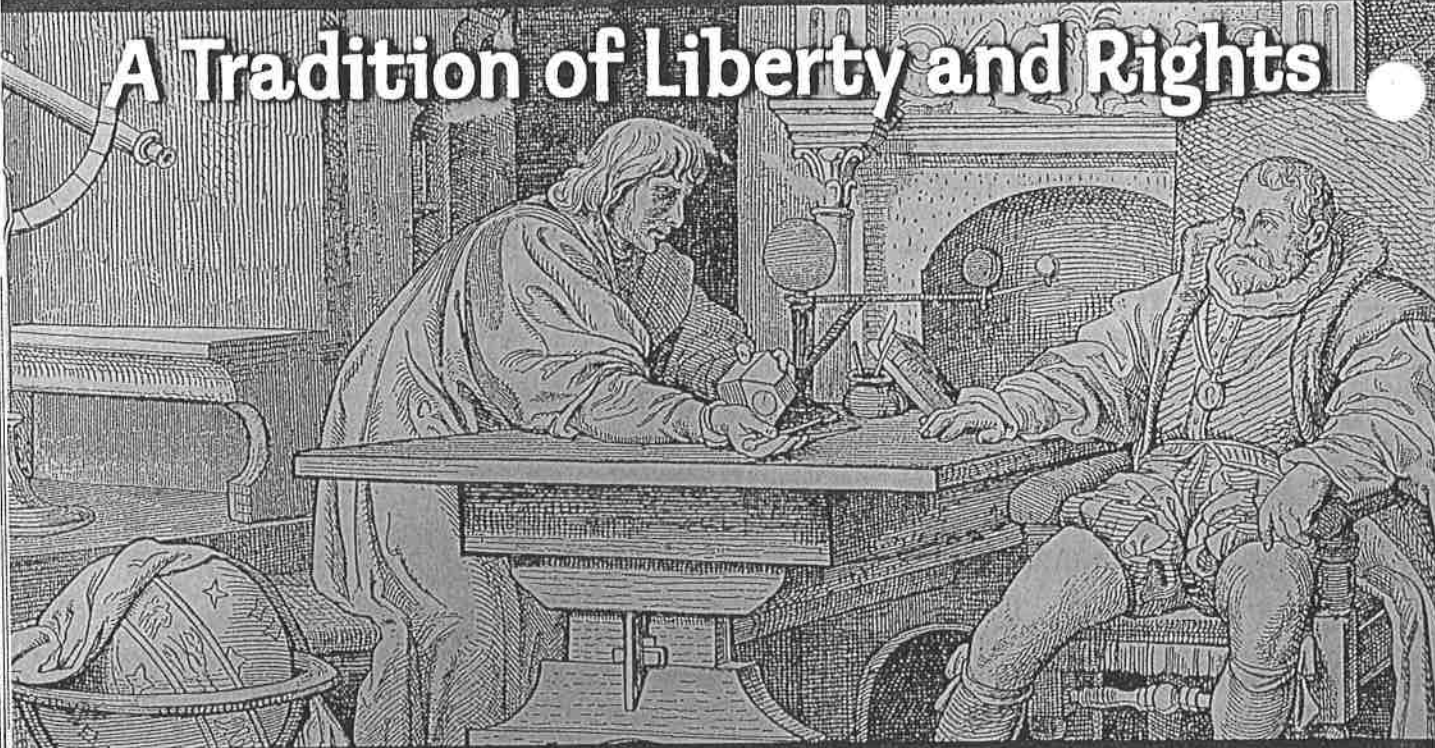


A Tradition of Liberty and Rights



GET READY TO READ

START UP

Examine the engraving of astronomer Johannes Kepler (left) and predict the consequences of scientific investigations in the 1700s.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What did John Locke suggest that people can do if governments violate their natural rights?
- What ideas of government did Baron Charles-Louis Montesquieu have that challenged the idea of the divine right of monarchs?
- How did the ideas of Enlightenment thinkers affect colonists such as Benjamin Franklin and others?

TAKE NOTES

Literacy Skills: Identify Main Ideas

Use the graphic organizer in your Active Journal to take notes as you read the lesson.

PRACTICE VOCABULARY

Use the vocabulary activity in your Active Journal to practice the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary

enlighten
reason
divine right
natural right
separation
of powers
libel

Academic Vocabulary

approach
zeal

You have read about some of the ideas that shaped American views of democracy. In this lesson, you will read about the European thinkers whose new ways of thinking affected the American colonies.

