

CHAPTER
25
Section 4

CONNECTIONS ACROSS TIME AND CULTURES

Enlightenment Ideals in an Industrial Age

THEMATIC CONNECTION:
ECONOMICS

Enlightenment thinking produced long-term effects that profoundly shaped Western civilization. In Chapter 23, you read how Enlightenment ideals inspired the revolutionary movements of the 1800s. How did Enlightenment ideals affect the economic thinking of the Industrial Age? To find out, answer the questions that follow.

1. Enlightenment thinkers believed that natural laws were just and reasonable. Just as there were natural laws of motion, so were there natural laws of politics, government, and economics. How did Adam Smith and other philosophers of industrialization view natural laws? _____

2. Enlightenment philosophers believed in the importance of the individual in society. Government was created by individuals to promote their welfare and self-interest. How are these ideals reflected in the philosophy of Adam Smith? _____

3. An important concept of the Enlightenment was that society would progress. How did the economic philosophers view progress? _____

4. Enlightenment philosophers and reformers criticized the great inequalities that existed in society and believed that through reason, a better society was possible. They called for social equality, abolition of slavery, prison reform, and improvements in education. What changes did reformers advocate to correct the faults of an industrialized society? _____

5. The ideas of Enlightenment philosophers John Locke and Jean-Jacques Rousseau laid the foundations for modern Western democratic governments. What reforms expanded democracy in newly industrialized societies? _____

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