

The Protestant Reformation: Primary Source Connections

Directions: Use the following primary sources to complete the chart below. Be sure to highlight, annotate, and define any underlined words.

Document A: Source: 1517

“The grace of God be with you in all its fullness and power!

Spare me, most Reverend Father in Christ and Most Illustrious Prince, that I, the dregs of humanity, have so much boldness that I have dared to think of [writing] a letter to someone of your Sublimity....

Papal indulgences for the building of St. Peter’s are circulating under your most distinguished name. I do not bring accusation against the outcries of the preachers, which I have not heard, so much as I grieve over the wholly false impressions which the people have conceived from [the indulgences]. The unhappy souls believe that if they have purchased letters of indulgence they are sure of their salvation.”

Document B: Source: 1535

“The main reason I fell out with the pope was this: the pope boasted that he was the head of the Church, and condemned all that would not be under his power and authority. He said, although Christ is the head of the Church, there must be a physical head of the Church upon earth. With this I could have been content, if he had taught the gospel pure and clear, and not introduced human inventions and lies. Further, he took power, rule, and authority over the Christian Church, and over the Holy Scriptures, the Word of God. No man can explain the Scriptures. The pope did and he made himself lord over the Church, proclaiming [the Church] at the same time a powerful mother, and empress over the Scriptures. This could not be tolerated. Those who, against God’s Word, boast of the Church’s authority are mere idiots. The pope gives more power to the Church, which is begotten and born, than to the Word [the Bible], which has conceived, and born to the Church.”

	Document A	Document B
<u>Audience</u> and <u>Purpose</u>		
Describe the author’s <u>Tone</u> (note two examples from text to support)		
Why did the author <u>challenge the church?</u>		
<u>Main Idea</u>		
What <u>historical connections</u> and/or <u>conclusions</u> can you make?		