Roots of the Enlightenment

Starting in the late 1600s, a group of European thinkers came to believe that all problems could be solved by human reason. These thinkers considered themselves **enlightened**, or free from the superstitions and ignorance of the Middle Ages. For that reason, this period of European history is referred to as the Enlightenment.

The Renaissance and the Reformation

The Renaissance and the Reformation laid the groundwork for these later developments in European thought. Both looked to the past for models. Religious reformers turned to the Bible and early Christian times for inspiration. During the Renaissance, Europeans gained a new interest in the art and ideas of classical Greece and Rome.

Renaissance thinkers hoped to use the wisdom of the ancients to increase their understanding of the world.

The Renaissance placed a new emphasis on the individual. During the Middle Ages, Christian leaders had taught that individual achievement was less important than the salvation of the soul. Although Renaissance thinkers were also deeply religious, they placed a greater value on the development of the individual. The ideal "Renaissance person" was someone with a broad knowledge of many subjects.

The Scientific Revolution The most important influence on the Enlightenment was the Scientific Revolution. During the 1500s, European scientists began to develop a new **approach** to finding out about the physical world. Instead of relying on the teachings of the ancient Greeks and the Roman Catholic Church, these scientists used reason, observation, and experiments. **Reason** is the ability to think in a logical way. Scientists used mathematics to analyze their findings and draw objective conclusions.

Astronomers led the way. Earlier European scientists had accepted the idea that Earth was the center of the universe. Astronomers such as Nicholas Copernicus and Galileo argued that the sun was actually the center of the solar system, and that Earth revolved around the sun. These astronomers based their ideas on careful observation of the sky, backed up by mathematical calculations. The Church denounced the new belief, but scientists quickly came to accept it.

