

Discussion Questions on the Enlightenment

Respond to each of the following prompts. In response to each prompt, you should write a full paragraph of approximately five to six sentences in which you attempt to synthesize the materials you have read in this unit on the Enlightenment in your own words, quoting where most pertinent. Once you have completed your responses, you may self-grade your written answers based on the point system provided in the Guide to Responding; for your reference, the total points are provided after each prompt.

1. What is the Enlightenment? Describe the chief features and leading ideas of the Enlightenment and how they related to one another. (35 points)
2. Describe some of the key ways the Enlightenment is related to political thought and political changes. Be sure to mention key specific political events that factored into the development of the Enlightenment as well as central political thinkers and their main ideas in your response. (35 points)
3. Describe some of the key ways the Enlightenment is related to the scientific revolution. Provide specific ideas, methods, or approaches that reveal the influence of the scientific revolution on the Enlightenment and its leading principles concerning politics and questions of truth. (30 points)

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Page 1 of 1