Trial of Galileo

1. Why was the church upset with Galileo?
2. Was Galileo right and the church wrong?
3. The name “Scientific Revolution” implies this era was one of change. What are the old and new values that are coming into conflict, based on these sources? (think about issues such authority, sources of knowledge, and the individual in society, for example).
4. Is a conflict such as this possible today? Why and how?
5. Why did Galileo face the Inquisition and why was he forced to recant but Copernicus, Kepler, and Bacon were not?
6. What other arguments could have helped Galileo?
7. What ideas about the relationship between religion and science are revealed by these different scientists?
8. Did Galileo change his position? Why or why not.
9. What caused Galileo to believe in the Copernican solar system?