INTERACTIVE

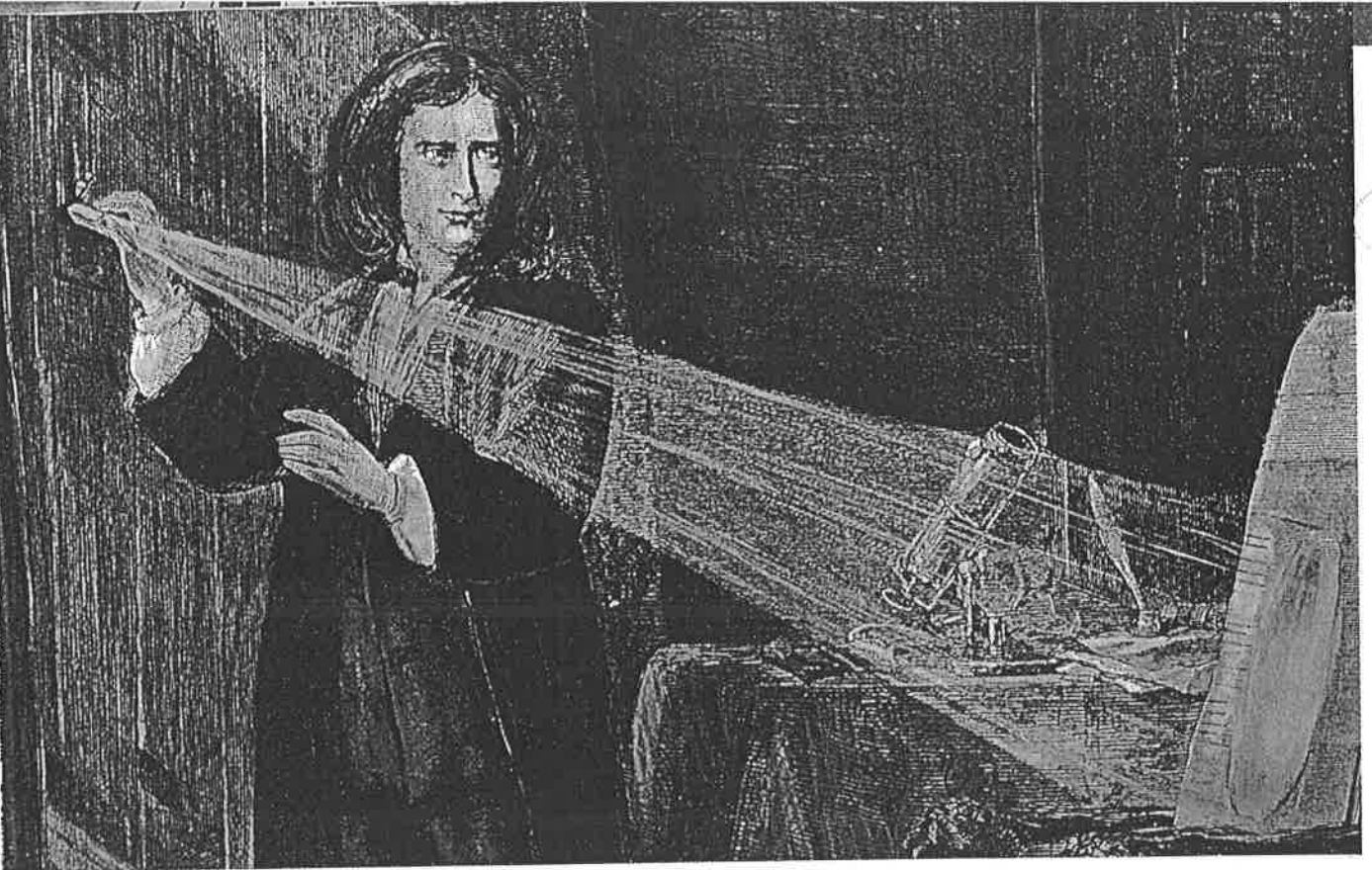
A New Kind of Society

Academic Vocabulary
approach • *n.*, a particular manner of taking steps toward a particular purpose

Analyze Images

Galileo observed the stars with a telescope like this one, resulting in a greater understanding of the universe. **Draw Conclusions** What conflict might arise between scientists and the Church about scientists' new ideas about the universe?





Analyze Images Sir Isaac Newton experimented with light rays to discover the color spectrum in sunlight.
Classify and Categorize What detail in the picture may lead you to believe Newton is a scientist?

By the 1600s, scientists were making discoveries in many areas, from chemistry to medicine. The brilliant English scientist Isaac Newton discovered the laws of gravity, explaining why objects fall to Earth when dropped. He also put forth the theory that gravity holds the universe together, controlling the movement of the planets.

Searching for Natural Laws Most importantly, Newton encouraged the idea that everything in the physical world followed unchanging natural laws. All motion in the universe, Newton argued, could be measured and described mathematically. Newton's ideas had a great influence on the Enlightenment. His discovery of natural laws governing astronomy or motion led other Enlightenment thinkers to use reason to find natural laws regarding topics such as politics, society, or economics.

READING CHECK Draw Conclusions Why did scientists during the Scientific Revolution begin to use reason, observation, and experiments?

Applying Reason to Politics

Many Enlightenment thinkers focused on the nature of government. Their ideas had a vast impact on the founders of the United States.

At the time of the Enlightenment, most European countries were ruled by absolute monarchs. An absolute monarch is a ruler with complete authority over the government and people. Absolute monarchs claimed that they ruled by **divine right**, or the belief that a ruler's authority comes directly from God. Whatever rights the people had came to them from the monarch.

Locke and Natural Rights In 1690, the English philosopher John Locke proposed that people have certain **natural rights**, that is, rights that belong to every human being from birth. These rights include life, liberty, and property.

Locke's idea of natural rights challenged the theory of divine right. Rights, Locke said, did not come to the people from their king, but rather from God. Locke further argued that people form governments in order to protect their rights. They agree to give up some of their individual freedom, but only to safeguard the rights of the community.

Locke's reasoning led him to a startling conclusion. Since the prime function of government is to protect the rights of the people, if a monarch violates these rights, the people are entitled to overthrow the monarch.

Montesquieu and Separation of Powers A French philosopher, Charles-Louis Baron de Montesquieu (MON tehs kyoo), also challenged the idea of divine right. In his 1748 book *The Spirit of the Laws*, Montesquieu argued that the powers of government should be clearly defined and limited. Furthermore, he favored **separation of powers**, or division of the power of government into separate branches. Separation of powers, said Montesquieu, protected the rights of the people because it kept any individual or group from gaining too much power.

Montesquieu suggested that government should be divided into three branches. These branches should include a legislative branch to make laws, an executive branch to enforce the laws, and a judicial branch to make judgments based on the laws.

