The Ottoman Empire

What was the Ottoman Empire and how did its absolute monarchs help / hurt its survival?
What was the Ottoman Empire?

- The Ottoman Empire was the largest and one of the most successful Islamic empire in history
  - 1299-1923
  - Europe, Africa, Asia (Middle East)

- Known for:
  - Strong absolute monarchs (*sultans*)
  - Major cultural achievements (architecture, law, math, etc.)
How did the Ottoman Empire start?

- Ottomans started off as religious warriors in the Middle East
  - Lead by Muslim prince Osman (Othman)

- Eventually conquered large areas of African and Europe
  - Capital = Istanbul (Turkey)

The Sultan Ahmed Mosque in Istanbul was originally meant as a palace for European royalty, but was instead turned into a holy shrine.
The Extent of Ottoman Power
Who controlled the Ottoman Empire?

- Absolute rule was held by the **sultan** or king
  - Military commander
  - Political Leader

- The Ottomans developed a complex social structure
  - Very effective military & government
Topkapı Palace in Istanbul
The Sultan & His Court
The Ottoman Harems
Ottoman Concubines
Ottoman Eunuchs
Who were the Janissaries?

- The Janissaries were the sultan’s personal bodyguard
  - Captured Christian children
  - Converted to Islam
  - Trained soldiers

- Eventually rose to high positions within the government
  - Formed the heart of the Ottoman army
Janissary Soldiers
Modern Janissaries in Turkey
What were some of the major successes of the Ottoman Empire?

- Many Ottoman monarchs (sultans) based their rule on military successes
  - Very tolerant of other ethnic / religious groups

- Suleiman the Lawgiver
  - 1520 – 1566
  - Well-known for his political reforms & cultural achievements
  - His law code remains the basis of Turkey’s modern constitution
Suleiman the Conqueror
The Siege of Vienna (1529)
The croissant
Suleiman The Builder
The Süleymaniye Mosque
The Interior of the Süleymaniye.
Ottoman Art
Ottoman Music
Belly Dancing

WorldDanceNewYork.com
Ottoman invention of Algebra
How did the Ottoman Empire come to an end?

- **Paranoia** and **corruptions** brought down the Ottomans
  - Fear of a betrayal
  - Family jockeying for power

- The Ottoman Empire eventually brought down by World War I

The last Ottoman sultan leaves Istanbul for exile after granting Turkey its independence, 1922