

Enlightenment and Revolution**Section 2****The Enlightenment in Europe****Terms and Names****Enlightenment** Age of Reason**social contract** According to Thomas Hobbes, an agreement people make with government**John Locke** Philosopher who wrote about government**philosophes** Social critics in France**Voltaire** Writer who fought for tolerance, reason, freedom of religious belief, and freedom of speech**Montesquieu** French writer concerned with government and political liberty**Rousseau** Enlightenment thinker who championed freedom**Mary Wollstonecraft** Author who wrote about women's rights**Before You Read**

In the last section, you read how the Scientific Revolution began in Europe.

In this section, you will learn how the Enlightenment began in Europe.

As You Read

Use an outline to organize the summaries' main ideas and details.

TWO VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT**(Pages 195–196)****What were the views of Hobbes and Locke?**

The **Enlightenment** was an intellectual movement. Enlightenment thinkers tried to apply reason and the scientific method to laws that shaped human actions. They hoped to build a society founded on ideas of the Scientific Revolution. Two English writers—Thomas Hobbes and John Locke—were important to this movement. They came to very different conclusions about government and human nature.

Hobbes wrote that there would be a war of “every man against every man” if there were no government. To avoid this war, Hobbes said, people formed a **social**

contract. It was an agreement between people and their government. People gave up their rights to the government so they could live in a safe and orderly way. The best government, he said, is that of a strong king who can force all people to obey.

John Locke believed that people have three natural rights. They are life, liberty, and property. The purpose of government is to protect these rights. When it fails to do so, he said, people have a right to overthrow the government.

1. How were Hobbes's and Locke's views different?

Section 2, *continued*

THE PHILOSOPHES ADVOCATE REASON (Pages 196–198)

Who were the philosophes?

French thinkers called **philosophes** had five main beliefs: (1) thinkers can find the truth by using reason; (2) what is natural is good and reasonable, and human actions are shaped by natural laws; (3) acting according to nature can bring happiness; (4) by taking a scientific view, people and society can make progress and advance to a better life; and (5) by using reason, people can gain freedom.

The most brilliant of the philosophes was the writer **Voltaire**. He fought for tolerance, reason, freedom of religious belief, and freedom of speech. Baron de **Montesquieu** wrote about separation of powers—dividing power among the separate branches of government. The third great philosophe was Jean Jacques **Rousseau**. He wrote in favor of human freedom. He wanted a society in which all people were equal. Cesare Beccaria was an Italian philosophe. He spoke out against abuses of justice.

2. Name the types of freedoms that Enlightenment thinkers championed.

WOMEN AND THE ENLIGHTENMENT; LEGACY OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT (Pages 199–200)

What were Enlightenment views about individuals?

Many Enlightenment thinkers held traditional views about women’s place in society. They wanted equal rights for all men but paid no attention to the fact that women did not have such rights. Some women protested this unfair situation. “If all men are born free,” stated British writer **Mary Wollstonecraft**, “how is it that all women are born slaves?”

Enlightenment ideas strongly influenced the American and French revolutions. Enlightenment thinkers also helped spread the idea of progress. By using reason, they said, it is possible to make society better. Enlightenment thinkers helped make the world less religious and more worldly. They also stressed the importance of the individual.

3. Explain the influence of Enlightenment ideas.

Section 2, *continued*

As you read this section, fill in the diagram by describing the beliefs of Enlightenment thinkers and writers.

