



2017 specification  
first exam in 2019

# Activity Pack for A Level AQA

Core Ideologies

*Liberalism*

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# Contents

<b>Product Support from ZigZag Education</b> .....	<b>ii</b>
<b>Terms and Conditions of Use</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>Teacher’s Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Activity-by-activity Plan</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Activities</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Activity 1: History of Liberalism .....	4
Activity 2: The Enlightenment in Focus .....	6
Activity 3: The Individual and the State.....	7
Activity 4: FREEDOM! .....	8
Activity 5: Human Nature (rationalism) .....	9
Activity 6: Society (equality) .....	10
Activity 7: Liberalism and the Economy.....	11
Activity 8: Liberalism vs Democracy .....	12
Activity 9: Essay Question – Liberal Democracy .....	13
Activity 10: Revision Task – Key Concepts .....	14
Activity 11: Quote Bank .....	15
Activity 12: In-depth Thinker Profile .....	16
Activity 13: Classical vs Modern Liberalism .....	17
Activity 14: Manifesto.....	18
Activity 15: Liberalism Grid Fill .....	19
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>20</b>
Activity 1: History of Liberalism .....	20
Activity 2: The Enlightenment in Focus .....	21
Activity 3: The Individual and the State.....	22
Activity 4: FREEDOM!.....	23
Activity 5: Human Nature (rationalism).....	24
Activity 6: Society (equality) .....	24
Activity 7: Liberalism and the Economy.....	25
Activity 8: Liberalism vs Democracy .....	26
Activity 9: Essay Question – Liberal Democracy .....	27
Activity 10: Revision Task – Key Concepts .....	28
Activity 11: Quote Bank .....	29
Activity 12: In-depth Thinker Profile.....	31
Activity 13: Classical vs Modern Liberalism .....	33
Activity 14: Manifesto.....	34
Activity 15: Liberalism Grid Fill .....	35

# Teacher's Introduction

Welcome to your activity pack for the subject of Liberalism for the A Level AQA Politics specifications. In this pack, you will find activities that cover all the key topics: the key concepts of liberalism, differing views and tensions within liberalism, and key liberal thinkers and their ideas.

There is a combination of activities, including self-contained work for students (perfect for cover lessons) and more open-ended activities which will require some element of research to complete them. The pack provides opportunities for individual, pair and group work as well as activities which allow for class discussion, all essential to A Level Politics.

## Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The activities cover the key concepts of liberalism, the two main branches of liberalism and the different liberal thinkers. They aim to act as overviews of the topics and to be useful and concise revision-style activities.

A comprehensive answers section is included, providing answers to the tasks in the student pack.

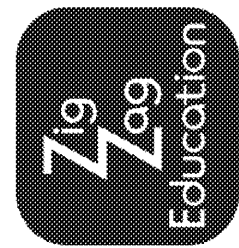
*January 2021*



# Activity-by-activity I

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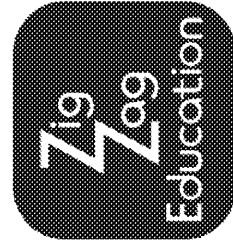
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Spec area	Topic	Activity description	Notes
Liberalism	Activity 1 – History of Liberalism	Research the development of liberalism through history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could be set to be a pair activity also</li> <li>• Will need textbooks and preferably the Internet potentially a homework task</li> <li>• Extension task on elements and thinkers of liberalism can be partner or group work</li> </ul>
	Activity 2 – Enlightenment Focus	Identify the differences in thought before and after the Enlightenment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for solo or pair work</li> <li>• Will need to have studied the Enlightenment previously</li> <li>• Extension task on changing perceptions to be done in pairs</li> </ul>
	Activity 3 – The Individual and the State	Gap fill activity on the individual and the state and relation between them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for solo work</li> <li>• Extension task on the mechanistic theory and potential conflicts to be done in pairs</li> </ul>
	Activity 4 – FREEDOM!	True or false activity on different aspects of freedom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for solo work</li> <li>• Extension task covers differences between positive and negative freedom – could be partner work</li> </ul>
	Activity 5 – Human nature (rationalism)	Gap fill activity on human nature (rationalism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for solo work</li> <li>• Extension task on how this relates to other concepts could be done in pairs</li> </ul>
	Activity 6 – Society (equality)	Matching exercise on the different forms of society (equality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for partner work</li> <li>• Extension task could be the most important concept to do before comparing in groups</li> </ul>
	Activity 7 – Liberalism and the Economy	Definition match-up on the economy followed by a diagram completion exercise on liberalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for solo or partner work</li> <li>• Will need to have studied basic elements of liberalism already</li> </ul>
Activity 8 – Liberalism and Democracy	Sorting exercise on elements of liberalism and democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best for solo work</li> <li>• Links ideologies content to UK specification.</li> <li>• Extension task on bringing the two together to be done in pairs</li> <li>• Works best if prior study on democracy has been done</li> </ul>	

