



Enlighten Me

Introduction to the Enlightenment



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Grade Level	10th Grade	Time Frame	50 minutes
Subject	Social Studies	Duration	1 class period
Course	World History		

Essential Question

How do principles brought about during the Enlightenment relate to American life today?

Summary

This lesson is a single-day introduction to key vocabulary related to the Enlightenment period. Students will engage in discussion about general concepts raised by philosophers of the time, sort terms into common themes, and begin to relate them to American life today.

Snapshot

Engage

Students discuss five statements related to the Enlightenment using the Always, Sometimes, or Never True strategy.

Explore

In groups, students organize a Honeycomb Harvest composed of Enlightenment vocabulary.

Explain

Students independently justify the connections they made between terms in their honeycomb.

Extend

Students make connections between vocabulary words in their honeycomb and American life today.

Evaluate

As an Exit Ticket, students revisit the statements from the Engage section by connecting them to the Enlightenment period.

Standards

Oklahoma Academic Standards (Social Studies: World History (9th through 12th grade))

WH.2.7: Analyze the impact of the Enlightenment on modern government and economic institutions, including the theories of Hobbes, Locke, Voltaire, Rousseau, Montesquieu, and Adam Smith.

Attachments

- [Always, Sometimes, or Never True—Enlighten Me - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Always, Sometimes, or Never True—Enlighten Me - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Always, Sometimes, or Never True—Enlighten Me.docx](#)
- [Always, Sometimes, or Never True—Enlighten Me.pdf](#)
- [Enlightenment Hexagons—Enlighten Me - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Enlightenment Hexagons—Enlighten Me.docx](#)
- [Food Hexagons—Enlighten Me - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Food Hexagons—Enlighten Me.docx](#)
- [Honeycomb Harvest Justification—Enlighten Me - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Honeycomb Harvest Justification—Enlighten Me - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Honeycomb Harvest Justification—Enlighten Me.docx](#)
- [Honeycomb Harvest Justification—Enlighten Me.pdf](#)
- [Lesson Slides—Enlighten Me.pptx](#)

Materials

- Lesson Slides (attached)
- Always, Sometimes, or Never True handout (attached; one per student)
- Enlightenment Hexagons (attached; one per group)
- Food Hexagons (attached; optional)
- Honeycomb Harvest Justification handout (attached: one per student)
- Poster boards or sticky easel pads
- Sticky notes
- Scissors
- Highlighters
- Permanent markers
- Glue sticks

10 minutes

Engage

Using the attached **Lesson Slides**, transition through **slides 1–4** introducing the title of the lesson, Essential Question, and Lesson Objectives.

Move to **slide 5** and explain the [Always, Sometimes, or Never True](#) strategy for a whole-class discussion. Designate three areas of the classroom to represent Always, Sometimes, and Never.

Transition to **slide 6** and read the first statement. Instruct students to move to the area of the room that they circled on their handout: Always, Sometimes or Never. After students have moved to an area, have them discuss why they selected that response. Ask for a volunteer to share for each area of the room. Repeat this process with all five statements.

Alternative Activity

Optionally, you may use the attached **Always, Sometimes, Never True** handout for students to reflect on the statements independently before having a class-wide discussion instead of having students move to different areas of the classroom. If using this option, instruct students to read each statement in the first column, circle Always, Sometimes, or Never in the second column, and explaining their thinking in the third column.

20 minutes

Explore

Place students in groups of four to five. Move to **slide 7** and pass out a copy of the attached **Enlightenment Hexagons** handout to each group. Explain the [Honeycomb Harvest](#) strategy and have students cut out the hexagons and arrange them based on the connections they have with one another. Provide each group with a piece of poster board and have students glue their hexagons onto it.

Optional Activity

Prior to this lesson, consider practicing the Honeycomb Harvest strategy by connecting **Food Hexagons**. This allows students to practice the strategy in a low-stakes setting before learning new content.

10 minutes

Explain

Pass out the attached **Honeycomb Harvest Justification** handout to each student. Move to **slide 8** and instruct students to first choose three terms and write them in the first three hexagons. Between the terms, instruct students to write how the terms are connected. Have students repeat this with five more terms. Students should complete the handout individually.

If time permits, allow a few students to share their rationale.

5 minutes

Extend

Transition to **slide 9**. As a group, have students identify three terms that connect to American life today and highlight them on their poster. Have students discuss these with their group, and then come up with a rationale to support their choices and write them on sticky notes.

Next, have students place the sticky notes next to the terms on their poster. Ask a few groups to share out the terms they chose to highlight and their explanations.

5 minutes

Evaluate

Display **slide 10**. Explain to students that they are revisiting the statements from the beginning of class, but are now relating them to what they have learned using the [Exit Ticket](#) strategy.

Move to **slide 11**. Instruct students to select one of the statements previously discussed, and explain how it relates to the ideas from the Enlightenment. Have students write their response on a sticky note, and place it in a common location such as the classroom door or whiteboard on the way out of class so that it can be evaluated as a formative assessment.

Resources

- K20 Center. (n.d.). Always, Sometimes, or Never True. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/145>
- K20 Center. (n.d.). Honeycomb Harvest. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/61>
- K20 Center. (n.d.). Bell Ringers and Exit Tickets. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/125>