BOOK WORK #1

PAGE 595: 2, 5, 7, AND 8

**DIRECTIONS:** In a different color pen – or in pencil – read the suggested responses to the questions you answered and edit them for clarity and accuracy.

2. Conditions: Decline of Feudalism, colonial wealth, religious, and territorial conflicts.

* Why? The most necessary condition for a monarch to gain power is the **decline of feudalism** in which merchants, church officials, and nobles were all part**.** This breakdown was necessary because local rulers such as nobles and especially church officials had to become weakened for a single figure (a monarch) to seize control of the country, its land and resources, and its people to centralize their power.

5. Absolute monarchs believed in the theory of divine right; and, that God created the monarchy, which would mean God created their family to rule their country. Because of this, they believed they answered only to God – not to the people, because God granted their royal family the power to rule over their country’s people culturally, politically, and socially. They considered themselves God’s representatives on Earth – not necessarily the Pope.

7. Phillip II, a Catholic, believed it was his duty to crush Protestantism in the Netherlands (a Spanish possession) and defend Catholicism. In the Spanish Netherlands where the Dutch were ruled by Spain, there were many Calvinists (a branch of Protestantism). The Dutch were prosperous, unlike their Spanish rulers in the Netherlands. Phillip raised taxes in the Netherlands in an attempt to crush the Protestants, but in the end the northern region of the Netherlands remained Protestant and the southern regions (today’s Belgium) remained Catholic and under Spanish control.

8. There were few businesspeople to stimulate economic growth in Spain or promote trade overseas because they expelled Jewish and Muslim merchants which reduced the number of people making money, paying taxes, and contributing to the economy. The country was left with the very wealthy (monarch and nobility) and the very poor (peasants). The monarch taxed the peasants (lower class) which prevented them from collecting enough wealth to start their own Spanish businesses and replace the expelled Jews and Muslims. In the end, Spain never developed a middle class.