5 BIOGRAPHY Things to Know About

JOHN LOCKE

Writer and Philosopher (1632–1704)



- As a teenager, Locke was a very strong student who received high praise from his teachers.
- In his book, *Two Treatises of Government*, he argued that every person has rights that come directly from God, not the king.
- Locke's beliefs inspired people to look at the world in a new way, which upset the English government and forced him to flee England.
- Locke also influenced the field of economics, arguing that people had a right to own the fruits of their labor.
- Locke's teachings inspired the founders of the United States, including Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton.

Critical Thinking Why was the English government upset that people were looking at the world in a new way?



▲ Charles-Louis Baron de Montesquieu wrote *The Spirit of Laws*.

As you will read, the ideas of Locke, Montesquieu, and other Enlightenment thinkers later influenced Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and other American founders as they planned American democratic institutions.

READING CHECK Summarize How did Locke and Montesquieu challenge the idea of divine right?

Self-Government in the Colonies

American colonists remained subjects of the English monarch and were expected to live under English law. Still, a wide ocean separated the colonists from England. Communications might take many weeks. While remaining loyal subjects, the colonists had to find ways to govern themselves day to day.

Beginnings of Self-Government As you have read, the colonists at Jamestown, England's first American colony, were allowed to set up a form of representative government. Male settlers elected the House of Burgesses, the first colonial legislature. Farther north, the Pilgrims signed the Mayflower Compact, pledging to work together to make laws for the good of the Plymouth Colony.

Early on, New England colonists developed the town meeting, a gathering in which residents meet to make decisions for the community. Once a year, New England villagers gathered to discuss and decide local issues, from road building to teachers' salaries.

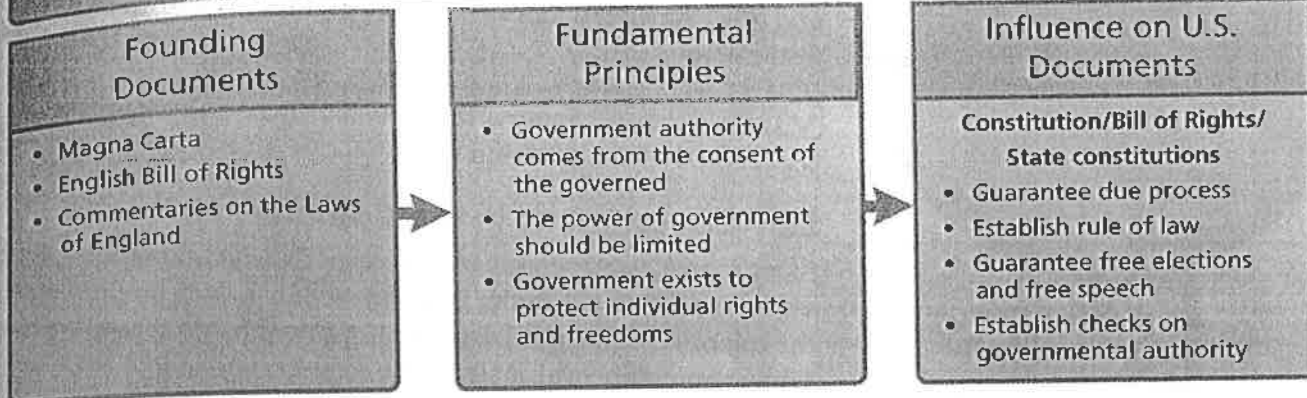
Analyze Images

People in some New England towns continue to gather for town meetings to make decisions about local government.

Infer Do you think town meetings are an effective way to carry out local government business? Explain your answer.



THE FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY



Governing a Colony A more complex system was needed for governing an entire colony. Each colony was headed by a governor. In most cases, the governor was appointed by the king or by the proprietor of the colony.

Each colony also had its own legislature to make laws. Like the English Parliament, most colonial legislatures were made up of two houses. The upper house was appointed by the governor. The lower house was an assembly elected by the colonists.

All colonies required voters to be property owners. Voters also had to be white, male, Christian, not indentured, and over age 21. Not everyone who could vote was eligible to run for office. Officeholders sometimes had to own more property than voters.

READING CHECK **Draw Conclusions** Why might representative government work more effectively than direct democracy, which is practiced at some town meetings?

