

Democracy- a government by the people

1. Direct Democracy- people vote on all issues
2. Representative democracy- people elect people who vote for them... this is also known as a republic.
3. Constitutional Monarchy- a democracy, but has a king (England today)

The Magna Carta was an agreement that took power away from the King of England in 1215, its big idea has to do with limited government, or people having some power.

The Mayflower Compact written in 1620 in the colonies was a written plan for government. Its big idea has to do with self-government and moving away from the King.

The Enlightenment: A time period that produced change in how some people saw their world. These thinkers wanted to apply the laws that ruled nature to people and society. These new ideas had a great effect on political thinking in Europe and the Americas. Its ideas are in the Declaration of Independence.

Social Contract: A theory that people give up some freedom to be part of a government which will protect them. John Locke believed if government wasn't working people had the right to revolt or take back the power. Locke believed governments were created to serve the people.

### Problems with England

The Proclamation of 1763: Ended French-Indian War. Colonists were mad because it limited ways they could expand the country. So to avoid future problems, it did not allow them to live west of the Appalachian Mountains.

Stamp Act- Britain taxed certain popular products/ Colonists responded by boycotting

Coercive Acts: punishment on Boston for the Boston Tea Party. Also called Intolerable Acts

1. Closed port of Boston
2. Made political meetings between colonists illegal
3. Demanded repayment
4. Quartering Act: Colonists had to house British soldiers

The First Continental Congress: Colonists wrote letter to the King demanding a change.

Between these, Thomas Paine wrote Common Sense. This pamphlet persuaded people that it was time for a change and a revolution. The colonists were angry because they thought they were not receiving all the rights that people living in Britain had.

The Second Continental Congress: Colonists signed Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration of Independence has four parts:

1. The Preamble (an introduction) this is different from Preamble to the Constitution
2. Statement of Natural Rights – section talking about people being born with certain rights, like life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness (these are mainly Enlightenment ideas)
3. List of Complaints about the King
4. Statement of Declaration

