

DOCUMENTS OF FREEDOM

*Day 1 - The Magna Carta and
Philosophes*

*Because not EVERYTHING French is
bad...
Just most things.*

OBJECTIVES

- Understand the 4 Elements of a Constitution
- Examine the Magna Carta and its' 2 Key Principles
- Identify 5 key Enlightenment Philosophes
- Recognize Philosophical ideas in the U.S. Constitution
- Terms:
 - Constitution
 - Magna Carta
 - "Rule of Law"
 - Unalienable Rights
 - "Due Process"
 - Philosophes
 - John Locke
 - Baron de Montesquieu
 - Jean-Jacques Rousseau
 - Cesare Beccaria
 - Voltaire

REMIND ME...

- What is “government”?
- WHY do we need it?
- HOW can we make one work? What ELSE is required?
 - RULES! LAWS! PENALTIES!
- *Because if we don't write the rules down, or make them known, they won't be followed!*
 - ... even then, there's still Tom Brady

Back To Our Islands

- What would be a good Rule for our entire Class Island?
- How is that rule enforced?

Island Law

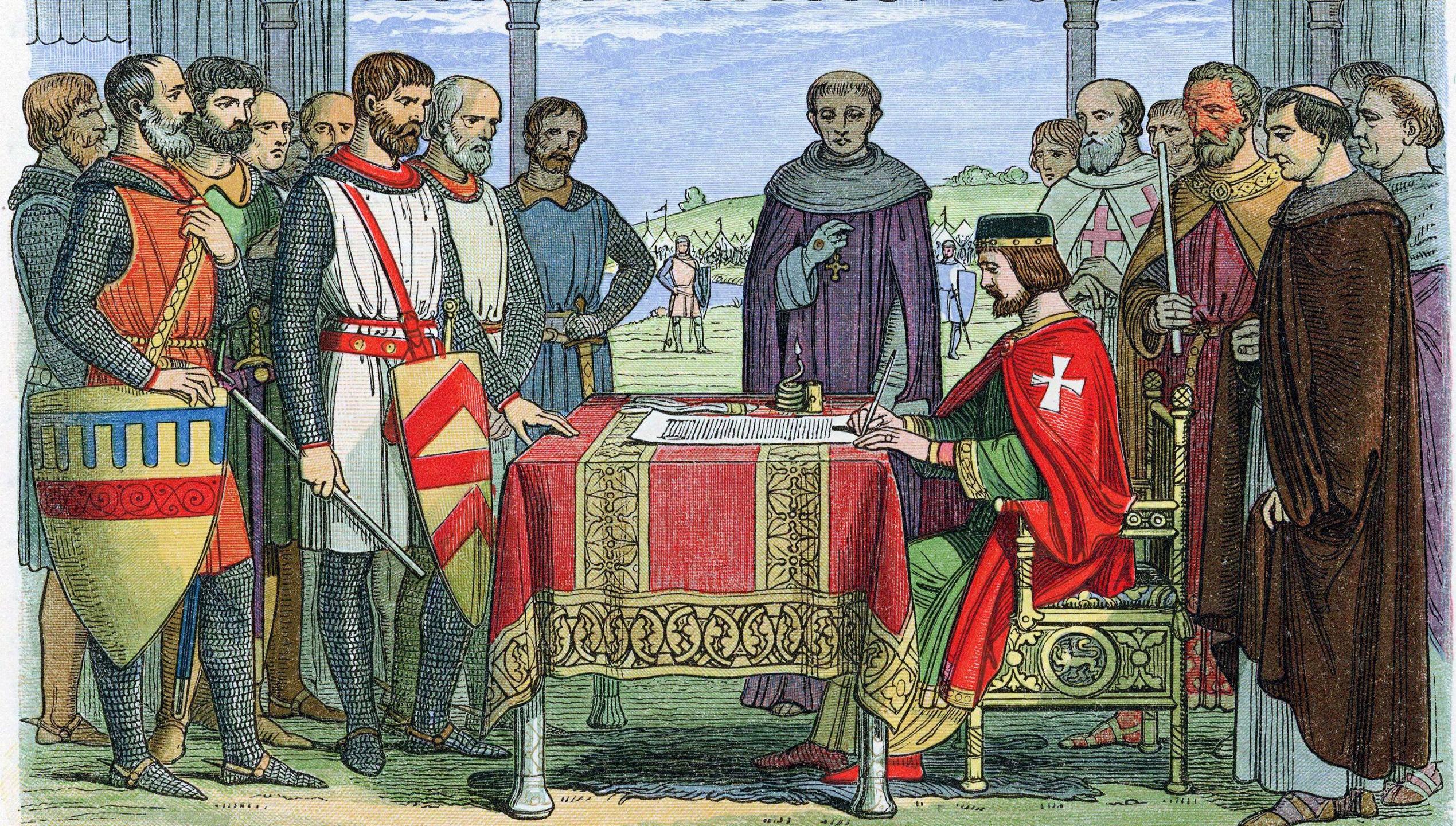
- *Much like your Islands, all governments, in order to be one, need rules or laws*
- *When they write these down we have a Constitution*
 - A document that sets out the Laws, Principles, Organization, and Processes of government
 - Four Parts -
 - Laws - What things we can and cannot do
 - Principles - What we stand for and believe
 - Organization - How we're organized, who's in charge
 - Processes - How things work, what happens

