement is the English Reformation, particularly the Act of Supremacy in 1534. This act, initiated by King Henry VIII, declared the king as the Supreme Head of the Church of England, effectively severing ties with the Roman Catholic Church. The motives were complex, entangled with Henry's desire for an annulment from Catherine of Aragon, which the Pope had refused.

The Act of Supremacy had profound implications. It not only altered the religious landscape of England but also set a precedent for the relationship between the church and state. This act symbolized a shift towards national sovereignty over religious affairs and paved the way for the development of a distinctly English form of Protestantism. The theological implications were equally significant, as it led to the creation of the Book of Common Prayer and the establishment of doctrines that shaped Anglicanism.

The Diet of Worms and Luther's Stand

The Diet of Worms in 1521 is another cornerstone event in the history of the Protestant movement. Here, Martin Luther was summoned before the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and other secular and religious leaders to recant his teachings. Luther's response was a defining moment for the Reformation. His refusal to recant unless shown to be wrong by Scripture or clear reason demonstrated a new approach to authority in Christianity, emphasizing the primacy of the Bible over church tradition.

Luther's stand at the Diet of Worms epitomized the spirit of the Reformation – a call for reform based on Scripture and a challenge to the authority of the Church when it conflicted with biblical teachings. This event not only solidified Luther's role as a leader in the Protestant movement but also highlighted the growing tension between emerging Protestant beliefs and the established Catholic doctrine, setting the stage for religious and political transformations in Europe.

Rubric for Evaluating Essays. (35 points)

1. Content Accuracy (0-10 points)

Exemplary (9-10 points): The essay provides accurate, detailed information about the event, demonstrating a deep understanding of its historical context and significance.

Proficient (7-8 points): The essay includes accurate information with sufficient detail, showing a good understanding of the event's historical context.

Basic (5-6 points): The essay has some accurate information but lacks detail or has minor inaccuracies, showing a basic understanding of the event.

Needs Improvement (0-4 points): The essay contains significant inaccuracies or lacks substantial information about the event.

2. Analysis and Interpretation (0-10 points)

Exemplary (9-10 points): The essay provides insightful analysis and interpretation, linking the event to broader historical themes and its impact on the Protestant movement.

Proficient (7-8 points): The essay offers clear analysis and interpretation, showing how the event fits into the Protestant movement.

Basic (5-6 points): The essay includes some analysis and interpretation but may be superficial or lack depth.

Needs Improvement (0-4 points): The essay lacks analysis and interpretation, providing only a narrative with no deeper insight.

3. Organization and Clarity (0-5 points)

Exemplary (4-5 points): The essay is well-organized, with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion. Ideas are logically and coherently presented.

Proficient (3 points): The essay has a clear structure but may have minor flaws in organization or clarity.

Basic (2 points): The essay shows some organization but lacks clarity or coherence in places.

Needs Improvement (0-1 points): The essay is poorly organized, difficult to follow, or lacks a clear structure.

4. Use of Sources and Evidence (0-5 points)

Exemplary (4-5 points): The essay effectively integrates sources and evidence, correctly citing them to support key points.

Proficient (3 points): The essay uses sources and evidence appropriately with few minor citation errors.

Basic (2 points): The essay includes some sources and evidence, but their use is limited or somewhat inappropriate.

Needs Improvement (0-1 points): The essay lacks sources and evidence or has significant citation errors.

5. Writing Style and Grammar (0-5 points)

Exemplary (4-5 points): The essay is well-written, free of grammatical errors, and exhibits a style appropriate for academic writing.

Proficient (3 points): The essay is generally well-written with few grammatical mistakes.

Basic (2 points): The essay contains noticeable grammatical errors or awkward phrasing that occasionally hinders understanding.

Needs Improvement (0-1 points): The essay has significant grammatical errors and poor writing style, making it difficult to understand.

30 points - Please see comments in LMS

