RUSSIA BEFORE PETER THE GREAT

Themes:

GEOGRAPHY
- "landlocked"
- rivers:
- climate
- rainfall/agriculture difficulties:

INFLUENCE OF BYZANTINE EMPIRE
- Constantinople 330 A.D.
- 1054 A.D.
  - Eastern Orthodox Christianity
  - Kiev--988 A.D.
- Fall of Constantinople --> Moscow
- "the true faith"--suspicions of West
- Russian Tsars inherit autocratic powers
  - "Only God and the Tsar Knows"
  - patriarchal relationship

VIKING ORIGINS
- 8-9th c. Swedish Vikings or the Russ (Finnish)
- Baltic to Black Seas via the Dvina and Dnieper Rivers
- fortified towns: Kiev (880), Moscow
- Kievan Russia
- Grand Dukes (Princes)
- boyars

PRE-ROMANOV
- Grand Princes of Moscow
- Kremlin
- Ivan III (1462-1505) “The Great”
- title of Tsar

MONGOL INFLUENCES
- 1237-1480
- Golden Horde
- results:
  - Tatars

TIME OF TROUBLES
- Resurgence of nobles/anarchy
- Romanov dynasty established
- Michael Romanov (1613-1645)
- dynasty lasts until 1917
- stability & centralization
- Russia’s condition
- boyars control

IVAN IV (THE TERRIBLE)
- 1530-1584
- crowned Tsar
- background:
  - Anastasia Romanova
  - Oprichniks