THE INFLUENCES...

- ⦿ *Our Founding Fathers weren't idiots, and they looked to the greatest minds and greatest examples that were already there*
 - *Just like how YOU master Ctrl+C when you're doing a Research Paper*
- ⦿ *They especially focused on a few key influences and drafts...*
- ⦿ *Today we look at the first, as well as some brilliant men...*

Jolly Old England

- *In 1215 King John of England was arguing with some rebels*
 - *Remember Robin Hood? It's THAT John... he became King when Richard died*
- *To make peace, the Archbishop of Canterbury got the King to agree to “guarantee” certain basic rights and liberties to everyone... even the peasants*
- *These became the Magna Carta*



The Magna Carta

- One of the first and oldest Constitutions
- Contains two basic and important ideas:
- 1. Monarchs themselves have to obey the law
- 2. Citizens have basic rights



The Magna Carta

①. Monarchs themselves have to obey the law

- We call this “Rule of Law”
- *Nobody is above it*



②. Citizens have basic rights

- We call these “Unalienable Rights” (*Inalienable*)
- *Life, liberty, pursuit of happiness...*
- These include Due Process
 - Rights of people accused of crimes



The Magna Carta

- *The Magna Carta lasted for a LOOOONG time. Every Monarch for England has renewed at least parts to it, and though it has been amended and adjusted, it is still part of British Law*
 - **Although NOT their official Constitution**
- **It celebrated its' 800th birthday in 2015!**



HAPPY 800TH BIRTHDAY
Magna Carta
1215 - 2015

The Magna Carta

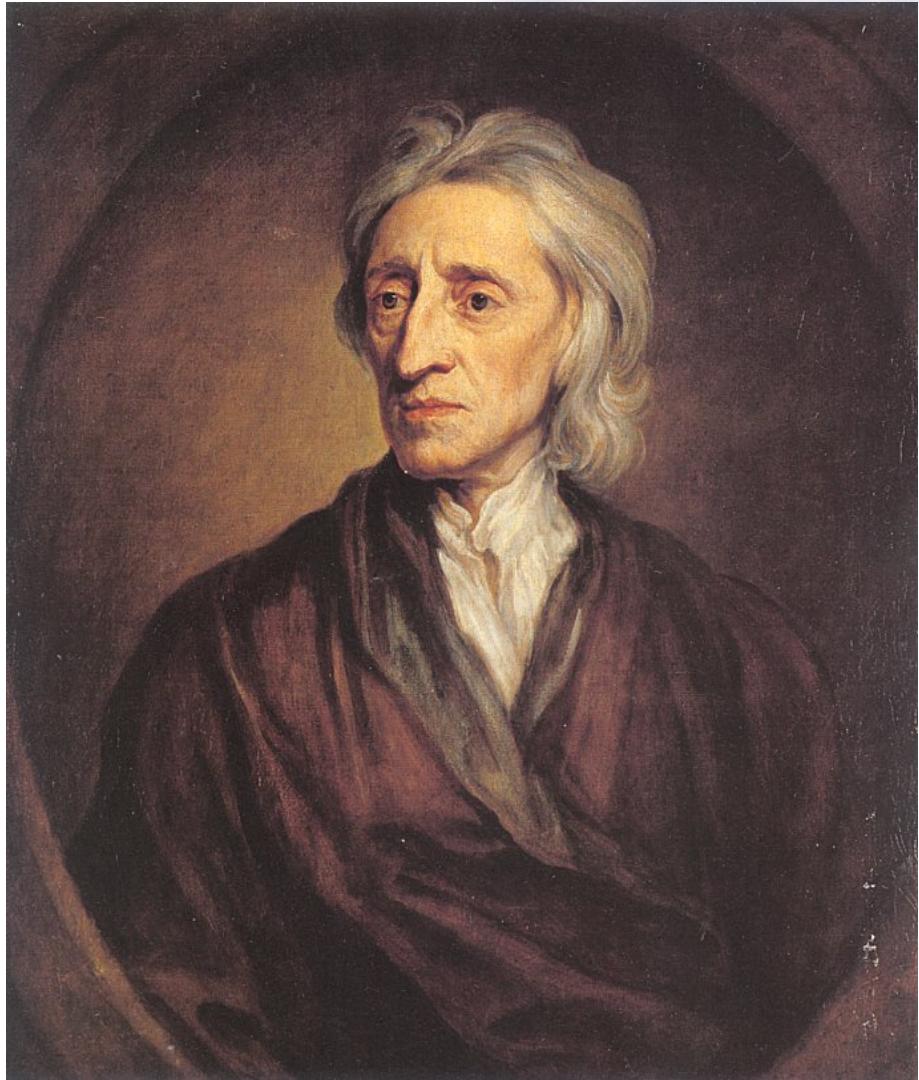
- *However, the greatest importance of the Magna Carta came from the influence it had on future Constitutions, laws, and thinkers*
- *During the period called “The Enlightenment” there were, in particular, some thinkers and writers that studied the Magna Carta and found some good...*



