

The Enlightenment

I. The Enlightenment

- A. From 1650 to 1800, European philosophers began rethinking _____ about government, religion, economics which led to an era known as the _____ (also called the Age of _____)
1. The intellectuals of the Enlightenment were called _____ & they shared some basic beliefs
 - a. New _____ could be discovered by using _____ & reason
 - b. Everything could be explained by observing universal truths known as _____
 - c. A belief in _____, that the world can be improved, & that life should be _____
 - d. People are born with _____ (personal freedoms that protect _____)
 2. Why did the Enlightenment begin?
 - a. During the _____, people began to question medieval ideas, emphasize individual potential (humanism), & encourage _____
 - b. During the Age of _____, the discovery of new lands & _____ led Europeans to search for other “new” things
 - c. During the _____, people began to question church teachings, freely explore new ideas, & _____ other religions
 - d. During the Age of _____, powerful kings _____ lavishly, fought expensive wars, & ruled without regard to their nation’s _____
 - e. During the _____, scholars applied _____, perfected the scientific method, & made new _____ that shattered old ideas...This gave Enlightenment philosophes a _____ to follow to make new theories about society
- B. The most important Enlightenment ideas were those that challenged rule by _____ & presented new theories about _____
1. One of the first political thinkers of the Enlightenment was _____
 - a. Hobbes was bothered by the English _____ & chaos that plagued England after the _____ of King Charles I

- b. Hobbes believed that humans are naturally _____, _____, & hungry for _____; Hobbes argued that people need to be protected from _____
 - c. Hobbes supported rule by _____; He used scientific reasoning to argue that only _____ with absolute power could maintain _____ in society
 - d. Hobbes believed in an idea called the _____: people give up power & _____ to a king who provides law & order
2. English philosophe _____ disagreed with the ideas of Thomas Hobbes
- a. He was influenced by the Glorious Revolution when the _____ was created to protect citizens' rights
 - b. Locke believed that people are born with _____, including life, _____, property; Locke argued that kings could be _____ if they violated peoples' rights
 - c. Locke supported _____ or constitutional _____
 - d. Locke believed that gov't power came from the _____ (approval of the people) & that kings should protect the _____ of the people

Who's ideas are right: Hobbes or Locke? Explain

3. The French philosophe _____ was one of the most famous writers of the Enlightenment
- a. Voltaire argued for the rights of freedom of _____ & _____; He criticized intolerance, prejudice, & oppression
 - b. Voltaire was _____ twice in France for criticizing the gov't but his letters to European monarchs helped introduce new reforms &

Do you agree with Voltaire? Explain

4. Baron de _____ agreed with John Locke that government should protect individual liberties & that too much power led to _____

a. Montesquieu believed in _____: divide power among 3 branches of government:

_____ (makes laws), _____ (carries out laws),
_____ (evaluates laws)

b. Montesquieu's model of gov't also included a system of _____ in which each branch of gov't could _____ the power of the other _____

5. The Swiss philosophe _____ believed in individual freedom

a. Rousseau believed that people are naturally _____, but power _____ them; Free people form a social contract & gov't based on the _____

b. Rousseau argued for a _____ that is guided by the general will of the majority of citizens

Which form of gov't is better: Separation of powers or direct democracy? Explain

6. Italian philosophe _____ criticized abuses in the justice system

a. Beccaria was upset with the use of _____, corrupt judges, secret trials, & severe punishments for crimes

b. Beccaria argued that people accused of crimes should be given a _____ & _____ and that capital punishment & torture should be _____

Do you agree with Beccaria? Explain

Closure Activity Analyze excerpts and match them to the correct Enlightenment thinker

| Philosopher Guess | Reason | Philosopher Guess | Reason |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| 1. | | 6 | |
| 2 | | 7 | |
| 3 | | 8 | |
| 4 | | 9 | |
| 5 | | | |