The Great Awakening

From the start, religion played an important role in the development of the 13 English colonies. In Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay, religious leaders set strict rules for moral and religious life. Even in colonies that were founded for economic reasons, such as Jamestown, early laws required colonists to attend church regularly.

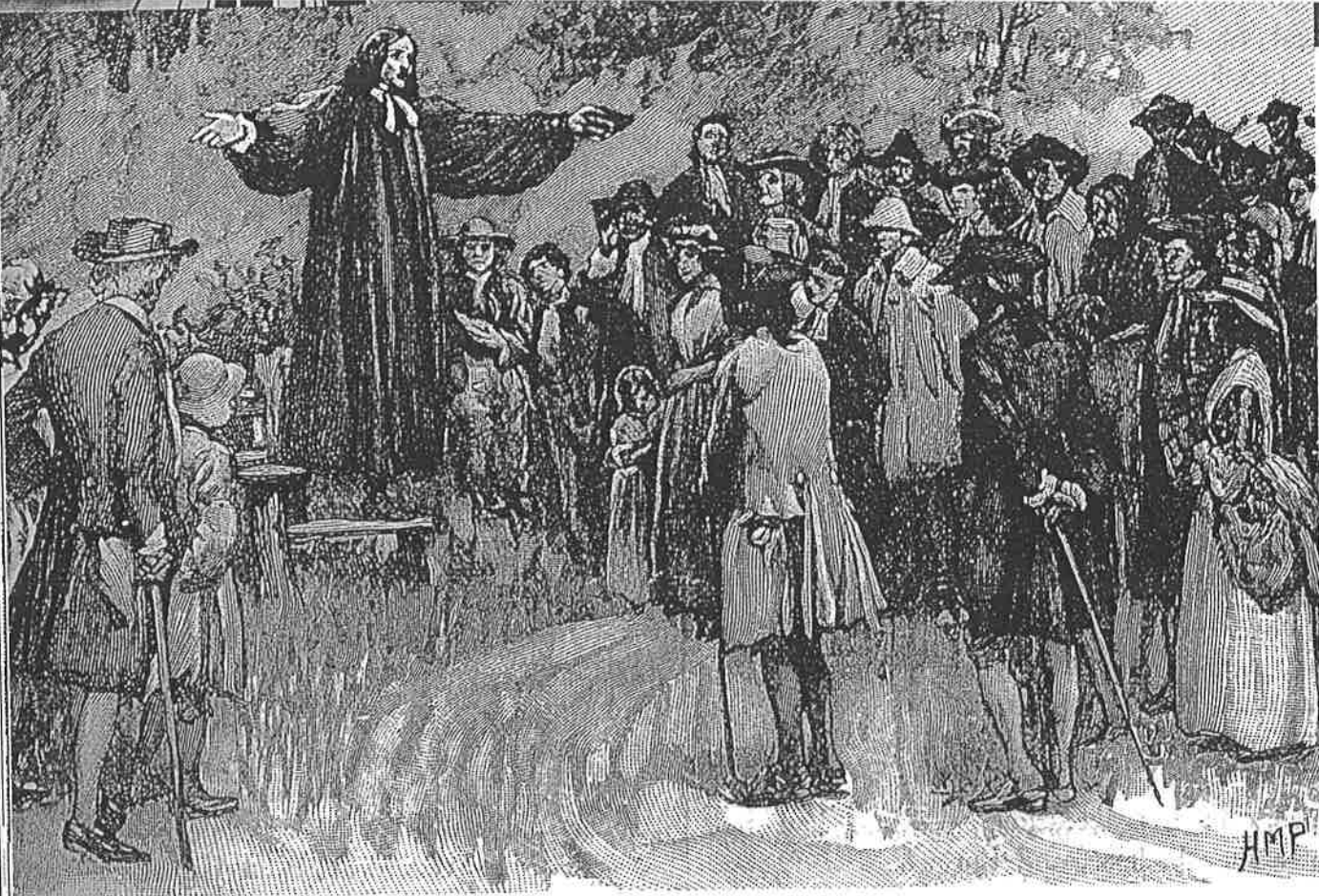
By the 1700s, religious restrictions had eased in many of the colonies. The Puritan tradition gradually declined in New England. Still, churches remained centers of faith and community life.

