

Silent Bell Work

- Answer the following questions in your folder:
 - Why was the Glorious Revolution considered glorious?
 - What type of government was England after the Glorious Revolution?
 - A word I know, six letters it contains, subtract just one and twelve remains



Schedule

Objective: I can describe the effect of absolutism in France

- Louis XIV Notes
- Palace of Versailles

LOUIS XIV

1638-1715



Louis XIV



- Louis XIV became King at age 4 but he did not rule until he was 23
- Normally, Kings would appoint Prime Ministers to run the country. Louis decided he would rule the country himself.

The Divine Right

- He was a firm believer in the Divine Right of Kings. He was a practicing Catholic and supported James II in England
- Most Kings in France had problems with the Nobility trying to challenge the king's power
- Louis XIV had an idea on how to change that



The Divine Right



- Normally, most important positions in government were bought by Nobles. This was one way for the King to raise money. Nobles generally controlled the government
- Louis XIV appointed skilled middle class people to government, and earned their loyalty.
- Nobles influence was diminished

Nobles

- Without government jobs, Nobles depended on the King's generosity for income



- Louis kept the Nobles dependent on him by only giving money to those who were totally loyal to him and served him at the palace

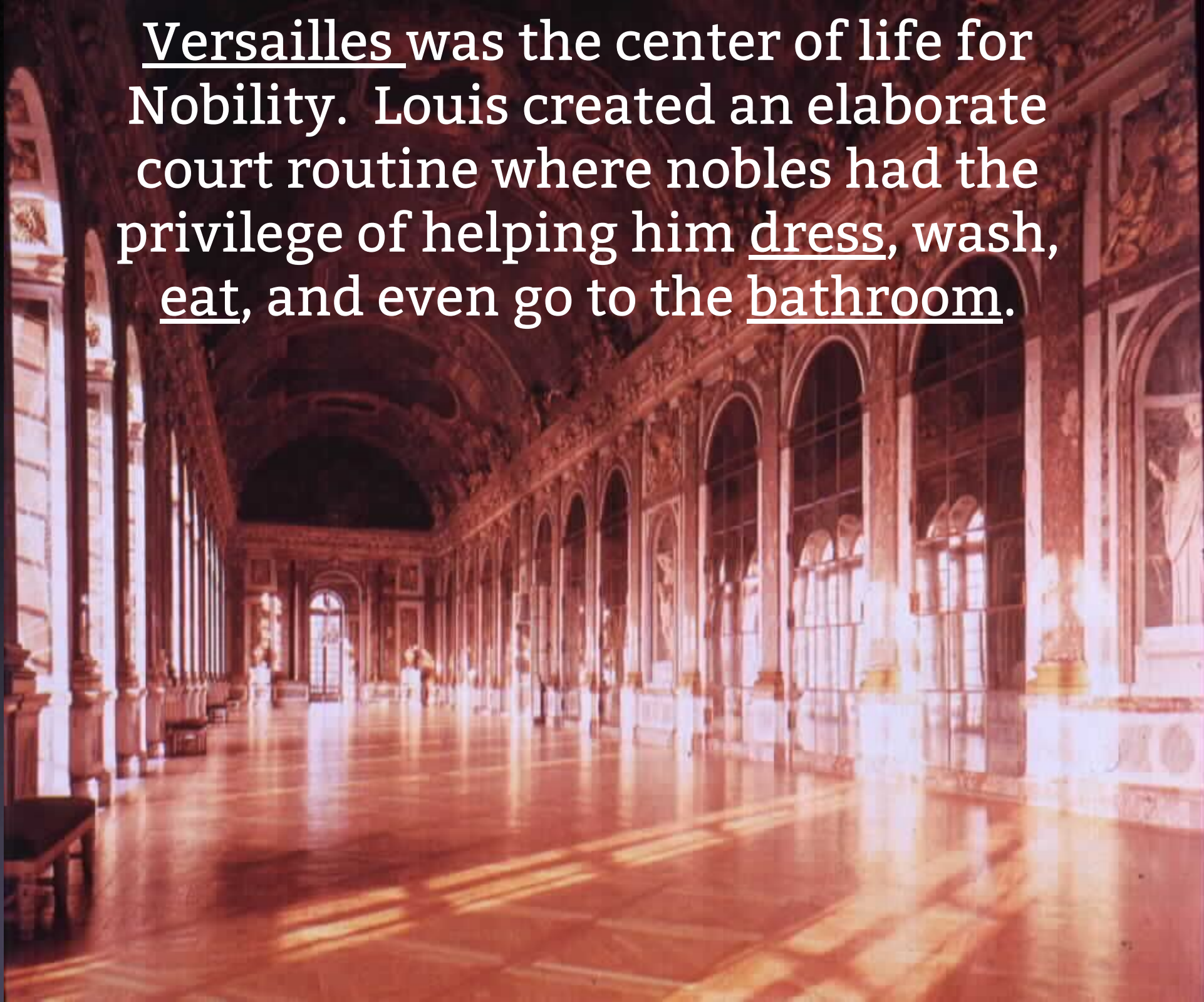
The Sun King

- He was called the Sun King because he saw himself as the center of the France
- "L'Etat C'est Moi"
- "I am the Country".
- Court life in France revolved around the worshipping of Louis and everything he did



Life at Versailles

Versailles was the center of life for Nobility. Louis created an elaborate court routine where nobles had the privilege of helping him dress, wash, eat, and even go to the bathroom.



Life at Versailles



Nobles who took part in these rituals and showed loyalty received substantial rewards from the King

- diamond necklaces
- **money, money, money**
- apartments
- the privilege of being around the Louis phenomenon!