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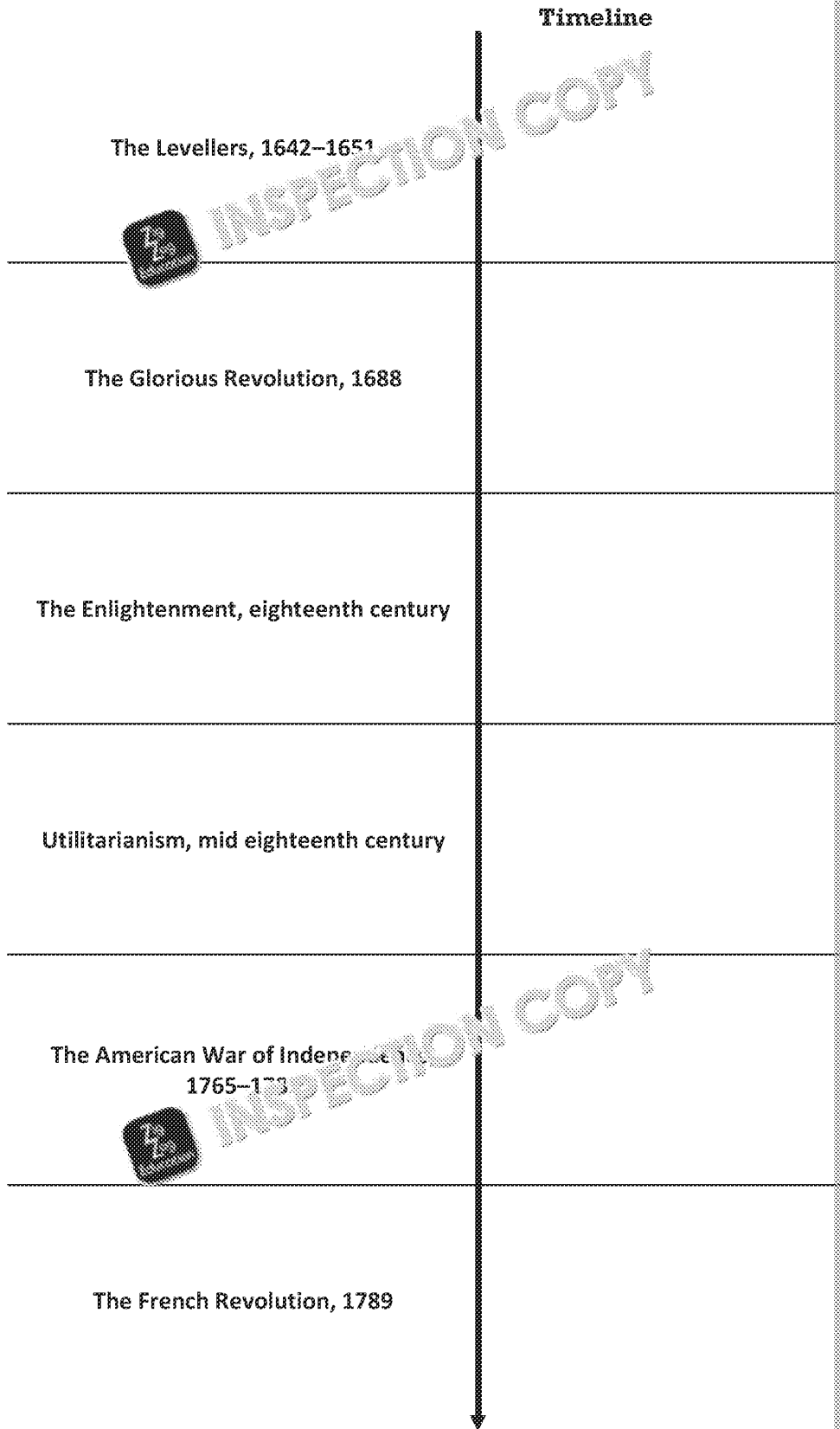
Spec area	Topic	Activity description	Notes
Liberalism	Activity 9 – Essay Question: Liberal Democracy	Essay question on the relationship between liberalism and democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be done quietly alone</li> <li>Potentially a homework task</li> </ul>
	Activity 10 – Revision Task – Key Concepts	Table fill activity on the key concepts covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Useful to have access to 3-7 to hand</li> <li>Can be done alone or in pairs</li> </ul>
	Activity 11 – Quote Bank	Match quotes and identify relevant concepts from liberalism and key thinkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best for partner work</li> <li>Research for quotes necessary</li> </ul>
	Activity 12 – In-depth Thinker Profile	Profile creation of one of the key thinkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best for solo research</li> <li>Access to textbooks and preferably the internet will be important to this task</li> <li>Best to divide up the five thinkers between the class</li> <li>Potentially a homework task</li> <li>Extension task 'guess who' to be done in pairs or groups</li> </ul>
	Activity 13 – Classical vs Modern Liberalism	Match concepts to the correct strand of liberalism and identify key thinkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best for partner work</li> <li>Extension task questions can be done alone or in pairs</li> </ul>
Activity 14 – Manifesto	Writing task on manifesto for either classical or modern liberalism followed by debate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write manifesto in small groups and then debate with another group</li> <li>Class should be split into equal groups for the debate</li> <li>Can have previous activity to hand</li> <li>Revision task debate to be done in groups</li> </ul>	
Activity 15 – Liberalism: Famous Thinkers	Question-based activity on various thinkers/ concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best for solo or partner work, but could be a race to see who finds the middle word first</li> <li>Best done once students are familiar with liberalism as a whole</li> </ul>	