THINKERS AND WRITERS

- *The men, who met often and shared ideas were called “The Philosophes”*
 - Public Intellectuals who used Reason to study ALL subjects
 - *Math, Science, Economics, Philosophy, and especially Government*
- *There were Five in particular who focused on government...*

JOHN LOCKE



The Scholar

He believed all people
were born equal with
three natural rights: life,
liberty, and property.

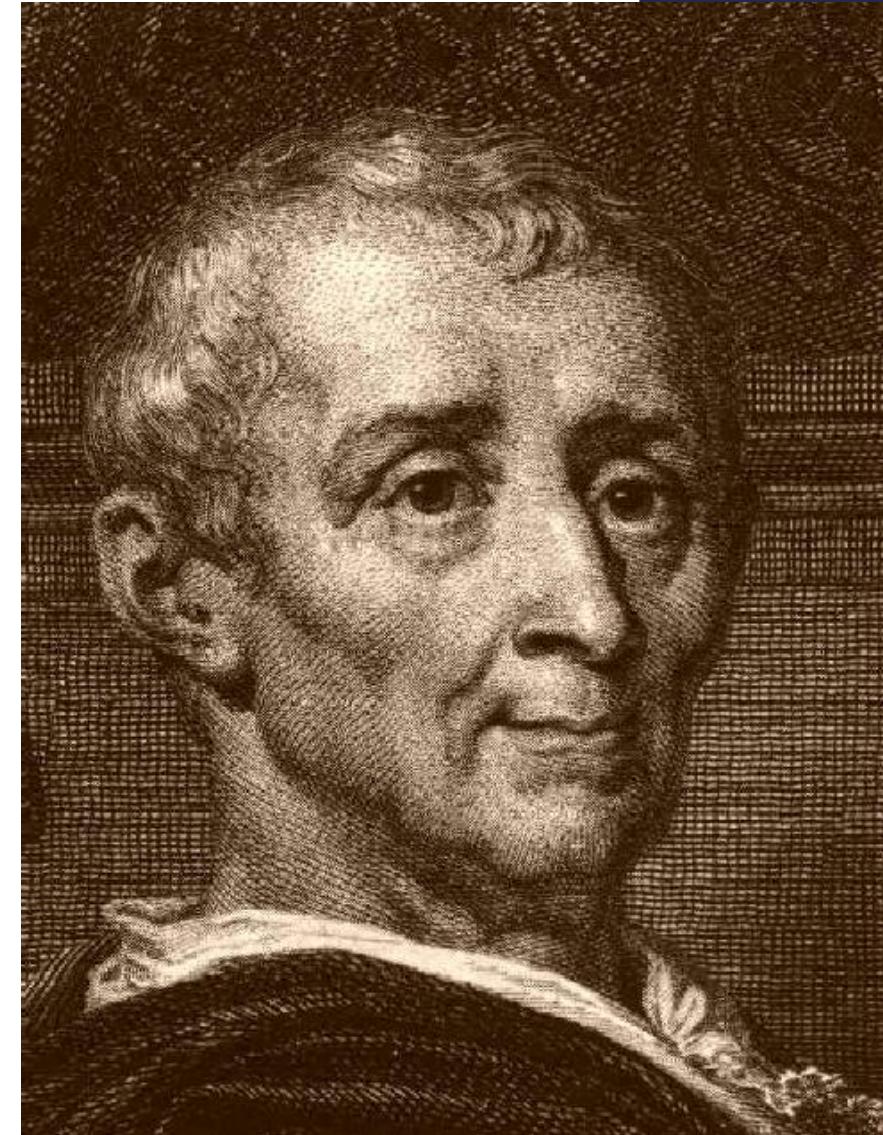
If a ruler is bad, the
people have the right to
overthrow them

Baron de Montesquieu

The Noble

He came up with the idea
of the separation of
powers.

