

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Assigned:

Due:

Thomas Hobbes and John Locke

Assignment 1:

Thomas Hobbes was born in London in 1588. He received his college education at Oxford University in England, where he studied classics. After witnessing the beheading of Charles I, Hobbes traveled to other European countries to study different forms of government. During his time outside of England, Hobbes became interested in why people allowed themselves to be ruled and what would be the best form of government for England. In 1651, Hobbes wrote his most famous work, entitled *Leviathan*. In it, he argued that in a **state of nature** (without government and with total freedom), people were naturally wicked and could not be trusted to form their own government. Therefore, Hobbes believed that an **absolute monarchy** - a government that gave all power to a king or queen - was best.

**Directions:** Read selections from Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* below in the left hand column. In the center column, paraphrase Hobbes' writing. In the right hand column, engage in any of the active reading strategies we have been discussing in class.

Selections from Thomas Hobbes' <i>Leviathan</i>	Paraphrase	Active Reading Strategies
<p>It is clear that during the time men live without a power to keep them all under control, they are in that condition which is called war... This natural condition of man is a condition of war of everyone against everyone.</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>To this war of every man against every man, this also is consequent<sup>1</sup>; that nothing can be unjust.<sup>2</sup> The notions<sup>3</sup> of right and wrong, justice and injustice have there no place. Where there is no common power, there is no law, no injustice.</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>In such a condition there is also no place for knowledge, for arts, for society... There is a continual fear and danger of violent death, and the life of man is solitary,<sup>4</sup> poor, nasty, brutish,<sup>5</sup> and short.</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	

<sup>1</sup> **consequent:** true

<sup>2</sup> **unjust:** unfair

<sup>3</sup> **notions:** ideas

<sup>4</sup> **solitary:** lonely

<sup>5</sup> **brutish:** brutal, violent, uncivilized







**Part 2 Directions:** The reason we care about John Locke and his philosophy is that it had a huge influence on democratic governments today. For this section of the assignment, read the parts from the U.S. Declaration of Independence in the left hand column. In the right hand column, explain which of Locke’s ideas the parts of the Declaration of Independence relate to and why.

U.S. Declaration of Independence – Preamble	Which of Locke’s ideas it relates to <i>and why</i> (natural rights, consent of the governed, or the social contract).
<p>“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”</p>	
<p>“That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”</p>	
<p>“That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”</p>	

### Assignment 3:

To finish up our discussion of how Locke and Hobbes represented opposing views of human nature, government, and society, choose from one of the options below. Complete this assignment over the weekend and turn it in on Monday.

**Option 1:** Write two academic paragraphs comparing and contrasting John Locke's and Thomas Hobbes' views of human nature and government. Vocabulary words/terms/phrases that must be included: **state of nature, social contract, natural rights, absolute monarchy, consent of the governed.**

**possible sentence starters:** (remember, this is only a guide – use your own voice)

Thomas Hobbes and John Locke were two philosophers who had very different ideas of human nature. Thomas Hobbes believed \_\_\_\_\_ (in 3 or more sentence, describe Thomas Hobbes view of human nature, use your notes and information in this packet to help) \_\_\_\_\_. In contrast, John Locke believed that \_\_\_\_\_ (in 3 or more sentences, describe John Locke's view of human nature, use your notes or information in this packet to help) \_\_\_\_\_.

Because of their views on human nature, Hobbes and Locke also disagreed on the best form of government. Thomas Hobbes believed the best government was \_\_\_\_\_ (in 3 or more sentence, describe Thomas Hobbes views on government, use your notes and information in this packet to help) \_\_\_\_\_. In contrast, John Locke believed that the best government was \_\_\_\_\_ (in 3 or more sentences, describe John Locke's views on government, use your notes or information in this packet to help) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Option 2:** Write a dialogue between Thomas Hobbes and John Locke. In it, they should be arguing with each other about human nature and the best form of government. Vocabulary words/terms/phrases that must be correctly included: **state of nature, social contract, natural rights, absolute monarchy, consent of the governed.**

Example:

**John Locke:** "Oh hey Hobbes, you cranky old man, what are you up to?"

**Thomas Hobbes:** "Oh hey John Locke, I was just thinking about how horrible human beings are when they are in the state of nature."

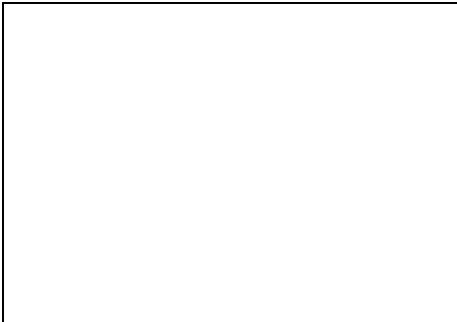
**John Locke:** "Why would you think that?"

**HB:** "Well, you see....."

**JL:**

**Option 3:** Create a facebook profile for *both* Thomas Hobbes and John Locke. Use the attached template.

- 1.) Print off a picture of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke and paste into their profile picture.
- 2.) Under **About**, provide a brief biography of each philosopher.
- 3.) For **favorite quotes**, go back to the sources you paraphrased and choose two quotes that you think best highlight their view of human nature and society.
- 4.) For **current status** and **wall posts**, write down things Thomas Hobbes and John Locke would post about human nature, government, law, etc. In the wall posts, the following words must be correctly used: **state of nature, social contract, natural rights, absolute monarchy, consent of the governed.**  
- **note:** on two wall posts, one philosopher has to respond to what the other has said.



**John Locke**

**Current Status:**

[Empty status text box]

324 Years Ago [clear](#)

Like Comment

[Wall](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Links](#) [Events](#) [Notes](#)

**About:**

**Wall:**

**John Locke**

324 Years Ago

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Thomas Hobbes:

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**John Locke**

324 Years Ago

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**Favorite Quotes:**

**John Locke**

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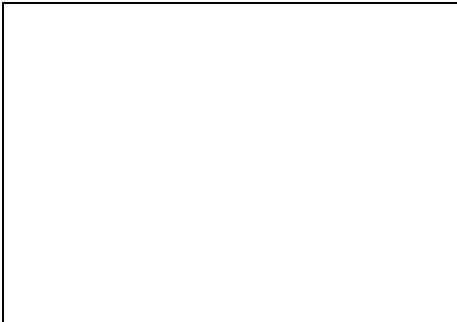
Thomas Hobbes:

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**John Locke**

324 Years Ago

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**Thomas Hobbes**

**Current Status:**

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362 Years Ago [clear](#)

Like Comment

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**About:**

**Wall:**

**Thomas Hobbes**

362 Years Ago

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**Thomas Hobbes**

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John Locke:

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**Thomas Hobbes**

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**Favorite Quotes:**