RUSSIA BEFORE PETER THE GREAT

Themes:

Background:

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

MONGOL INFLUENCES

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

PRE-ROMANOVS

- Grand Princes of Moscow
- Kremlin
- Ivan III (1462-1505) "The Great"
- title of Tsar

IVAN IV (THE TERRIBLE)

- 1530-1584
- crowned Tsar
- background:
- Anastasia Romanova
- Oprichniks

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