**INTRODUCTION**

*I*magine you are a **devout** Catholic in Germany in the early 16th century (1500s).  You have been loyal to the Catholic Church all your life, but lately you have been troubled by some of the practices of your Church, practices you feel are not in keeping with the true spirit of the Christian religion.  You are not the only one to be troubled by these practices.  A **movement** has been growing in which people—loyal **clergymen** as well as educated people, like yourself—are publicly criticizing the Church for its **corruption** and **abuses** of power and privilege.  Little do you know that the **Protestant Reformation**, led by a German monk named **Martin Luther**, is just around the corner.

**IOWA CORE CURRICULUM**

* Understand how and why people create, maintain, or change systems of power, authority, and governance.
* Understand the role of individuals and groups within a society as promoters of change or the status quo.

**OBJECTIVE**

1. Describe the importance of the **Protestant Reformation.**
2. Examine the catholic response to the Protestant Reformation. (**Counter-reformation)**

**TASK**

         Your task is to produce a ***NEWSPAPER*** on the Protestant Reformation.  When completed, your product should look like a modern-day ***NEWSPAPER***, one that you could buy at any newsstand today (with headlines, articles, pictures, even advertisements!).

**PROCESS**

  You will be assigned to a group of three.  Using a variety of resources (Internet websites, your textbook, handouts, etc.), each group will research the topic of the Protestant Reformation.

1. In preparing the ***NEWSPAPER***, each group member will contribute one written piece.  The three pieces will include two articles (stating the facts) and one editorial (stating analysis and opinion). Each article should focus on one of the following questions. This means that each group has to answer three of the following questions:

1. Why were people dissatisfied with the Catholic Church in the early 1500s?

2. Why was Martin Luther the central figure in the Protestant Reformation?

3. What were Luther’s criticisms of the Church?

4.  How did Luther’s ideas spread?

5.  Why did Luther want the Bible to be translated from Latin into German and other national languages?

6.  How did the Church respond to Luther’s 95 Theses?

7.  What were the roles of John Calvin, John Knox, and Henry VIII in the Reformation?

8.  How was Europe affected by the events following Luther’s excommunication? (How did the map of Europe change as a result of the early stages of the Reformation?)

**THE PAPER CHECK LIST (Check as you go!)**

Your ***NEWSPAPER***:

should have a front page (with each group member’s name, class, and teacher, the title of the ***NEWSPAPER***, and the first article).

includes advertisements and any other items you would find in a modern ***NEWSPAPER*** (just make sure you relate all information to the Reformation).

should be neatly typed, without spelling or grammatical errors.

should end with a separate Reference Page, citing each source used.

colorful and has visuals (illustrations, photographs, etc.).