

5 Enlightenment ideas and the revolutions – Part 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English	Write it 3 times (English)
the individual, natural rights and the social contract	_____ _____ _____

Recall

- You know an idea can be written down and travel.
- You have seen a document quoted long after it was written.
- You know people can feel they belong together without a state.

New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

■ 1 Three ideas

Philosophers developed new political ideas about **the individual, natural rights and the social contract**. Each converts a subject into a person with claims.

Worked example. If rights exist before government, government must be justified to those who hold them.

■ 2 A careful claim

Enlightenment thought **often preceded** revolutions. 'Often' and 'preceded' together make an ordering claim that stops short of causation.

Worked example. Reproducing the CED's caution is more accurate than asserting that ideas caused revolutions.

■ 3 Nationalism

People developed a new sense of commonality based on **language, religion, social customs and territory**, sometimes harnessed by governments to foster unity. The feeling arose among people and was then used.

Worked example. Nationalists could challenge boundaries or seek unification of fragmented regions.

Watch out: “Often preceded” is not “caused”. Copy the CED’s caution: the ideas were present before the revolutions, and the source declines to say more.

Practice

2.1 Name the three new political ideas. [3]

2.2 Explain the force of ‘often preceded’. [2]

2.3 Name the four bases of the new sense of commonality. [2]

2.4 State what governments did with that feeling and the CED’s qualifier. [2]

2.5 Explain why rights existing before government is a dangerous idea for a monarch. [1]
