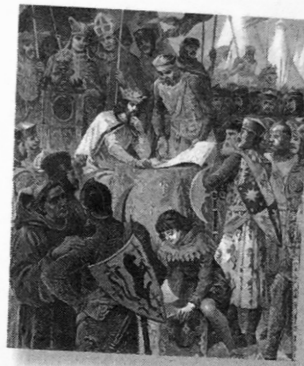
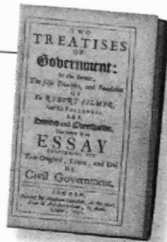


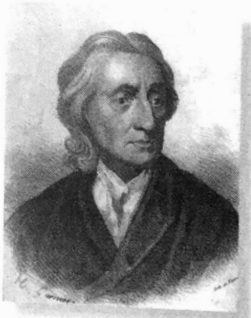
Social Contract :

Community agrees to obey ruler; ruler agrees to protect the community and individual rights



Magna Carta (1215)

King grants trial by jury and agrees not to impose new taxes without consent of the barons



Natural Law:

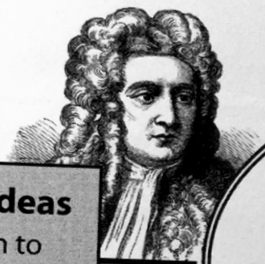
Guarantees the basic rights of life, liberty, and property



Mayflower Compact (1620)

Pilgrim colonists agree to form and obey their own government

John Locke



Sir Isaac Newton

Enlightenment Ideas

Application of reason to question superstition, tradition, and authority

The Origins of American Government

English Heritage and Historic Documents

English Bill of Rights (1689)

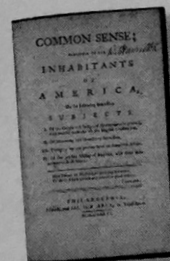
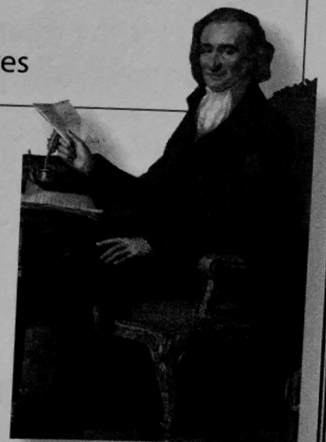
Parliament asserts its supremacy over the King and guarantees particular individual right

Baron de Montesquieu



Thomas Paine, Common Sense (1776)

Paine argues that the colonies should govern themselves



Separation of Powers

Legislative: makes laws

Executive: enforces laws

Judicial: interprets laws

Review Cards: The Origins of American Government

The Enlightenment

- ▶ The Enlightenment was a movement of ideas in Europe and America in the late 17th and 18th centuries.
- ▶ Enlightenment thinkers were influenced by the successes of scientists like Newton, who discovered the laws of gravity.
- ▶ Enlightenment thinkers attacked superstition in the Catholic Church, the divine right of kings, and hereditary privileges.

John Locke's Social Contract

- ▶ Locke believed that people enjoyed certain basic rights under natural law: life, liberty, and property.
- ▶ Locke wrote that people joined together under a social contract to form a community to protect themselves.
- ▶ As part of this social contract, the community gives its power to a ruler, who it promises to obey.
- ▶ If the king breaks his promise to respect the rights of his individual subjects, they have the right to rebel against his authority.

Baron de Montesquieu's Separation of Powers

A French nobleman, Montesquieu divided the powers of government into three powers:

- ▶ Legislative—the power to make laws
- ▶ Executive—the power to carry out and enforce the laws; and
- ▶ Judicial—the power to interpret and apply the law to particular situations

Magna Carta (1215)

- ▶ Forced on King John of England by his barons (nobles)
- ▶ King John promised not to impose new taxes or loans without the consent of a committee of barons.
- ▶ King John also promised that no freeman would be imprisoned or lose his property or be otherwise punished except after a trial by jury in accordance with the law of the land.
- ▶ Magna Carta limited the king's power and became the later basis for the formation of Parliament as well as for the right to trial by jury.

Mayflower Compact (1620)

- ▶ The Pilgrims sailed to North America to start their own colony where they could worship God in their own way.
- ▶ They landed at Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts.
- ▶ Before leaving the boat, they signed an agreement to form their own community and to obey its rules.

The English Bill of Rights (1689)

- ▶ Several kings of England attempted to impose absolute rule on their subjects.
- ▶ Parliament rebelled and executed King Charles I in 1649.
- ▶ The British monarchy was restored in 1660. However, King James II later tried to increase his powers and was overthrown in the Glorious Revolution in 1688.
- ▶ Parliament passed the English Bill of Rights in 1689.
- ▶ The English Bill of Rights stated that members of Parliament would enjoy freedom of speech, that no armies would be raised in peacetime nor taxes imposed without the approval of Parliament, that citizens could petition the government, and that no excessive bail or cruel and unusual punishments would be imposed.

Thomas Paine's Common Sense

- ▶ In the 1770s, American colonists came into conflict with the British government. Fighting broke out in 1775.
- ▶ Early in 1776, Thomas Paine published *Common Sense*.
- ▶ Paine argued that it made no sense for the colonies to be governed by a distant island and that the colonists should seek independence.