Definitions
1. **Scientific Revolution**: A period a history in which scientists questioned traditional beliefs about the workings of the universe. One of the main ideas to come out of the Scientific Revolution was the use of the Scientific Method. The Scientific Method uses observation and experimentation to explain theories on how the universe works.
2. **Heliocentric Theory**: Theory of the universe that states the sun is the center and the earth revolves around it.
3. **Scientific Method**: Uses observation and experimentation to explain theories on workings of the universe.
4. **Natural Laws**: Laws that govern human behavior.
5. **Enlightenment**: A movement in the late 18th century that stressed the importance of reason and science in philosophy and the study of human society. Occurred mainly in England and France (and the U.S.).
6. **Enlightened Despot**: A monarch who retains absolute control of their country while also enacting reform based on Enlightenment ideas.
7. **Geocentric Theory**: Earth at the center of the universe.

Government Systems
1. **Parliamentary Democracy**: government by the people, exercised either directly or through elected representatives, with a parliament. A parliament is a national representative body having supreme legislative powers within the state.
2. **Presidential Democracy**: government by the people, exercised either directly or through elected representatives, with an elected president at the head of the state.
3. **Dictatorship**: a form of political rule by one person who governs unrestricted by legal, constitutional, or conventional laws or restraints.
4. **Absolute Monarchy**: rule by one person—a monarch, usually a king or queen—whose actions are restricted neither by written law nor by custom.
5. **Constitutional Monarchy**: a constitutional monarchy is a system of government established under a constitutional system, which acknowledges a hereditary or elected monarch as a Head of the State.
6. **Theocracy**: is a form of government in which the governmental rulers are identical with the leaders of the dominant religion, and governmental policies are either identical with or strongly influenced by the principals of the majority religion.

Scientific Revolutionists
**Nicolaus Copernicus**: -Believed in a solar system with sun at the center.
-Showed proof by using math to explain orbits of planets around the sun.
-Circular path of planets.

**Galileo Galilei**: -Improved telescope and used it to help support the Heliocentric Theory
-Condemned by church—forced recantation.

**Isaac Newton**: -Built on ideas of Copernicus and Galileo using math to prove existence of force that kept planets on orbits around sun.
-Discovered the Law of gravity.

**Rene' Descartes**: -Formed scientific method
-He believed that reason, rather than tradition, should be used to discover truths.
-Descartes emphasized the power of human reason.

Enlightenment Thinkers
**John Locke**: -Believed all people possess natural rights.
-Rights include life, liberty, and property (also Judicial Rights)
-People form governments to protect their rights.

**Baron de Montesquieu**: -Believed that government should be three branches: legislative, executive, and judicial.
-This would create system of checks and balances.
- Also believed that the government has the responsibility to protect the citizens of a country.

**Voltaire:**
- Believed in free speech.
- Criticized the French government and Catholic Church.

**Jean-Jacques Rousseau:**
- Believed that people are naturally good, but corrupted by the evil's of society.
- In perfect society people both make and obey laws.

**Thomas Hobbes:**
- Believed that without strong government people would be at war all of the time, (promoted Absolute Monarchy)
- Believed that people need to form a social contract and create a government to keep peace and order.
- Believed that what a person grows up to be is predetermined when they are born

**Enlightened Despots**

**Maria Theresa:**
- Improved tax system to ease burden on poor.
- Made primary education available to children in her kingdom.

**Joseph II:**
- Chose officials for their talents instead of their status.
- Practiced religious tolerance.
- Abolished serfdom.
- Ended censorship.

**Catherine the Great:**
- Took advice form townspeople on how to run government.
- Built schools and hospitals.
- Promoted education for women.
- Extended religious tolerance.

**Facts about Monarch's and Dictator's**
- Dictators and Monarchies are most threatened by writers who encourage independent thought.
- A similar characteristic is common to both dictatorships and a monarchy is the persecution of political opposition.
- Direct Democracy goes against the term that “Kings are God’s lieutenants on earth.”
- This statement best describes democracy “That to secure these rights, Governments are institutioned among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”
- This statement does not pertain to Presidential and Parliamentary Democracies: The government controls and censors the media.

**Make Sure You Also Know the Following Terms**

Deism
Salon

Divine Right