* Absolutism The belief that all political power should be held by one person
* Adam Smith Economic philosopher who proposed that economies were guided by

the “Invisible Hand” of the marketplace (Capitalism)

* Baron de Montesquieu Enlightenment philosopher who believed that government should

have 3 branches with equal power to keep each one balanced and in

control (Checks and Balances)

* Catherine the Great Ruled Russia 1762-1796, she continued modernizing Russia

with Enlightenment ideals such as education and religious tolerance

* Charles I Absolute monarch of England from 1600-1649. His reign and

treatment of Parliament started the English Civil War. He was

beheaded for his actions.

* Charles II Son of Charles I, he became King of England in 1660. He was a king

who continued to be in conflict with Parliament.

* Charles III Enlightened King of Spain from 1759-1788. He proposed economic

and legal reforms to improve the lives of the common Spaniard.

* Constitutional A type of government with a king or queen whose power is limited Monarchy
* Deism Enlightenment view which taught that God was not involved with the

natural world, he created it and the rules that govern the universe, then

stepped away.

* Divine Right of Kings The main belief of monarchs during the Age of Absolutism, it taught

that a king’s power came from God and to disobey a king was to

disobey God.

* English Civil War Event from 1642-1651 between supporters of Charles I (Royalists or

Cavaliers) and supporters of Parliament (Roundheads or Puritans)

over the treatment of Parliament by Charles I.

* Enlightened Despot A type of monarch who embraced Enlightenment ideals but still

retained absolute power.

* Enlightenment Age of Reason, period of European history where scientific and

rational thought influenced everything from politics to religion to

writing and music.

* Frederick the Great Enlightened despot of Prussia from 1740-1786 who modernized

Prussia by reforming the government and promoting religious

tolerance.

* Glorious Revolution 1688 event in England that forced King James II from the throne for

being Catholic, William and Mary became King/Queen at the

permission of Parliament. This event demonstrated that the Monarch

of England now had less power than Parliament.

* French Revolution Series of events from 1789-1799 that overthrew monarchy of France,

tried to use Enlightenment ideas of government and led to the rise of

Napoleon.

* Isaac Newton English scientist who created calculus, proposed Laws of Gravity

and Energy, his findings are some of the earliest of the Enlightenment.

* Ivan the Terrible Czar of Russia from 1547-1584. He brutally forced the nobility to

give up their political power and began Absolutism in Russia.

* Jean-Jacques Rousseau Enlightenment philosopher who believed that “the General Will” was

the driving force of the government.

* John Locke Enlightenment philosopher who argued that political power came

from the people who created government to protect the people. If the

government failed in its protection, a new one could be formed.

* Louis XIV The “perfect” example of an Absolute Ruler. King from 1643-1715,

he built the Palace of Versailles and reached the height of French

royal power.

* Oliver Cromwell Leader of the Roundheads, became leader of the Commonwealth of

England which was England’s first republic after Charles I was

beheaded.

* Parliament The legislative branch of England’s government.
* Peter the Great Enlightened despot of Russia from 1682-1725. He was responsible for

trying to make Russia more like the modern Western Europe of the

Enlightenment.

* Phillip II King from 1556-1598, he ruled Spain at the height of Spanish power

throughout the world.

* Salons A meeting of people during the Enlightenment where learning and

discussions on all topics took place.

* Thomas Hobbes Enlightenment philosopher who proposed the idea of the Social

Contract.

* Voltaire Enlightenment philosopher who proposed freedom of speech,

separation of church and state and religious tolerance.

* William and Mary King/Queen of England from 1689 – 1702. By signing the English

Bill of Rights to end the Glorious Revolution, they transferred power

from the Crown to Parliament, which resulted in a more democratic

England with Parliament having more power over the king.

* Social Contract The idea that society was created because without it, men were not

subject to laws and therefore had to create laws to protect their well

being and gave up certain rights to maintain that well-being.