

Objectives

- Explain how science led to the Enlightenment.
- Compare the ideas of Hobbes and Locke.
- Identify the beliefs and contributions of the *philosophes*.
- Summarize how economic thinking changed during this time.



Terms and People

- **natural law** – rules discoverable by reason
- **Thomas Hobbes** – seventeenth-century thinker who wrote *Leviathan*
- **John Locke** – seventeenth-century thinker who wrote *Two Treatises of Government*
- **social contract** – Hobbes' proposal for an organized society in which people enter into an agreement accepting a powerful government in exchange for their freedom

Terms and People (continued)

- **natural rights** – Locke's view of the rights belonging to all people at birth, including the right to life, liberty, and property
- **philosophes** – French thinkers who believed that the use of reason could lead to reforms of government, law, and society
- **Montesquieu** – *philosophe* who believed in protecting liberty by dividing the various functions and powers of government among three branches; proposed a system of checks and balances
- **Voltaire** – *philosophe* who used his writings to fight ignorance, superstition, and intolerance

Terms and People (continued)

- **Diderot** – *philosophe* who edited and published the *Encyclopedia*
- **Rousseau** – *philosophe* who wrote *The Social Contract*
- **laissez faire** – an economic system allowing business to operate with little or no government interference
- **Adam Smith** – author of *The Wealth of Nations*; proponent of the free-market system



What effects did the Enlightenment philosophers have on government and society?

The spread of Enlightenment philosophers' ideas sparked changes in governments and society throughout Europe.

Encouraged by ideas such as natural law and social contracts, people challenged the structure of governments and society in existence since the Middle Ages.

By the early 1700s, European thinkers felt that nothing was beyond the reach of the human mind.

The discoveries of the Scientific Revolution of the 1500s and 1600s convinced educated Europeans of the power of human reason.

Natural law
governed forces
such as gravity
and magnetism.

Could human reason be used to better understand social, economic, and political problems?

- This approach had been used to understand natural forces such as gravity and magnetism.
- This approach led to a revolution in thinking, the Enlightenment.

Thomas Hobbes and **John Locke** tried to tackle society's structure using reason. Their ideas were extremely influential.

Thomas Hobbes's <i>Leviathan</i>	People created social contracts because only a powerful government could ensure an organized society.
John Locke's <i>Two Treatises of Government</i>	Only governments with limited power , which are accepted by all citizens, protected the natural rights of the people.

In France, the *philosophes* applied the methods of science to understand society.

Diderot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Edited and published the <i>Encyclopedia</i> to “change the general way of thinking”
Voltaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Defended freedom of thought through his writings
Montesquieu	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Published <i>The Spirit of Laws</i>• Advocated the idea of separation of powers in government
Rousseau	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrote <i>The Social Contract</i>• Promoted the idea that people in their natural state were essentially good

Not everyone agreed with the *philosophes*.

Some women protested that “free and equal” did not apply to women. Mary Wollstonecraft, a writer, called for equal education for girls and boys.

The idea of women’s equality was ridiculed and sharply condemned.

Other critics of the *philosophes* included the French government and the Catholic Church.

French thinkers known as physiocrats focused on economic reforms based on natural law. Physiocrats:

- Rejected mercantilism, the idea that government regulation is needed to produce a favorable trade balance.
- Advocated **laissez faire** policies, which suggested that business should operate with little or no government interference.



Investors in
Paris, France, 1720

The Scottish economist **Adam Smith** wrote *The Wealth of Nations*.

- The free market should regulate business activity.
- All economic factors were related to the market forces of supply and demand.

Although Smith supported laissez faire, he also believed that the government had a duty to protect society, administer justice, and provide public works.

Section Review

QuickTake Quiz



Know It, Show It Quiz



Objectives

- Identify the roles of censorship and salons in the spread of new ideas.
- Describe how the Enlightenment affected the arts and literature.
- Understand how *philosophes* influenced enlightened despots.
- Explain why Enlightenment ideas were slow to reach most Europeans.



Terms and People

- **censorship** – restrictions on access to ideas or information
- **salons** – informal social gatherings at which writers, artists, *philosophes*, and others exchanged ideas
- **baroque** – ornate style of art and architecture popular in the 1600s and 1700s
- **rococo** – personal, elegant style of art and architecture made popular during the mid-1700s

Terms and People (continued)

- **enlightened despot** – an absolute ruler who uses power to bring about political and social change
- **Frederick the Great** – king of Prussia from 1740 to 1786, an enlightened despot
- **Catherine the Great** – became empress of Russia in 1762; believed in the Enlightenment ideas of equality and liberty
- **Joseph II** – the most radical of the enlightened despots; ruled Austria and worked for religious equality and an end to censorship



As Enlightenment ideas spread across Europe, what cultural and political changes took place?