He believed government
should be split into three
branches: legislative,
executive, and judicial.



Jean-Jacques Rousseau



THE TEACHER

He believed that man was born free and that liberty was everyone's birthright.

He said that the only legitimate government was one ruled directly by the people.

Cesare Beccaria

The Lawyer

Believed people accused of crimes should receive a speedy trial.

He thought any acts of torture **and the** death penalty **should be abolished.**



VOLTAIRE

The Prisoner

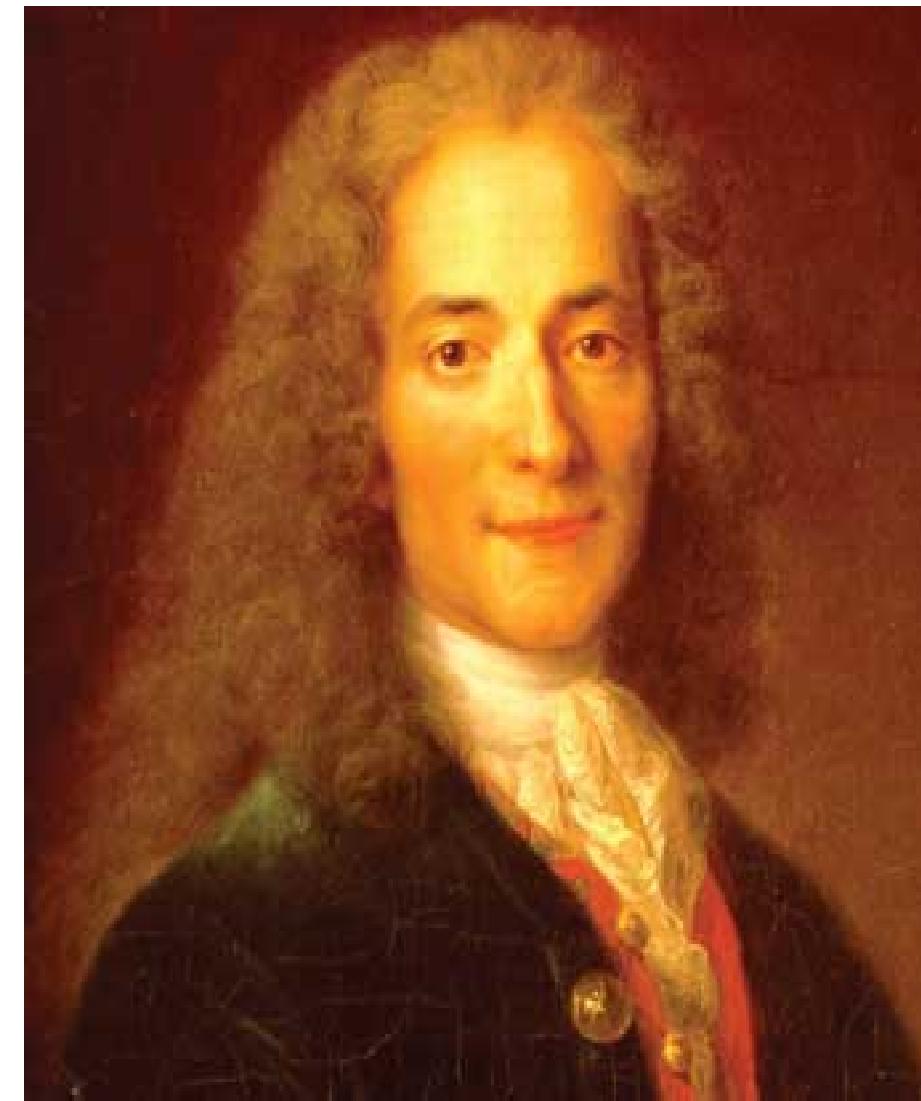
Spent 11 months in prison for making fun of the French Government

Doesn't want to go back, uses the “pen name” Voltaire

(real name François-Marie Arouet)

He believed in religious freedom, political freedom and freedom of speech.

He spoke out against inequality, injustice, and the slave trade.



AND SO...

- *You should be able to see, at least in part, how the key principles of the Magna Carta, as well as the ideas of these Philosophes, came to be part of the American Process*
 - *After all, Benjamin Franklin was a Philosophe too!*

COMING SOON...

- ***Next Time, a QUIZ on the Magna Carta and the Philosophes***
- ***Next Week, the precursor to the American Constitution, as well as some American Writings***
- ***And then much later, the Declaration of Independence, and our first draft of a Constitution***

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