Key Ideas

**BEFORE, YOU LEARNED**

The Czech Republic and Slovakia became independent countries without conflict or bloodshed.

**NOW YOU WILL LEARN**

In the 1990s the breakup of Yugoslavia was violent. Ethnic divisions and economic and political issues led to war.

Vocabulary

**TERMS & NAMES**

- **Yugoslavia** a country on the Balkan Peninsula from 1918 to 1991
- **Josip Broz Tito** the Communist leader of Yugoslavia from 1953 to 1980
- **ethnic cleansing** removing an ethnic or religious group from an area by force or the mass killing of members of such a group
- **Kosovo** a self-governing province within Serbia
- **Slobodan Milosevic** president of Serbia from 1989 to 1997 and of Yugoslavia from 1997 to 2000; a key figure in the ethnic conflicts in the Balkans in the 1990s

**BACKGROUND VOCABULARY**

- **Bosniac** an ethnic Muslim from Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **refugee** a person who flees a place to find safety

Reading Strategy

Re-create the web diagram shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the diagram to help you find main ideas about the Balkans.

[Image of web diagram with keywords: Creation of Yugoslavia, Yugoslavia Falls Apart, Cultural Differences, Government and Economics]
The Balkans

Connecting to Your World

At the opening ceremonies of the Olympic Games, athletes from around the globe proudly display their national flags as they march around a packed stadium. The games demonstrate that people of different religions, languages, and beliefs can come together without conflict. In 1984, the Winter Olympic Games took place in Sarajevo, a city in what was then Yugoslavia on the Balkan Peninsula. In the 1990s, wars caused by ethnic conflict destroyed much of the city, including the Olympic facilities. Sarajevo has been rebuilt, but memories of the violence that destroyed it remain.

Sarajevo The flame is lit (above) at the 1984 Winter Olympics opening ceremonies. This Muslim cemetery (below) is in Sarajevo.

History and Culture

KEY QUESTION What caused the breakup of Yugoslavia?

In the 500s, various groups of Slavic peoples settled the Balkan Peninsula. Centuries of foreign rule created differences in the religion, language, and customs of these Slavic groups. When these groups joined together in one nation in the 20th century, their ethnic differences became a time bomb waiting to explode.
Creation of Yugoslavia  After World War I, Slavic groups formed a country on the Balkan Peninsula called the Kingdom of Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes. It was renamed Yugoslavia in 1929. When World War II ended, Josip Broz Tito took over Yugoslavia. It became a Communist state consisting of six republics: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia. Within each republic, the majority of people belonged to the same ethnic group. Tito’s tight control brought political stability and helped unite Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia Falls Apart  After Tito died in 1980, Yugoslavia faced many economic and political problems. The other republics felt Serbia was trying to take control. In 1991, Slovenia, Macedonia, Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina each declared independence. War broke out in Bosnia, as Serbs clashed with Bosniacs and Croats. Serbian troops occupied parts of Bosnia, using force to drive all non-Serbs out. This tactic, known as ethnic cleansing, left thousands dead or homeless. A 1995 peace plan gave most of Bosnia to the Bosniacs and Croats and the rest to the Bosnian Serbs. In 1998, rebels in the Serbian province of Kosovo began fighting for independence. Violence between Serb forces and the Albanian majority in Kosovo lasted until late 1999. In 2002, Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic was tried for war crimes related to ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Kosovo. He died in prison before his trial ended. By 2003, Yugoslavia no longer existed.

Cultural Differences  Five new nations resulted from the breakup of Yugoslavia: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, and Slovenia. As the map on the next page suggests, most of the former Yugoslav republics are dominated by one ethnic group. Most Balkan peoples speak Slavic languages. The biggest difference among ethnic groups is in religion. These countries have had to find ways to accept their differences. They have also had to work to return their cities to the cultural centers they once were.

△ ANALYZE CAUSES  Explain why Yugoslavia collapsed.
**Comparing** Ethnic Distribution in the Balkans

**Similarities and Differences** Yugoslavia brought many ethnic groups together in one nation. In the 1990s, differences in language, religion, and culture overwhelmed similarities, until the region erupted in conflict. Today, these groups must find ways to live together.

**A Slovenia** Most residents of Slovenia are Slovenes. They speak Slovenian and are mostly Roman Catholic. Slovenia has much in common with its Western European neighbors.

