

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Age of Reason and Revolutions: Enlightenment Leads to Revolution

### The Enlightenment Spreads

#### Key Terms and People

**Mary Wollstonecraft** argued for greater education opportunities for women and urged women to enter the male-dominated fields of medicine and politics

**Catherine the Great** Czarina of Russia who took steps to reform and modernize Russia

**enlightened despot** one of the 18th-century European monarchs who was inspired by Enlightenment ideas to rule fairly and respect the rights of subjects

**neoclassical** simple, elegant style in 1700s, inspired by ancient Greece and Rome

**salons** social gatherings for discussing ideas and enjoying art

**baroque** grand, ornate style in arts and architecture in the 1600s and early 1700s

#### Before You Read

In the last lesson, you read about how Enlightenment ideas began.

In this lesson, you will read about the spread of these ideas and how they influenced the American Revolution

#### After You Read

Answer the questions that follow, in complete sentences, using the information from this guided reading

#### A WORLD OF IDEAS

##### How did ideas spread from individual to individual?

In the 1700s, people came to Paris to hear the ideas of the Enlightenment. Writers and artists held social gatherings called [ 1 ]. A woman named MarieThérèse Geoffrin became famous for hosting these discussions.

With her funds, Denis Diderot and other thinkers wrote and published a huge set of books called the *Encyclopedia*. Their aim was to gather all that was known about the world. The French government and Catholic Church banned the books at first. They did not like many of the ideas in them. Later, however, they changed their minds.

The ideas of the Enlightenment were spread throughout Europe by works like the *Encyclopedia* and through meetings in homes. The ideas also spread to the growing middle class. This group was becoming wealthy but had less social status than

nobles. They also had very little political power. Ideas about equality sounded good to them.

##### NEW ARTISTIC STYLES; WOMEN AND THE ENLIGHTENMENT

##### How were ideas about women changing?

The arts—painting, architecture, music, and literature—moved in new directions in the late 1700s. They used Enlightenment ideas of order and reason.

Earlier European painting had been very grand and highly decorated. It was a style known as [ 2 ]. A new elegant style of painting and architecture developed. This style borrowed ideas and themes from ancient Greece and Rome. This was called [ 3 ].

In music, the style of the period is called classical. Franz Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig von Beethoven composed music that was elegant and original. In literature, the novel form became popular with the middle class.

Many male Enlightenment thinkers held traditional views about women's roles. Others argued for more education and equality. Women also wrote in protest of their lack of equality. Mary Astell, an English writer, protested the unequal relationship between man and woman in marriage. [4] argued that a woman's education should be equal to a man's. She believed women should enter the fields of medicine and politics.

### **ENLIGHTENMENT AND MONARCHY; LEGACY OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT**

#### **What were Enlightenment views about individuals?**

Some Enlightenment thinkers believed that the best form of government was a monarchy. Rulers who followed Enlightenment ideas in part but were unwilling to give up much power were called [5].

Frederick the Great of Prussia was an enlightened despot. He allowed religious freedom,

7. Why were salons important?

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8. What kind of equality were women seeking during the Enlightenment?

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9. Explain the influence of Enlightenment ideas.

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improved schooling, and reformed the justice system. Joseph II of Austria ended serfdom, which made peasants slaves to land-owning nobles. This reform was later undone.

[6] of Russia was a ruler also influenced by Enlightenment ideas. She had hoped to end serfdom. But after a bloody peasant revolt, she gave the nobles even more power over serfs. Catherine did manage to gain new land for Russia when Russia, Prussia, and Austria agreed to divide Poland.

Enlightenment writers questioned the divine right of monarchs, the union of church and state, and the existence of unequal social classes. As a result, Enlightenment ideas strongly influenced the American and French revolutions. Enlightenment thinkers helped spread the idea of scientific and social progress. By using reason, they said, society can be improved. Enlightenment thinkers helped make the world less religious and more worldly. They also stressed the importance of the individual.

## The American Revolution

Key Terms and People		
<b>Thomas Jefferson</b> American statesman; third president of the United States; author of the Declaration of Independence and one of its signers.	<b>federal system</b> system of government in which power is divided between the national and state governments.	<b>Bill of Rights</b> first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which protect citizens' basic rights and freedoms.
<b>Declaration of Independence</b> document declaring American independence from Britain and the reasons for it.	<b>checks and balances</b> system in which each branch of government checks, or limits, the power of the other two branches.	

### BRITAIN AND ITS AMERICAN COLONIES

#### How were the colonies governed?

The British colonies in North America grew in population and wealth during the 1700s. The Population increased from about 250,000 in 1700 to 2,150,000 in 1770. Economically, they prospered through trade with the nations of Europe. The 13 colonies also had a kind of self-government. People in the colonies began to see themselves less and less as British subjects. Still, Parliament passed laws that governed the colonies. One set of laws banned trade with any nation other than Britain.

### AMERICANS WIN INDEPENDENCE

#### What caused Britain and America to grow apart?

The high cost of the French and Indian War led Parliament to tax the colonists. The colonists became very angry. They had never before paid taxes directly to the British government. They said that the taxes violated their rights. Since Parliament had no members from the colonies, they said, Parliament had no right to tax them.

The colonists met the first tax, passed in 1765, with a boycott of British goods. Their refusal to buy British products was very effective. It forced Parliament to repeal the law.

Over the next decade, the colonists and Britain grew further apart. Some colonists wanted to

push the colonies to independence. They took actions that caused Britain to act harshly. Eventually, the conflict led to war. Representatives of the colonies met in a congress and formed an army. In July 1776, they announced that they were independent of Britain. They issued the [ 10 ]. It was based on Enlightenment ideas. [ 11 ] wrote it.

From 1775 to 1781, the colonies and the British fought a war in North America. The colonists had a poorly equipped army, and Britain was one of the most powerful nations in the world. However, in the end, the colonies won their independence.

The British people grew tired of the cost of the war and pushed Parliament to agree to a peace. The Americans were also helped greatly by aid from France. In 1783, the two sides signed a treaty. In it, Britain recognized the independent United States of America.

### AMERICANS CREATE A REPUBLIC

#### What are some fundamental ideas in the U.S. Constitution?

The 13 states formed a new government under the Article of Confederation. This government was very weak. States held all the power, and the central government had little. This proved unworkable. In 1787, American leaders met again. They wrote a new framework of government. The Constitution of the United States drew on many

Enlightenment ideas. It used Montesquieu's idea of separation of powers into three branches of government. Through a system of [ 12 ], each branch was able to prevent other branches from abusing their power. The Constitution also set up a [ 13 ]. Under this system, power was divided between national and state governments.

The Constitution also used Locke's idea of putting power in the hands of the people. It used

15. How did the colonists' image of themselves clash with their status as colonists?

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Voltaire's ideas to protect the right to free speech and freedom of religion. It used Beccaria's ideas about a fair system of justice.

Many of these rights were ensured in a set of additions to the Constitution called the Bill of Rights. The inclusion of a [ 14 ] helped win approval for the Constitution.

16. Name some of the steps that led to the American Revolution.

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17. Explain how the Constitution divides power.

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