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Guided Notes: John Locke & Montesquieu

1. What four things were the Founding Fathers creating in which they were looking for inspiration:
   1. Creating governments
   2. Writing constitutions
   3. Establishing rights
   4. Creating a country
2. What was the Age of Enlightenment? **The Age of Enlightenment (or simply the Enlightenment or Age of Reason) was an era from the 1620s to the 1780s in which cultural and intellectual forces in Western Europe emphasized reason, analysis, and individualism rather than traditional lines of**

1. What was the name of the John Locke book on “natural rights? Two Treatises on Government

1. According to John Locke the purpose of government is to protect these three rights: Life, liberty, & property

1. What is the “social contract”? an implicit agreement among the members of a society to cooperate for social benefits, for example by sacrificing some individual freedom for state protection
2. What document was greatly influenced by the writing of John Locke? The Declaration of Independence

1. What ideas on government is Montesquieu known for? Separation of powers & checks and balances

1. What was the main purpose for “separation of powers”? The ensure that no branch or portion of the government gains too much power and takes away rights

1. How were Montesquieu’s ideas on separation of powers used at the Constitutional Convention? The framers of the Constitution divided the US Federal government into three branches