## Activity 1: History of Liberalism

Liberalism as we know it developed slowly over the last 200 years but the origins in time. For a long time, liberals tended to be referred to as 'radicals', given the distance from the norms of the time.

### Task

Research the groups and ideas below that make up the most important origins of liberalism and write down some of the key contributions of the development of liberalism.




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The Revolutions of 1848

The 'Golden Age' of liberalism, 1848–1873

 The Great Depression of 1873–1896

Development of the Welfare State, early–mid twentieth century

The 'End of History', 1989–



**Liberal thinkers through history**  
Consider which of the six key thinkers is/a most influential at which time.

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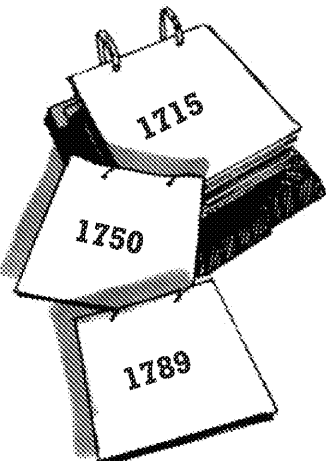


## Activity 2: The Enlightenment in Focus

The Age of Enlightenment that occurred during the eighteenth century was crucial to liberal thinking.

### Task

List the ways in which attitudes changed during the Enlightenment.

Before		
The individual		The individual
Freedom		Freedom
Human nature (rationalism)		Human nature
State		State
Society (equality)		Society

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Changing Perspectives

- 1) Research which thinkers are associated with which changes.
- 2) Which change do you think is the most important? Discuss with the person next to you.



### Activity 3: The Individual and the State

The relationship between the individual and the state is important in liberalism.

**Task**

Fill in the gaps in the text below from the box underneath. Note that there are more words than gaps.

Liberalism strongly promotes the idea of \_\_\_\_\_. Individualism is the idea that the individual is more important than any \_\_\_\_\_ group. Therefore, the rights of individuals and the individual should be \_\_\_\_\_ to political authority. Society should be constructed so as to best \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ rights, interests and needs of the individual. The individual is sovereign and the state is subordinate. The individual is sovereign and the state is subordinate. There are two types of individualism. It is important to know that \_\_\_\_\_ individualism refers to \_\_\_\_\_ individualism, on the other hand, refers to a more \_\_\_\_\_ individualism which values a common good over simple personal gain.