- **When the King is thirsty, he asks for a drink. The principal cupbearer cries ‘A drink for the King!’ He then bows and approaches the side table. The chief drink tester hands him a gold tray on top of which sits the King’s covered glass and two crystal pitchers.**
- **The cupbearer and goblet tester walk in procession to the King’s table and bow down in reverence. The first two test the wine, the third tests the water in two silver-gilt cups.**
- **The principal cupbearer bows again and uncovers the King’s glass and offers up the two pitchers. The King then serves himself the wine and water...**

“In everything [Louis XIV] loved **splendor, magnificence**, profusion. He turned his taste into a maxim for political reasons and instilled it into his court on all matters. One could **please him** by **throwing oneself into fine food, clothes, retinue, buildings, gambling**. These were occasions which enabled him to talk to people. The essence of it was that by this he attempted and succeeded in exhausting everyone by **making luxury a virtue** and for certain persons **a necessity**, and thus he gradually reduced [the nobility] to **depending entirely** on his **generosity**”

The Duke of Saint-Simon



Life at Versailles

During his reign,
Louis built
probably the most
magnificent
palace ever built
in
Europe--Versailles
. It cost 600
million livres
(\$2-300 BILLION)
and over 35,000
people working
for decades to
complete it. He
was still adding to
it at his death.



Life at Versailles



- Versailles was--and still is--considered a marvel of construction. Many Kings and nobility in Europe tried to copy Versailles, but none came close

Versailles, from Louis XIII to the French Revolution



Versailles after the French Revolution



Louis XV

Louis also had an extensive **spy network** and knew the **secrets** of almost every prominent noble. In this way he was able to totally dominate his kingdom throughout his life



“Louis XIV took very special to be informed about everything that was going on . . . in public and in private. He had an infinity of spies . . . of every kind. Some were ignorant of the fact that their relations went all the way to him, others knew it.