An emotion-packed Christian movement swept through the colonies in the 1730s and 1740s. This period of religious revival is called the Great Awakening. It began because some Christians believed there had been a decline of religious **zeal** in the colonies.

Leaders such as Massachusetts preacher Jonathan Edwards called on people to examine their lives and commit themselves to God. Otherwise, Edwards warned, they would be “sinners in the hands of an angry God.” He said God would become angry if they did not worship.

Analyze Charts American government was influenced by three important documents. **Summarize** How did these documents influence the state and federal constitutions of the United States?

Academic Vocabulary
zeal • *n.*, a strong feeling of interest and enthusiasm



Analyze Images Crowds of people gathered to hear sermons by English minister George Whitefield. **Infer** What does the artist suggest about the attitude of Whitefield's audience?

Primary Source

"The wrath of God is like great waters that are dammed for the present; they increase more and more, and rise higher and higher, till an outlet is given; and the longer the stream is stopped, the more rapid and mighty is its course, when once it is let loose."

—Jonathan Edwards, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God."

Forceful preachers quickly spread the ideas of the Great Awakening throughout the colonies. An English minister, George Whitefield, drew huge crowds to outdoor meetings in colonies from Massachusetts to Georgia. Whitefield's powerful voice rang with feeling as he called on sinners to repent. After attending one of Whitefield's speeches in Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin observed:

Primary Source

"One could not walk thro' the Town in an Evening without Hearing Psalms sung in different Families of every Street."

—Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, 1771

The Great Awakening led to the rise of many newly organized churches. This forced colonists to become more tolerant of religious differences. Also, because the Great Awakening appealed to people in all of the colonies, from different classes and ethnic backgrounds, it brought colonists together for the first time. The Great Awakening also encouraged a spirit of independence. People began to feel that if they could figure out how to worship on their own and how to run their own churches, then they could govern themselves with those same virtues. Eventually, many of these colonists would challenge the authority of colonial governors and the English king.

READING CHECK Identify Cause and Effect Why did the Great Awakening begin?

Freedom of the Press

The colonists expected to enjoy the traditional rights of English citizens. A notable court case in 1734 helped establish another important right. This was freedom of the press, the right of newspapers and other public media to publish articles believed to be accurate.

As the colonial population grew, printers set up printing presses. The first regular newspaper in the colonies was the Boston *News-Letter*, which was founded in 1704. *Poor Richard's Almanack* was a publication created in Philadelphia by Benjamin Franklin.

Poor Richard, 1733.

A N

Almanack

For the Year of Christ

1733,

Being the First after LEAP YEAR:

<i>And makes since the Creation</i>	Years
By the Account of the Eastern Greeks	7241
By the Latin Church, when \odot em. γ	6932
By the Computation of <i>W.W</i>	5742
By the Roman Chronology	5682
By the Jewish Rabbies	5494

Wherein is contained

The Lunations, Eclipses, Judgment of the Weather, Spring Tides, Planets Motions & mutual Aspects, Sun and Moon's Rising and Setting, Length of Days, Time of High Water, Fairs, Courts, and observable Days

Fitted to the Latitude of Forty Degrees, and a Meridian of Five Hours West from London, but may without sensible Error, serve all the adjacent Places, even from Newfoundland to South-Carolina.

By **RICHARD SAUNDERS**, Philom.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed and sold by *B. FRANKLIN*, at the New
Printing Office near the Market.

The Third Impression.

◀ *Poor Richard's Almanack* was very popular throughout the colonies and was published for 26 years.

It contained weather lore and clever sayings, such as "Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."

John Peter Zenger was publisher of the *Weekly Journal*, a newspaper in New York City. In 1734, Zenger was arrested for printing a series of articles that showed the governor in a negative light. Zenger was charged with **libel**, the publishing of statements that damage a person's reputation.