Liberals view the state as a necessary \_\_\_\_\_. It is required for a modern society but it is problematic as it has the potential to restrict \_\_\_\_\_ freedoms. Liberals believe that the state should be \_\_\_\_\_ in its power. A good way to \_\_\_\_\_ the power of government between various bodies, refer to the \_\_\_\_\_ of powers. The existence of a \_\_\_\_\_ that confirms the individual as the favourite method. Governments should gain their legitimacy by \_\_\_\_\_ and they should be chosen by the people they are to govern over and they should be held accountable for those people for any mistakes. These measures would also ensure that the state acts in accordance with the people's wishes. A similar view is expressed regarding \_\_\_\_\_ being preferred by liberals.

split up	collective	limited
responsible	egoistical	free market
consent	decentralised	individuals
benefit	central	individualism
	separation of powers	evil

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What are the potential conflicts between the individual and the state in liberalism?  
Do you think these are a great problem for liberalism?

## Activity 4: FREEDOM!

Freedom or liberty is a key concept of liberalism. However, the concept itself can be complicated!

### Task

Answer the questions below 'true' or 'false'. If you've indicated 'false', correct the statement.

1. The principal meaning of 'freedom' before the Enlightenment was political freedom which meant freedom from occupation by another power.
2. Self-determination means for an individual to be able to determine his or her own life.
3. The transfer of emphasis from political to individual freedom among liberals occurred in the early twentieth century.
4. The main enemy of liberty was seen to be a government with absolute power.
5. Liberals had two complaints of government, one that they claimed to know what was best for the people, and the other that they only controlled people's actions when they threatened other people.
6. The utilitarian tradition maintained that government knew what was best for the people.
7. Jeremy Bentham maintained that the essence of freedom was being able to make decisions that were influenced by what we want.
8. John Stuart Mill developed a view of 'true' freedom as being able to do anything.
9. The term 'positive liberty' (or 'positive freedom') was coined later to describe Mill's view.
10. Negative freedom is a bad form of freedom.
11. T.H. Green stated that freedom is not one-dimensional; it can be both individual as well as social.
12. Freedom is an unambiguous word. It is always known what is meant by it.

Write a brief explanation of the differences between positive freedom and negative freedom.

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## Activity 5: Human Nature (rationalism)

Belief in rationalism is a key part of liberalism's view of human nature.

### Task

Fill in the gaps in the sentences below from the words in the box underneath. No more than gaps!

1. A central theme of the Enlightenment was to usher in an 'age of \_\_\_\_\_'.
2. An important element of this was a wish to liberate people from \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Rationalism means a belief in a world that possesses an \_\_\_\_\_, one that people are able to discern through \_\_\_\_\_ and enquiry.
4. Humans are \_\_\_\_\_ creatures driven by reason and, therefore, upon their own \_\_\_\_\_ and are also able to follow them.
5. A strong belief in rationalism means that liberals are against \_\_\_\_\_ those in charge over society in order for the former to support the latter, since \_\_\_\_\_.
6. While individuals are rational, they are by no means \_\_\_\_\_. Liberalism \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Rationalism implies a belief in the \_\_\_\_\_ of humanity. This means \_\_\_\_\_ is in a constant process of advance.
8. Rationalism is also important in that it shows the significance of arguments of force to settle any disputes arising from conflicting interests should be a \_\_\_\_\_.

last resort	paternalism	ignorance
rationally thinking	understandable	investigation
human society	progress	reason
best interests	Enlightenment	self-interest

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With the person next to you, consider which other key concepts of liberalism that can be explained in the reason of human nature can explain, and why.

## Activity 6: Society (equality)

Equality in society is a key concept of liberalism.

### Task 1

Match up the start of each sentence on the left with the correct second half on the right.

Equality is...	... born equal and have equal rights.
Justice is a moral standard of fairness while social justice is...	... rule by those who have the power, based on work and ability.
A meritocracy is...	... the principle that individuals should be treated equally and should be treated according to their merit.
Liberalism states that all humans are born equal...	... specifically about the distribution of rewards and benefits.
Any form of social privilege is...	... everyone should be treated equally, regardless of differences such as race, gender, or age.
Liberalism advocates tolerance because...	... opposed by liberalism.

### Task 2

Match up the points on the right to the correct form of equality on the left.