**B Montenegro** Following the breakup of Yugoslavia, Montenegro and Serbia were joined as one country. Montenegro declared independence in 2006. Montenegrins speak Serbo-Croatian. Most of them are Orthodox Christians.

**C Serbia** Serbia includes a mix of ethnic groups. Like Croats, Serbs speak Serbo-Croatian, but they use the Cyrillic alphabet. They are mostly Orthodox Christians. The province of Kosovo has a large Albanian population. They speak Albanian—which is not related to any surrounding language—and are mostly Muslim.

**D Macedonia** For the most part, Macedonians and Albanians live here. Macedonians speak Macedonian and are mostly Orthodox Christians.

**E Bosnia and Herzegovina** This republic is one of the most ethnically diverse of the former Yugoslav republics. It is made up of Croats, Bosniacs, and Serbs. Bosniacs are Muslims, and they speak Serbo-Croatian.

**F Croatia** The majority population in Croatia is Croat. They speak a language called Serbo-Croatian, which is written in the Roman alphabet. Most are Roman Catholics.

**CRITICAL THINKING**

1. **Make Inferences** Given the distribution of ethnic groups, which region do you think experienced the most conflict?

2. **Compare and Contrast** What are the main differences between Serbs, Croats, and Bosniacs?
Government and Economics

**KEY QUESTION** What governmental and economic problems do many former Yugoslav republics face?

Today, the remaining ethnic tensions have made it difficult for the former Yugoslav republics to form stable governments. One concern is protecting the rights of all ethnic groups to prevent future conflicts. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the people elect the legislature and a three-member presidency—one Bosniac, one Croat, and one Serb—to represent the country’s ethnic majorities. Serbia and Montenegro are two republics that formed one country in 2003. In 2006, however, a majority of Montenegrins voted to become an independent nation.

Wartime destruction and the movement of refugees between nations have forced the Balkan countries to rebuild their economies. Market economies have been slow to develop. Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina are the poorest. Like Serbia, they suffer from high unemployment. Slovenia is the most prosperous nation, as a result of stable government and less involvement in the 1990s conflict. It is the only EU member. Croatia was another wealthy republic. Today, it is slowly recovering from billions of dollars worth of war damage.

**ANALYZE EFFECTS** Explain the governmental and economic problems faced by the former Yugoslav republics.

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**Section 3 Assessment**

**TERMS & NAMES**
1. Explain the importance of
   - Yugoslavia
   - Josip Broz Tito
   - ethnic cleansing
   - Kosovo

**USE YOUR READING NOTES**
2. Find Main Ideas Use your completed chart to answer the following question:
   How did Tito’s death affect Yugoslavia?

**KEY IDEAS**
3. What kind of economic system did Yugoslavia have under Tito?
4. Why did much of the ethnic fighting occur in Bosnia and Kosovo?
5. What economic problem is shared by many of the former Yugoslav republics?

**CRITICAL THINKING**
6. Analyze Causes and Effects How did ethnic diversity make it harder to unite Yugoslavia?
7. Identify Problems and Solutions How might Balkan nations protect the rights of all ethnic groups equally in order to prevent future conflicts?
8. **CONNECT to Today** What might be the benefits of EU membership for Slovenia?
9. **GOVERNMENT** Draft a Bill of Rights Draft a Bill of Rights for the ethnic groups living in the Balkans. List ten rights these groups should have. Consider the rights of ethnic minorities in these countries.
CHAPTER SUMMARY

Key Idea 1
Poland, Ukraine, and the Baltic states faced challenges after shaking off Communist rule.

Key Idea 2
After decades of Communist rule, Hungary and the Czech Republic made economic and political reforms.

Key Idea 3
In the 1990s the breakup of Yugoslavia was violent. Ethnic divisions and economic and political issues led to war.

NAME GAME

Use the Terms & Names list to complete each sentence on paper or online.