The Enlightenment brought cultural changes as writers, artists, and musicians spread new ideas.

Even absolute monarchs in Europe granted greater freedoms in their realms to become enlightened despots.

From France, the heart of the Enlightenment, ideas spread across Europe and beyond.



These new ideas created challenges to the rulers of the day. People saw that reform was necessary to achieve a just society.

Most government and church authorities felt they had a sacred duty to defend the old order.

The most common defense was through **censorship** of writers and books. **Writers fought back by disguising their ideas in fiction.**

Voltaire's *Candide*
exposed
corruption
and hypocrisy.

Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*
satirized eighteenth-
century England.

Montesquieu's *Persian Letters*
mocked French
society.

Ideas spread through **salons** as well as books and pamphlets.

In the 1600s a group of noblewomen in Paris began inviting a few friends to their homes for poetry readings. By the 1700s, some middle-class women began holding salons as well.

The most respected salons hosted writers and musicians such as Diderot and Mozart.

The arts evolved along with the new ideas of the Enlightenment.

- In the age of Louis XIV, courtly art and architecture were grand and opulent, reflecting the lives of saints or glorious battles.
- This was the era of the **baroque** style.

The court of Louis XV was much less formal, which was reflected in the **rococo** style.



Artists moved away from heavy splendor to light, elegant, and charming subjects.

This style was criticized by the *philosophes* as superficial, but it was very popular among the upper and middle classes.

As in art, music evolved from baroque to rococo to the style known as “classical.”

Johann Sebastian Bach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Created religious works for organ and choirs
George Frideric Handel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrote pieces for King George I, as well as 30 operas
Franz Joseph Haydn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed the string quartet and the symphony
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Created operas, symphonies, and religious music that defined the new style of composition

Literature developed new forms and readers by the 1700s.

- Middle-class readers liked stories about their own times told in straightforward language.
- Thus began an outpouring of novels, long works of prose fiction.
- *Robinson Crusoe*, by Daniel Defoe, was an exciting tale about a sailor shipwrecked on a tropical island.

Absolute monarchs who adopted or accepted Enlightenment ideas were known as **enlightened despots**.



Monarchs who applied enlightened ideas to their governments included:

- **Frederick the Great** of Prussia
- **Joseph II** of Austria
- **Catherine the Great** of Russia

The ideas of the *philosophes* spread to the ruling classes and convinced some of them that reform was necessary.

Frederick the Great (Prussia)

- Reduced use of torture
- Allowed a free press
- Tolerated religious differences

Catherine the Great (Russia)

- Abolished torture
- Established religious tolerance
- Granted nobles a charter of rights
- Criticized the institution of serfdom

Joseph II (Austria)

- Modernized Austria's government
- Supported religious equality for Protestants and Jews
- Ended censorship
- Abolished serfdom

Although these rulers implemented reforms, they would not give up their own power.

- Frederick the Great desired a stronger monarchy and more power for himself.
- Catherine the Great refused to give up power but greatly expanded the Russian empire.
- Joseph II implemented many changes, but most were canceled after his death.

Most Europeans' lives were untouched by the enlightened cultural movements.

- By the late 1700s ideas about equality and social justice reached peasant villages.
- These ideas sowed the seeds for the political upheaval of the 1800s.

Section Review

QuickTake Quiz



Know It, Show It Quiz



Objectives

- Describe characteristics of Britain and the 13 American colonies in the mid-1700s.
- Outline the events that led to the American Revolution.
- Summarize the events and significance of the American Revolution.
- Analyze how the new Constitution reflected the ideas of the Enlightenment.



Terms and People

- **George III** – king of England during the American Revolution
- **Stamp Act** – a tax imposed by England on the colonies on items such as newspapers and pamphlets
- **George Washington** – Virginia planter and soldier who became the head of the Continental Army
- **Thomas Jefferson** – principal author of the Declaration of Independence

Terms and People (continued)

- **popular sovereignty** – John Locke’s idea that all government power comes from the people
- **Yorktown, Virginia** – site where George Washington forced the surrender of the British army in 1781, after which the British war effort crumbled
- **Treaty of Paris** – document ending the war, in which Britain recognized the independence of the United States of America
- **James Madison** – one of the authors of the Constitution

Terms and People (continued)

- **Benjamin Franklin** – philosopher, scientist, publisher, legislator, diplomat, and a framer of the Constitution
- **federal republic** – a government in which the power is divided between the federal government and the states



How did the ideas of the Enlightenment lead to the independence and founding of the United States of America?