<b>Foundational Equality</b>	Recognises that individuals have different disadvantages that affect their ability to compete in the market.
<b>Formal Equality</b>	All should have the same rights and opportunities.
<b>Equality of Opportunity</b>	Each human is born with the same rights and opportunities.
	Includes political equality, where one person has one vote.
	Individuals should be treated equally by the law.
	Includes equality before the law itself is of equal weight to all.

- 1) Which form of equality do you think is the most important? Why?
- 2) Consider what tensions exist between different forms of equality, OR how they may affect other liberal concepts.

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# Activity 7: Liberalism and the Economy

How the economy should be organised is an important consideration of any ideology.

## Task 1

Match each term on the left with the correct definition on the right.

Free market / Laissez-faire
Capitalism
Keynesianism

Economic system where individuals organise production and distribution and also stand to make a profit.
A belief that a stagnating economy can be revived by state action, such as public works.
Economic system where the government intervenes in the economy through measures such as tariffs, subsidies and price controls.

Now come up with your own definition for a common hybrid of two of the terms.

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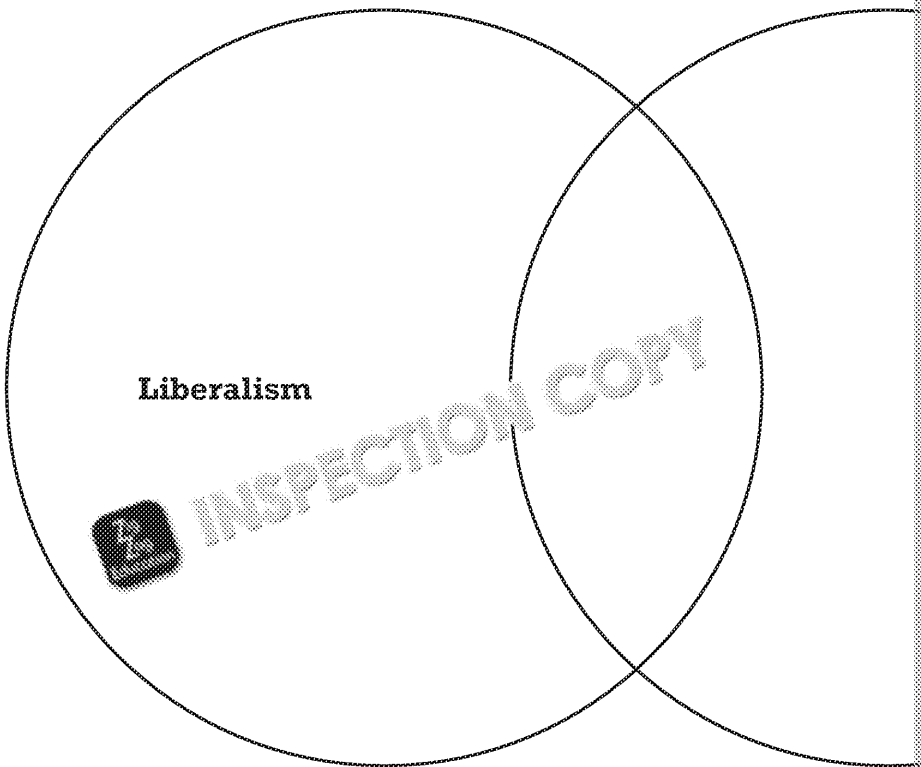
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## Task 2

How can capitalism and liberalism come together? Complete the Venn diagram. The overlap as well as how they can be different. Consider key aspects of each to help you.



Now consider how and why capitalism influenced the development of modern liberalism.

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## Activity 8: Liberalism vs Democracy

Liberalism and democracy are often used together, especially in the term 'liberal democracy'. It is important to remember that these are two **separate** concepts.

### Task 1

Place the statements into the correct column below. Note that some might apply to both.

1) By definition it means 'people power'	6) Has its origins in the 18th century
2) Advocates one vote for each citizen	7) Characterised by the rule of law
3) Its most common form is representative, which means that the people choose those who govern in their name	8) Equality of rights
4) Advocates a limited government	9) States that government should protect the rights of the individual
5) Priority is given to the freedom of the individual	10) Has its origins in the 19th century
<b>Liberalism</b>	<b>Democracy</b>

### Task 2

Nevertheless, the concept of liberal democracy is an attempt to bring these two concepts together. Correct the following **false** statements.

