

GIII- The Enlightenment

Ideas and Philosophers of the Enlightenment

- opposes absolute rule and focused on reason and logic
- John Locke: believed all people had natural rights of life, liberty and property
- gov't should support the people and if they don't the people should overthrow them
- Inspired: Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence
- Baron de Montesquieu: separation of powers and three branches of gov't
- Voltaire: supported freedom of speech
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau: supported the statement that all men are created equal
- influenced the gov't of democracies in the U.S and other countries

Enlightened Despots

- Absolute rule that used Enlightenment ideas to improve the lives of their people
- Examples: Joseph II of Austria, Frederick II of Prussia, Catherine the Great of Russia

Sample Questions

1. Locke's *Two Treatises of Government*, Rousseau's *The Social Contract*, and Montesquieu's *The Spirit of the Laws* were works written during which time period?

- (1) Middle Ages
- (2) Renaissance
- (3) Enlightenment
- (4) Reformation

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. . . ."

2. This statement best expresses the philosophy of

- (1) Adam Smith
- (2) Karl Marx
- (3) Thomas Hobbes
- (4) John Locke

3. Which idea became a central belief of the Enlightenment?

- (1) The use of reason would lead to human progress.
- (2) Mathematics could be used to solve all human problems.
- (3) The ancient Romans had the best form of government.
- (4) People should give up their natural rights to their rulers.

4. Which statement expresses an idea of the Enlightenment?

- (1) The king is sacred and answers only to God.
- (2) History is a continuous struggle between social classes.
- (3) Those who are the most fit will survive and succeed.
- (4) All individuals have natural rights.

5. One contribution that John Locke made to Enlightenment philosophy was the idea that

- (1) absolute monarchies should continue
- (2) the punishment should fit the crime
- (3) individual rights should be denied
- (4) governments should be based on the consent of the people

6. The writings of the 18th-century French philosophers Diderot, Rousseau, and Voltaire influenced the

- (1) policies of the enlightened despots
- (2) start of the Neolithic Revolution
- (3) success of the German unification movement
- (4) spread of imperialism to Africa and Asia