The ideas of the Enlightenment had spread to the American colonies.

The leaders of the American Revolution were profoundly influenced by these ideas and used them to create the structure of the government of the United States.

In the 1700s, Britain had risen to global prominence.

- It had **greater ability to trade** due to location and colonies.
- **It imposed fewer restrictions on trade** compared to other nations.
- **Britain had won previous European conflicts.**
- Britain held **a monopoly on the slave trade** in Spanish America.
- **It expanded territory in Canada and Europe** to create the United Kingdom of Great Britain.

George III began a 60-year reign as king of England in 1760.

Although enlightened, George's goal for his reign was to reassert royal power. He wanted to:

- End Whig domination
- Choose his own ministers
- Dissolve the cabinet system
- Make Parliament follow his will



A string of prosperous British colonies stretched across the eastern coast of North America.

Colonial cities linked North America to the West Indies, Africa, and Europe.

The colonies were home to diverse religious and ethnic groups. Social distinctions were more blurred than in Europe, and political discussion was much freer.

Wars in Europe and the Americas had drained the British treasury. King George III expected the colonists to help pay for these wars.

- 1764 — **Sugar Act** created import taxes
- 1765 — **Stamp Act** imposed taxes on newspapers and pamphlets (repealed in 1766)
- 1766 — **Declaratory Act** proclaimed Britain's complete authority over the colonists

The colonists had no voice in Parliament and felt that they should have **"No taxation without representation."**

Violent clashes broke out in the colonies.

1770 – Boston Massacre

1773 – Boston Tea Party

- Parliament passed harsh laws to punish Massachusetts for the destruction of the tea. Other colonies rallied to support Massachusetts.
- Representatives from each colony gathered in Philadelphia and met in a Continental Congress to decide what action to take.

American colonists declare their independence.

- In April, 1775, war between the colonists and British broke out.
- The Continental Army was formed with **George Washington** in command.
- In July, 1776, the Continental Congress declared independence from Britain.



The Declaration of Independence was inspired by the ideas of John Locke and principally written by **Thomas Jefferson**.

- Government had an obligation to protect the people's natural right to "life, liberty, and property."
- People had the right to "alter or to abolish" unjust governments.
- Clearly stated the principle of **popular sovereignty**, that all government power comes from the people.

*"We hold these truths
to be self-evident..."*

—Thomas Jefferson

At the beginning of the war, the Americans were severely disadvantaged.

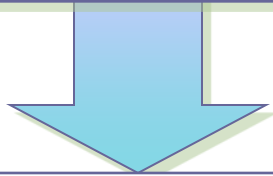
 British	 Americans
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Huge fleet• Large number of trained soldiers• Greater resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lacked military resources• Little money to pay soldiers• No strategic plan

George Washington and his army used the few advantages they had.



- A familiar terrain
- Strong leadership
- The fierce determination of the rebels to fight for their ideals of liberty

Most importantly, the Americans needed an alliance of foreign support to obtain supplies, trained soldiers, and warships.



After the American victory in the Battle of Saratoga in 1777, France was persuaded to join the Americans against the British.




Once the French joined, they were followed by the Netherlands and Spain.

In 1781, the French fleet blockaded Chesapeake Bay, creating a decisive victory for the Americans at **Yorktown, Virginia.**



The war was ended in 1783 with the signing of the **Treaty of Paris.**



Britain recognized the independence of the United States of America.

The first constitution of the United States was known as the Articles of Confederation.

- This ultimately proved too weak to rule the diverse states effectively.
- This led to the creation of a **Constitutional Convention** in 1787.
- George Washington, **James Madison**, and **Benjamin Franklin**, among others, gathered to redraft the articles of a new constitution.

The Constitution of the United States created a **federal republic** with power divided between the national government and the states.

- Government was a social contract with a system of checks and balances
- The president and the legislature were to be elected
- There would be a separation of powers among legislative, executive, and judicial branches

The Bill of Rights contained the first ten amendments to the Constitution.

These amendments stated that citizens had basic rights that the government was required to protect. Among these were:

- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of the press

Adopted in 1789, the Constitution became a symbol of freedom to European and Latin American reformers.

- The leaders of the American Revolution were inspired by ideas spread during the Enlightenment.
- The success of the American Revolution influenced the revolutions to come in France in 1789 and the rest of Europe in the 1800s.

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QuickTake Quiz



Know It, Show It Quiz