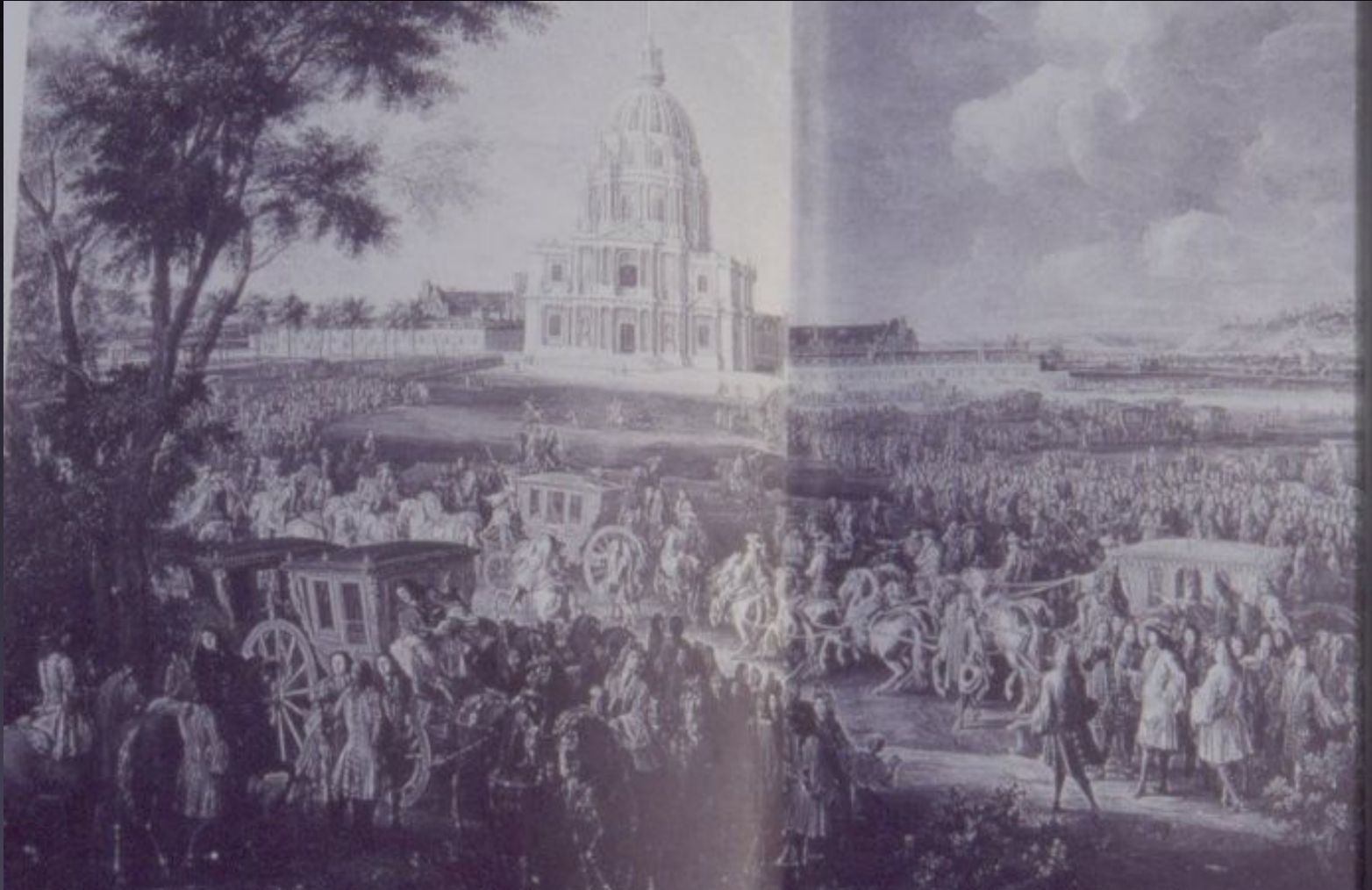
“But the cruelest of all the ways by which the king was kept informed, and it was many years before it was realized, and many never did realize it . . . was by opening letters.

“It is impossible to understand how promptly and efficiently it was done. The king saw extracts from every letter . . . which the chiefs of the postal service judged should reach him. A word of criticism of the king or the government, a bit of sarcasm could ruin one forever.”

The Duke of Saint-Simon



His lavish spending and **love of war**--especially against **Protestants**--brought France to the brink of **Bankruptcy** by the time he died



When he died, no one could really take his place as ruler. **Nobles and King** were so closely aligned that by the time of the Revolution, both were despised equally



Louis XIV Diary Entry

- ❖ Go to Google Classroom and open the “Louis XIV Diary Entry” assignment
- ❖ Using the powerpoint presentation, textbook pages 510-514, and the link provided, pretend you are Louis XIV write a ½ page *minimum* diary entry for Louis XIV.
- ❖ Mention his beliefs, values, control of nobility, and daily rituals.