1. Liberal democracy is a blend of the liberal belief in popular rule and the democratic belief in limited government.
2. Legitimacy in liberal democracies is attained by the appointment of politicians.
3. A liberal democratic government does not respect any form of constraints on its power to protect people's best interests.

With the person next to you, consider the potential problems that liberalism will face with democracy and potential solutions to these problems.

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## Activity 9: Essay Question – Liberal Democrac

The writing frame below is a suggestion for how to approach this essay question.

How far does democracy help to achieve liberalism?

**Introduction:** Briefly show your awareness of the meaning of liberalism and dem

**First section:** Discuss the ways in which democracy helps to achieve liberalism.

**Second section:** Discuss the ways in which democracy does not help to achieve li

**Conclusion:** Come to a brief conclusion about your view on the question, remem

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## Activity 10: Revision Task – Key Concepts

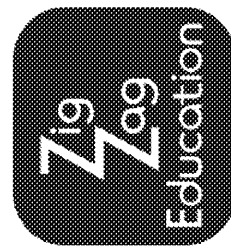
### Task

Using your earlier answers, complete the table below. For the far right column include at least one thing

Concept	Definition	How it was used in libera
The individual		
Freedom		
Human nature (rationalism)		
State		
Society (equality)		
Economy		

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## Activity 1: Quote Bank

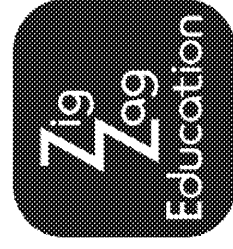
### Task

Liberalism had many important thinkers! Complete the table.

Name of philosopher or thinker	Summarise their most influential idea(s)	The concept(s) of liberalism this can apply to
John Locke		
John Stuart Mill		
John Rawls		
Thomas Hill Green		
Mary Wollstonecraft		
Betty Friedan		

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## Activity 12: In-depth Thinker Profile

### Task

Liberalism has many key thinkers, six of whom are on the specification: John Locke, Thomas Hill Green, Mary Wollstonecraft, and Betty Friedan. Choose **one** and construct the profile below as a framework.

<b>Profile Picture</b> 	<b>Name:</b> <b>Dates:</b> <b>Notion / Why:</b>
<b>Profession</b>	<b>Contributions to Liberalism / Life</b>
<b>Background</b>	
<b>Legacy</b>	

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Play one of the following games in pairs:

- **Guess Who:** Read each other parts from your profile, using them as clues, guess the other's profile in fewer clues.
- **Twenty Questions:** Ask each other questions about the other's profile and questions as possible (guessing the name counts as a question!).

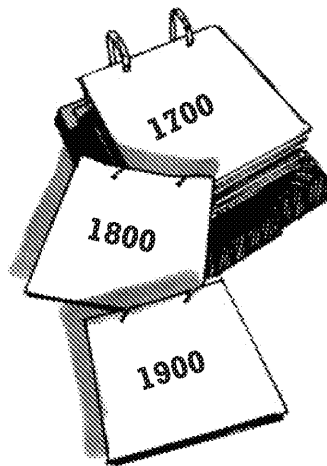
## Activity 13: Classical vs Modern Liberalism

### Task

Liberalism has two main strands, **classical** and **modern**. Put the statements into that you should **not** equate classical with 'old' and modern with 'new'!

1) Extension of rights to groups like women and workers	6) Freedom of the
2) Support for a multicultural society free from discrimination	7) The state should
3) The state should be limited in power to just providing the absolute necessities	8) Behaviour that do
4) The economy should be based on competition, free and unregulated markets	9) Absolute equal
5) The state should promote equality of opportunity	10) Democracy is the representative democracy on prop

### Classical Liberalism



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- 1) Can you come up with any clearer differences? Or name some similarities?
- 2) What are the contradictions that each strand face?
- 3) Name the key thinkers associated with each strand of liberalism.

# Activity 14: Manifesto

## Task

In groups, you will be assigned to write a manifesto for either **classical liberalism** or **social liberalism**. You will be using this in a debate with a group writing for the other side later. Give a name to your manifesto, you should aim to promote your strand as the better one and explain why, utilising your ideology. Use your answers for Activity 12 to help you.

**MANIFESTO FOR THE .....**

The individual...

Freedom

State...

Society (equality)...

Economy...

*Signed and approved by the .....*

Now debate with another group and present arguments for why your version is better and why theirs is worse!

