The Reformation



Name _____ Date _____

1 Recall, then make a connection.

Start from memory. Write a meaning or quick example for each term.

Reformation	Indulgence	Censorship

Explain how a dispute involving an indulgence could connect to the broader Reformation. Why is censorship a separate question about authority over communication rather than proof that an argument persuaded readers?

Context for the task

The Protestant Reformation involved disputes about religious teaching, authority, and practice. Luther's 1517 challenge to indulgence preaching became part of a wider movement, but reformers did not agree on every issue. Political rulers and local institutions also shaped what happened. The existence of religious disagreement does not by itself explain the decisions of every government.

2 Organize the records.

Three different questions

A fictional archive tracks a pamphlet's argument, production, and response.

Sort the records by their main question.

A. What did it argue? **B.** How did it circulate? **C.** How did authorities respond?

Write the category letter beside each record.

1. ___ The text disputes a religious practice.
2. ___ A printer records copies sent to three towns.
3. ___ A ruler orders the pamphlet prohibited.
4. ___ A woodcut summarizes the author's criticism.
5. ___ A bookseller records receipt of a shipment.

Evidence, application & transfer.



3 Read the evidence closely.

Test the claim of persuasion

Claim: "This pamphlet changed a particular town council's policy."

Select all records that directly connect the pamphlet's argument with the town council's policy decision.

A. Council minutes cite the pamphlet while debating the policy.

B. Correspondence links a council member's changed position to its argument.

C. A printer's ledger shows copies available in the town but records no reactions or policy discussion.

D. A preacher uses a similar religious argument in a different town.

Selections: _____ Explain your reasoning:

4 Apply the idea.

One movement, many actors

A summary says all Protestant reformers and political rulers wanted exactly the same changes.

Which correction is strongest?

A. Religious challenges interacted with varied political interests and disagreements among reformers.

B. Political institutions had no role in religious change.

C. Printing removed all disagreements among reformers.

My choice: _____ Explain why it fits:

5 Carry the idea forward.

Write a print-shop report explaining one way print could support religious change and one reason it was not sufficient by itself. Include a specific type of institutional evidence.