**An Evening of Enlightenment**

Using and expanding upon what you have learned about

the people and ideas from the Age of Enlightenment,

your group will plan a dinner party for 12 Age of

Enlightenment thinkers. You are required to include

*Thomas Hobbes, Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John*

*Locke, Montesquieu Rousseau,* and *Voltaire* as guests.

You will choose the remaining **five guests** and plan the

party by taking the following steps:

**1. RESEARCH:** Each member of your group should choose a different guest to include in the party from the

list provided. Research that person and take notes on his/her:

• Experiences

• Influences

• Values, beliefs and philosophies

• Connections to other Enlightenment thinkers (who is his/her beliefs similar to? Different from?)

**2. TEACH:** You will be responsible for teaching the other members of your group about this person. Everyone

in the group should take detailed notes on each philosopher presented. Together, discuss the similarities

and differences between the philosophers you present to one another, as well as between them and the

philosophers we discussed in class (i.e., Locke, Hobbes, Montesquieu Rousseau, Voltaire, etc.)

**3. BRAINSTORM & DESIGN:** After everyone has presented their Enlightenment thinker, work together to

brainstorm what type of party to throw for your group of 12 Enlightenment guests.

• **Decorations/theme**: Think creatively about the Age of Enlightenment. What type of decorations or

party theme might you want to utilize? (Consider things like a color scheme, possible décor such as

flowers, table clothes, hanging decorations, etc. Will there be party favors? Be creative.)

• **Space**: Where will your party be held (garden, banquet hall, castle, tent, forest, etc.?) How will your

dinner party be arranged? What type of tables will you use & how many guests will be seated at each?

(Remember, tables can be round, square, rectangle, banquet, etc.)

• **Seating chart**: Who should sit by one another the night of the party and why?

Create a seating chart that shows the type and placement of each table within your chosen space and

note who will sit at each seat.

• **Food and drink**: What food and beverages will be served at the party and why? Will the dinner be

seated, buffet, something else…any why is this choice most appropriate? Design a menu that shows

your final choices. The menu choices and/or design can be literal or abstract.

• **Entertainment**: What type of entertainment will accompany the event? Will there be music playing,

some type of performance, a speech or reading, a dramatic presentation, etc? Perhaps guests will play

a game, or be guided to participate in a particular discussion - if so, what and why?

**4. DIALOGUE:** Write a dialogue that one might hear on the night of your party. The dialogue must be

between at least five of the guests and when spoken, should last around 2-3 minutes or more. While the

dialogue can be creative and/or humorous, it must show an understanding of each speaking philosopher’s

views and should include things specific to his/her time period.

**FINAL PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS:**

You will present your final party design on poster board. Make sure to creatively design and display your

menu, blueprint of the space arrangement and the seating chart on the presentation board.

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There should also be a section on the board that shares your ideas for the party theme and decorations, and

you might also consider decorating the poster board itself in this fashion. (You can even include fabric

swatches, flower samples, etc.)

There should also be a section that notes your decisions regarding entertainment.

Final information on the poster board can be sketched/drawn, designed and printed via a computer, or it can

make use of collage items (i.e., pictures form magazines.) Be creative and have fun, but remember, all of your

choices should be chosen thoughtfully in consideration of your Enlightenment guests.

Your group will summarize your party design choices and guest list in class on the due date, as well as read

aloud your dialogue out loud. **Each group member must present at least one aspect of the party design and**

**all group members must read for one of the thinkers you chose to put into your dialogue.**

**DUE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Questions/Notes:**