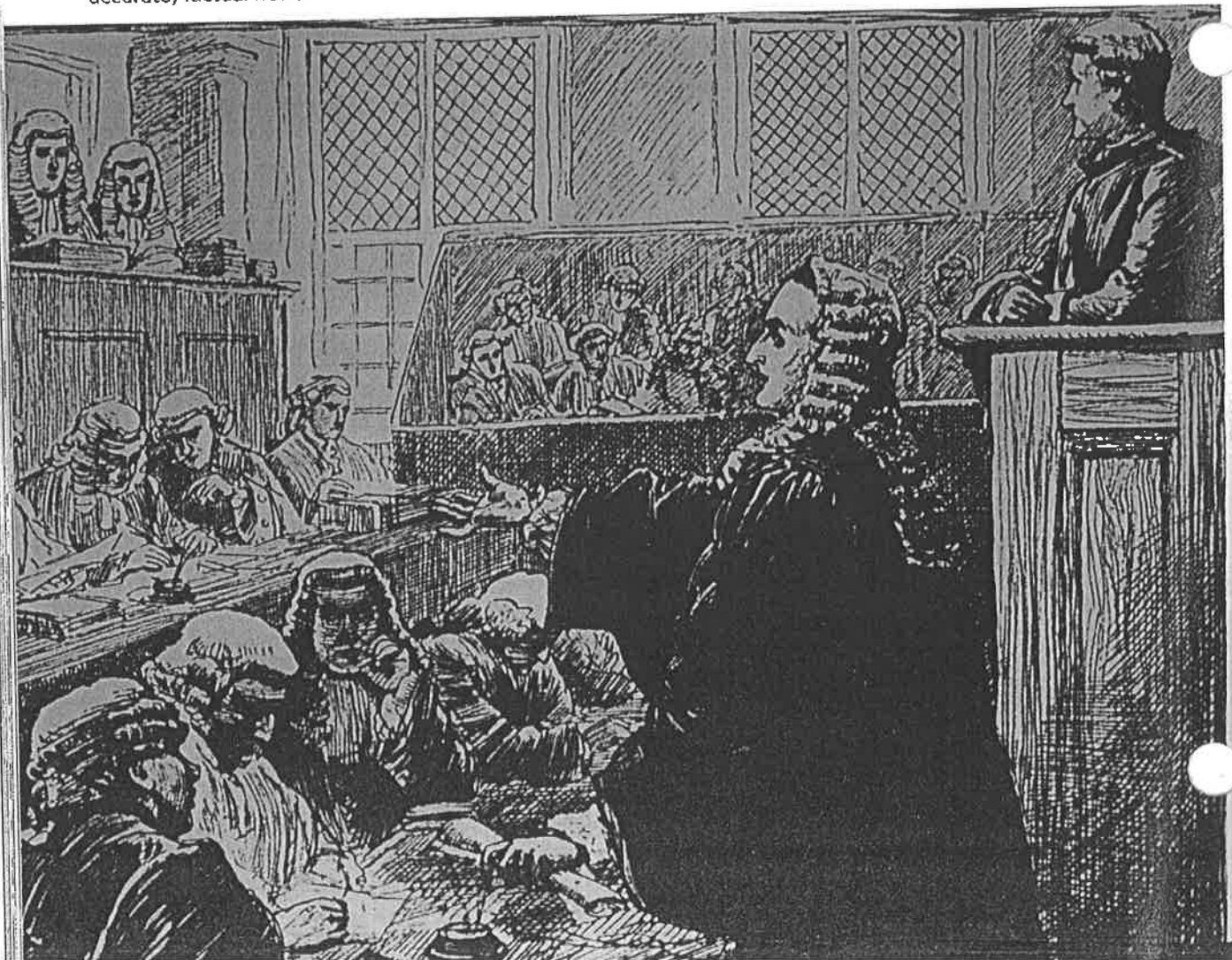
At Zenger's trial, his lawyer, Andrew Hamilton, admitted that Zenger had printed the statements. However, the lawyer said, the critical question was whether the statements were true or false. Since the statements were true, Hamilton argued, the truth could not be called libel. Hamilton told the jury:

Primary Source

"By [acquitting Zenger], you will have laid a noble foundation for securing . . . the liberty both of exposing and opposing tyrannical power by speaking and writing truth."

—Andrew Hamilton in *A Brief Narrative of the Case and Trial of John Peter Zenger*
by James Alexander

Analyze Images Peter Zenger's factual criticism of the governor set the precedent for good journalism in the United States. **Distinguish Between Fact and Opinion** Why is it important to a democracy to have a press that supports giving accurate, factual news?



