

Standard 10.2.1 Compare the major ideas of philosophers and their effects on the democratic revolutions in England, the United States, France, and Latin America (e.g., John Locke, Charles-Louis Montesquieu, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Simón Bolívar, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison).

Document-Based Assessment

Enlightenment Thought

Enlightenment thinkers believed in the possibility of social, political, and economic change. Often critical of society during this time, they were driven by the power of human reason and progress.

Document A

“Common sense is not so common.”

-From **Philosophical Dictionary** by Voltaire

Document B

“A prince ought not to deem it beneath his dignity to state that he considers it his duty not to dictate anything to his subjects in religious matters, but to leave them complete freedom.”

-From **What is Enlightenment** by Immanuel Kant

Document C

“A strange consequence that necessarily follows from the use of torture is that the innocent person is placed in a condition worse than that of the guilty, for if both are tortured, the circumstances are all against the former. Either he confesses the crime and is condemned, or he is declared innocent and has suffered a punishment he did not deserve.”

-From **On Crimes and Punishments** by Marchese di Beccaria

Document D



Diderot and Catherine the Great

Document E

Selected Enlightenment Thinkers			
Thinker	Lifespan	Nationality	Key Work
Jean D'Alembert	1717-1783	French	Encyclopedia
Jeremy Bentham	1748-1832	English	The Principles of Morals and Legislation
Cesare Beccaria	1738-1794	Italian	Crimes and Punishment
Denis Diderot	1713-1784	French	Encyclopedia
David Hume	1711-1776	Scottish	Treatise of Human Nature
Immanuel Kant	1724-1804	E. Prussian	Critique of Pure Reason
John Locke	1632-1704	English	Essay Concerning Human Understanding
Charles Montesquieu	1689-1755	French	The Spirit of the Laws
Jean-Jacques Rousseau	1712-1778	French	The Social Contract
Adam Smith	1723-1790	English	The Wealth of Nations
Voltaire	1694-1778	French	Philosophical Dictionary

Use your knowledge of the Enlightenment and Documents A, B, C, D, and E to answer the questions

1. Kant believes in _____ based on Document B
 - a. Freedom of religion
 - b. Freedom of speech
 - c. The government making a religious choice for its people
 - d. Dignity
2. In Document C, the author condemned
 - a. Capital punishment
 - b. Religion of any kind
 - c. Torture
 - d. The Inquisition
3. Catherine the Great and Diderot pictures in Document D are most likely
 - a. Sharing war stories
 - b. Sharing Enlightenment ideas
 - c. Planning the American Revolution
 - d. Discussing population growth in France
4. Which of the above documents do you think best exemplifies the spirit of the Enlightenment? Why? On a separate piece of paper use your knowledge of the Enlightenment and specific information from the documents to support your opinion.