

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# A More Perfect Union - Vocab Cards

## constitution ]>

**the document that describes the principles and laws of a country, state, or organization.**

When questions arise, the Supreme Court is tasked with interpreting the US \_Constitution\_ and determining what the basic laws of the country express.

Synonyms: charter, legislation



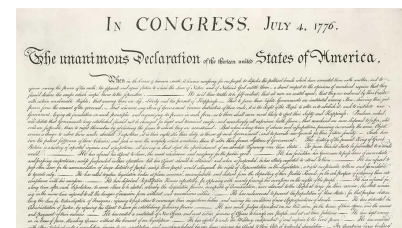
Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

## Declaration of Independence ]>

**the statement signed in Independence Hall, Philadelphia on July 4, 1776. It declared that the 13 colonies were now independent from British rule.**

Imagine what it would have been like to sign the \_Declaration of Independence\_, the document by which America declared itself free!



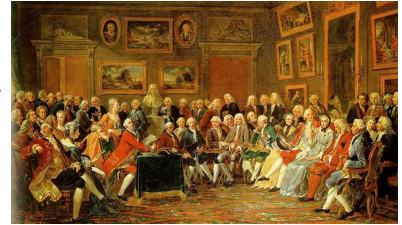
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## Enlightenment ]>

**a philosophical movement in the 18th century marked by the belief in science and logic over religion and tradition.**

The \_Enlightenment\_, a philosophical movement that advocated for the use of reason and rational thought, greatly influenced the supporters of the French Revolution.



Synonyms: Age of Reason

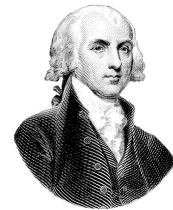
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## James Madison ]>

**a member of the Continental Congress and a leader in the drafting of the Constitution and some of The Federalist Papers. He was the 4th president of the United States from 1809 to 1817.**

From 1809-1817, \_James Madison\_ served as the 4th president of the United States. He helped draft the Constitution and some of The Federalist Papers.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Make a connection between this word and another word or idea:

## John Locke ]>

**A seventeenth-century English philosopher who spoke against the divine right of kings and argued that governments depend on the consent of the governed.**

17th century English philosopher \_John Locke\_ argued that successful governments need the consent of their citizens. His ideas greatly influenced the Founding Fathers and America's Declaration of Independence.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Make a connection between this word and another word or idea:

## liberty ]>

**the state of being free from governmental or authoritarian control.**

Every July 4th, we celebrate American \_liberty\_ and remember when our country gained freedom from England.

Synonyms: independence, freedom  
Antonyms: imprisonment, subjection



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

**posterity ]>**

**all future generations and people.**

The new legislation would ensure that the wetlands were protected for \_posterity\_. It was nice to know that our children and grandchildren would enjoy their natural beauty.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

**pursuit of happiness ]>**

**a fundamental right mentioned in the Declaration of Independence to freely pursue joy, as long as one doesn't do anything illegal or violate the rights of others.**

I am grateful that the Declaration of Independence says Americans have the fundamental right of the \_pursuit of happiness\_ unless they break the law or violate other people's freedoms, because joy is so important.



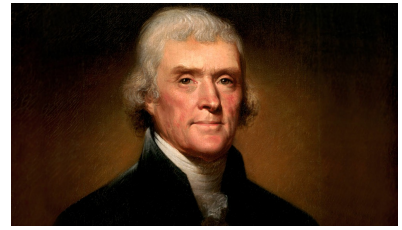
Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

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## Thomas Jefferson ]>

**the third president of the United States (1801-1809). A Virginia plantation owner, he co-authored the Declaration of Independence and served as a U.S. statesman.**

An American Founding Father, \_Thomas Jefferson\_ served as the third President of the United States and was one of the authors of the Declaration of Independence.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Make a connection between this word and another word or idea:

## unalienable rights ]>

**rights that cannot be taken away or denied. In the Declaration of Independence, these rights are "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."**

The Declaration of Independence grants Americans the \_unalienable rights\_ of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," protected privileges that cannot be taken away.

unalienable rights

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