1. I am a self-governing province within Serbia and Montenegro.  
   ____________________________

2. I am the Communist leader who kept Yugoslavia from splitting apart for over 40 years.  
   ____________________________

3. I am a region where grain production thrives.  
   ____________________________

4. I am the policy practiced by the Soviet Union in an effort to make occupied countries more Russian.  
   ____________________________

5. I am another name for the countries of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.  
   ____________________________

6. I am another term for ethnic Hungarians.  
   ____________________________

7. I mean to expel someone from a country.  
   ____________________________

8. I am the leader who helped start Poland’s first independent trade union.  
   ____________________________

9. I am the Serbian leader who was charged with war crimes.  
   ____________________________

10. I am the Balkan country that split into six nations.  
    ____________________________

Activities

GeoGame
Use this online map to reinforce your understanding of Eastern Europe. Drag and drop each place name in the list to its location on the map.

Crossword Puzzle
Complete an online crossword puzzle to test your knowledge of Eastern Europe.

ACROSS
1. Communist leader of Yugoslavia from 1953 to 1980
VOCABULARY

Explain the significance of each of the following.

1. Lech Walesa
2. bread basket
3. Magyar
4. Velvet Revolution
5. ethnic cleansing
6. Kosovo

Explain how the terms and names in each group are related.

7. Baltic States and Russification
8. Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia
9. Josip Broz Tito and Slobodan Milosevic

KEY IDEAS

1. Poland, Ukraine, and the Baltic States

10. Which Eastern European countries were part of the Soviet Union before it collapsed?
11. What effect did Solidarity have on Polish resistance to Communist rule in the 1980s?
12. How did the ownership of farms and factories in Poland, Ukraine, and the Baltic States change after the collapse of communism?
13. How did the Soviet policy of Russification affect Ukraine and the Baltic States?

2. Hungary and the Czech Republic

14. Why did the 1956 Hungarian revolt fail?
15. How has industrial growth affected where people in Hungary and the Czech Republic live?
16. What is the Czech Republic’s capital and largest city?
17. How was the Czech Republic able to move peacefully from Communist rule to democratic government?

3. The Balkans

18. How did Yugoslavia change during Tito’s rule?
19. What led to the violence in Kosovo?
20. In what way are many of the languages spoken in the Balkans similar?
21. What helped Slovenia make a smooth transition to a market economy?

CRITICAL THINKING

22. Compare and Contrast How have Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic changed from command to market economies?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMAND ECONOMY</th>
<th>MARKET ECONOMY</th>
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23. Form and Support Opinions Why have many former Communist countries wanted closer ties with Western Europe?

24. Compare and Contrast How were the roles of Lech Walesa and Václav Havel in their nations’ history similar?

25. Connect Geography & Government What effect did the collapse of Communist governments have on Eastern Europe?

26. Connect Geography & History How do the new governments of the former Yugoslav republics reflect their recent history?

27. Five Themes: Place How were the breakups of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia different?

Answer the ESSENTIAL QUESTION

In what ways has Eastern Europe changed since the end of World War II?

Written Response Write a two- or three-paragraph response to the Essential Question. Consider the key ideas of each section as well as specific ideas about Eastern Europe. Use the rubric below to guide your thinking.

Response Rubric
A strong response will:
- discuss changes in government and civil rights
- discuss changes in economies
- discuss the impact of Communist rule on language and national identity
HISTORICAL MAP

Use the map to answer questions 1 and 2 on your paper.

1. What three countries divided Poland among them?
   A. Russia, Prussia, and Austria
   B. Sweden, Prussia, and Hungary
   C. Sweden, Russia, and Prussia
   D. Russia, Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire

2. Which country gained the majority of Polish territory?
   A. Austria
   B. Russia
   C. Prussia
   D. Sweden

BAR GRAPH

Examine the graph below. Use the graph to answer questions 3 and 4 on your paper.

3. Which country’s GDP dropped between 1985 and 1995?

4. During which time period did all three nations see the biggest increase in GDP?

GeoActivity

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY-MATHEMATICS

With a small group, pick a country in this section. Find information on the religious makeup of the country, the percentage of people who live in urban and rural areas, and the percentage of people who can read. Use the information to create three pie graphs.

2. WRITING FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

Unit Writing Project  Review your presentation about the European country you want to visit. Write a journal entry that describes how you spent your favorite day there, after your class decided to make the trip.

3. MENTAL MAPPING

Create an outline map of Eastern Europe and label the following:
- Hungary
- Poland
- Czech Republic
- Ukraine
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Estonia
- Prague
- Chernobyl