

Name:

Date:

Period:

The Enlightenment - Character Research

My Character	
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Part A – Research (5)

Directions: Complete the chart below for your assigned Enlightenment person. Please only use the information provided on Britannica.

Full Name/ Birth Name/ Aliases	
Born/Died <i>(years)</i>	
Nationality <i>(Where are they from?)</i>	
Background <i>(Family, Education, Occupation)</i>	
Major Written Works <i>(Book/Paper titles)</i>	
Major Enlightenment Beliefs/Ideas of This Person <i>(List at least 2)</i>	

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Part B – Reading Questions (5)

Directions: Answer the questions in **complete sentences** below for your assigned character.

Hobbes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is a social contract? Why might Hobbes believe having a social contract would make an ideal state?2. Hobbes believes in an absolute monarchy. Why might absolute monarchy work better than democracy (voting)?
Locke	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What does Locke mean when he says, “rulers derived their power only from the consent of the people”?2. What does ‘tabula rasa’ mean? How does Locke believe this applies to humans?
Montesquieu	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How do the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive branches differ?2. Montesquieu states that intolerance was evil. Provide an example of intolerance.
Rousseau	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How might Rousseau’s own childhood lead him to his theories on education?2. Do the conflicts between Rousseau’s life and his beliefs show that his ideas are flawed? Why or why not?
Wollstonecraft	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How might Wollstonecraft’s various occupations have affected her belief about the need for equality for women?2. Why might people have conflict with the equal education of girls and boys?
Voltaire	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Voltaire was imprisoned and exiled various times in his life for his writing and opinions. What does this tell us about his character?2. Candide, his famous novel, is considered “anti-romantic”. What does this mean? (and no, it does not have anything to do with love)
Diderot	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Define rationalism. Why does believing in rationalism conflict with Christianity?2. How did Diderot and Breton’s work enrage the Church and believers of Christianity?
Beccaria	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is capital punishment? What is torture? What are secret trials?2. How might going to a Jesuit school have affected Beccaria’s beliefs on the topics in question 2?
Comenius	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What was the Thirty Years’ War and why does it affect Comenius as a Protestant?2. Why might it be important for teachers to know how a child’s mind develops and learns?

Your Response:

Response for Q1	
Response for Q2	