

The Age of Enlightenment: Multiple Choice Problems

1. What was the main goal of Enlightenment thinkers?

- To give more power to absolute monarchs
- To use reason and logic to improve society
- To stop the spread of new scientific discoveries
- To return to the ways of the Middle Ages

2. John Locke argued that all people are born with 'natural rights.' What are these three rights?

- Food, water, and shelter
- Life, liberty, and property
- Voting, speech, and religion
- Power, wealth, and fame

3. Which Enlightenment thinker proposed that government should be divided into three branches to prevent any one person from having too much power?

- Thomas Hobbes
- Voltaire
- Baron de Montesquieu
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau

4. Voltaire is most famous for his passionate defense of which of the following?

- The right to bear arms
- The divine right of kings
- Freedom of speech and religious tolerance
- Strict government censorship

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5. What is the 'Social Contract' as described by Jean-Jacques Rousseau?

- An agreement between people and their government to protect their rights
- A business deal between two different countries
- A law that says kings are chosen by God
- A set of rules for how to behave in church

6. Which tool did Enlightenment thinkers believe was the best way to find the truth about the world?

- Superstition
- Tradition
- Reason
- Military force

7. How did the Enlightenment influence the American Revolution?

- It encouraged Americans to stay loyal to the British King
- It provided the ideas of liberty and equality used in the Declaration of Independence
- It taught Americans how to build better ships for the navy
- It convinced Americans that they did not need a written constitution

8. Mary Wollstonecraft was an Enlightenment thinker who argued that:

- Only men should be allowed to go to school
- Women should have the same rights and education as men
- Monarchs should have more power over their subjects
- The Enlightenment should only happen in France

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9. The idea of 'Consent of the Governed' means that:

- The government gets its power from the people
- The people must obey every law without question
- Only the wealthy should be allowed to vote
- Kings are chosen by God to rule over the people

10. What was the purpose of Denis Diderot's 'Encyclopedia'?

- To hide secret information from the government
- To collect and spread knowledge to change the general way of thinking
- To write a fictional story about a perfect society
- To create a list of all the kings in European history