

### **Discussion Questions for the Protestant Reformation**

- What theological concerns prompted Martin Luther's challenge of the authority of the Catholic Church? What specific reforms did he advocate?
- What were the circumstances of the English Reformation?
- By the end of the sixteenth century, which European countries had become Protestant and which had remained Catholic?
- What are some the reasons suggested for the widespread persecution of suspected witches in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries?
- To what extent did Martin Luther create the Protestant Reformation? Or was he simply the right man at the right time?

### **Discussion Questions for Early Capitalist Society**

- What are the characteristics of capitalism in the early modern age? What financial innovations supported the growth of capitalism in Europe?
- What are some of the social changes that resulted from the growth of capitalism? What groups would have been most threatened by or resistant to these changes?
- Consider the passage from Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*. How does capitalism benefit society, according to Smith? What role does Smith envision for the state in the national economy?