The Beginnings of the Age of Reason
The Scientific Revolution paved the way for a movement called the _____________________, or the Age of Reason. As Galileo helped push scientific reasoning to help answer the questions of the world, scholars began to seek new insight into government, religion, and education. People began to look for laws that not only governed nature, but also explained human behavior.

This new movement was started by two English political thinkers:
1. ____________________________
   - Hobbes expressed his views in the book called the Leviathan.
   - He believed that all humans were naturally selfish and wicked.
   - To escape this wicked existence, he believed that a strong ___________ was necessary to have order.
     i. In exchange for giving up their rights, individuals gained law and structure. This agreement is called a _______________ ________________.

2. ____________________________
   - Locke had a more positive view of human nature.
   - He criticized absolute monarchs in favor of the idea of __________ - ________________.
   - He believed that all people are born equal and free, with three _______________ ________________: life, liberty, and property. Government should protect these rights.

French Thinkers
Paris became the meeting place for the Enlightenment, which reached its height in the mid-1700s. The social critics of the period were called _____________________, or philosophers. They believed you could apply _____________________ to all aspects of life. The following were the most influential philosophes of the day:

1. ____________________________
   - Voltaire was the most brilliant thinker of the Enlightenment
   - He often used _____________________ against his opponents.
   - He targeted the clergy, _____________________, and the government. He wrote several books and essays in the name of justice, freedom, and reason.

2. Baron de ____________________________
   - He devoted his life to political liberty.
   - He believed that power should be a check to power. This division of power is referred to as the _______________ of ________________.

3. Jean Jacques ____________________________
   - He was committed to _______________ freedom.
   - He went against most other thinkers of the day, believing that reason could not improve life.
   - He believed that the world corrupted man.

It was dangerous business to be an individual thinker during the Enlightenment. Their views often got them in trouble with the church, the government, and the monarchs.