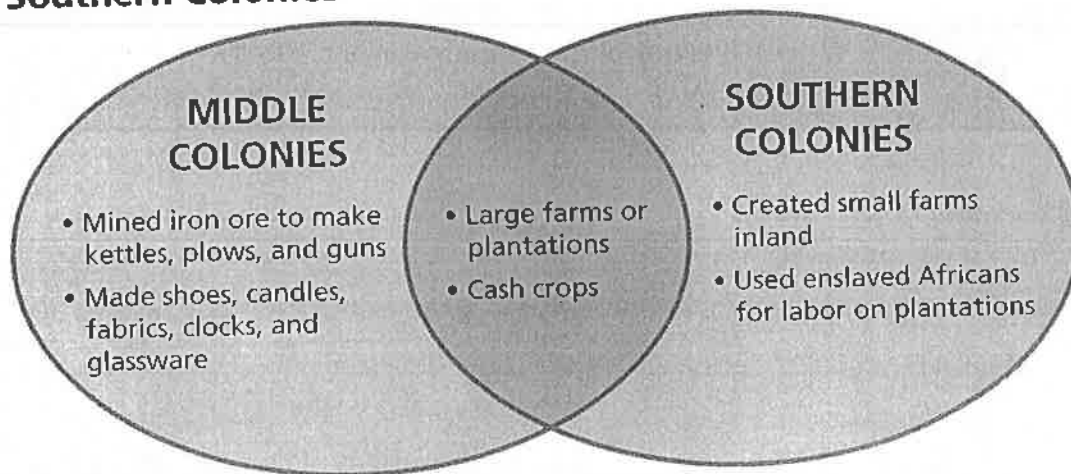
☑ Review and Assessment

VISUAL REVIEW

From Trade to Exploration

Trade Networks Form in Asia and Africa	Europe Trades with Africa	Europe Looks for New Trade Routes to China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traders travel by camel across the Sahara. • Muslims trade with China using the Silk Road. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact with different cultures brings knowledge to Europeans. • Europeans learn about the magnetic compass and the astrolabe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better maps are available. • Shipbuilders design faster ships. • Columbus looks for a route to Asia and reaches the Americas.

Economies of the Middle Colonies and the Southern Colonies



READING REVIEW

Use the Take Notes and Practice Vocabulary activities in your Active Journal to review the topic.

INTERACTIVE


Practice Vocabulary using the Topic Mini-Games

ASSESSMENT

Vocabulary and Key Ideas

1. Describe How did **cartographers** help explorers navigate the seas?
2. Recall Who did the Spanish enslave to work on plantations?
3. Describe how **capitalism** works.
4. Check **Understanding** How did countries build wealth under the system of **mercantilism**?
5. Recall What do **Quakers** believe?
6. Define What is a **debtor**?
7. Identify **Main Ideas** What did **enlightened** thinkers in Europe come to believe in the late 1600s?

Critical Thinking and Writing

8. Identify **Cause and Effect** What did Spain do in the Americas in the decades that followed Columbus's arrival in the Caribbean?
9. Identify **Main Ideas** What did the Virginia Company do to ensure that some Jamestown settlers had a voice in government?
10. Identify **Supporting Details** List the 13 English colonies in alphabetical order.
11. Understand **Effects** How did scientists influence the Enlightenment?
12. Revisit the **Essential Question** Why did groups such as the Puritans, Pilgrims, and Quakers move from Europe to North America?
13. **Writer's Workshop: Write a Persuasive Essay** Using the outline you created for your  Active Journal, answer the following question in a persuasive essay: How did the moral and political ideas of the Great Awakening affect the development of revolutionary fervor and morality?

Analyze Primary Sources

14. According to John Locke, why should consent to political power come only from the people?
 - A. A safe community depends upon it.
 - B. People have a right to be comfortable.
 - C. People are, by nature, free.
 - D. Otherwise, people won't unite."Men being, as has been said, by nature, all free, equal, and independent, no one can be put out of this estate, and subjected to the political power of another, without his

own consent. The only way whereby any one divests himself of his natural liberty, and puts on the bonds of civil society, is by agreeing with other men to join and unite into a community for their comfortable, safe, and peaceable living one amongst another, in a secure enjoyment of their properties. . . ."

—from John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*

Analyze Maps

15. Which letter represents New England? Describe the climate of this region.
16. Which letter represents the Middle Colonies? How did the soil of the Middle Colonies compare to the soil of New England?
17. Which letter represents the Southern Colonies? Why did plantation owners use enslaved Africans for labor?

▼ The 13 Colonies