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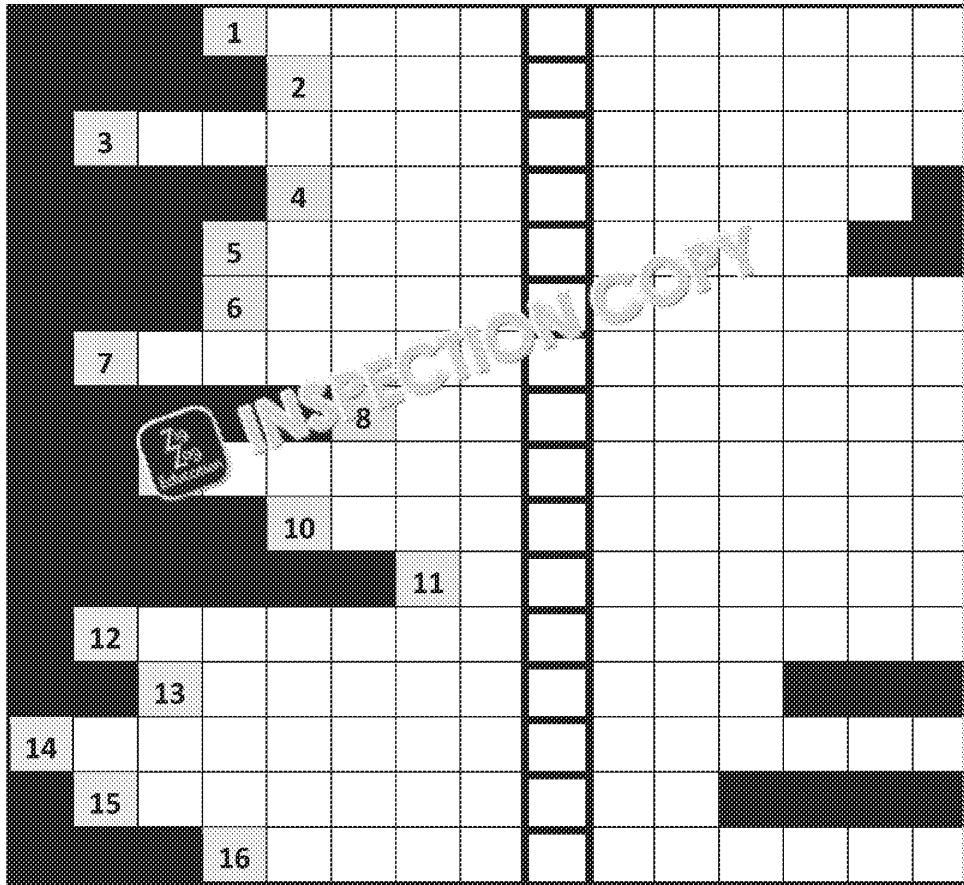
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## Activity 15: Liberalism Grid Fill

### Task

Fill in the grid using the clues underneath.



### Clues

1. A state that intervenes to provide a minimal standard of living and to ensure
2. A system of government where people are selected based on their ability.
3. The founder of utilitarianism who believed that people should evaluate the
4. An idea that people should be understanding of the differences of others.
5. Prominent American political philosopher who aimed to reconcile the liberal
6. An idea stating that people's behaviour is determined by how individuals in
7. Pioneer of feminism who maintained that women should be treated as being
8. Important liberal concept meaning that each person should be able to deter
9. Term that refers to an economic system with minimal state intervention.
10. A key influence of the American War of independence.
11. Phrase spoken by René Descartes that means 'I think, therefore I am'.
12. An idea proposed by John Locke that maintains that there should be an a
13. System of government that originates in Ancient Greece and means 'people
14. Influential Enlightenment philosopher who came up with the harm principle
15. Philosopher predating liberalism who was involved in the Glorious Revolution
16. American political activist sometimes referred to as the mother of women's

BONUS: What is the word in the middle? Make your own clue for this word.

.....

.....

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# Answers

## Activity 1: History of Liberalism

*These are just suggested answers to the research activity and not intended as a conclusive*

### The Levellers, 1642–1651

English society. Their name derives from their critics who thought they wished to be the same. They primarily sought religious toleration and to extend the vote to all as during the English Civil War, which was the first time that the divine right of king

### The Glorious Revolution, 1688

Event in England that saw the overthrow of James II to the ascendancy of William III. Established the power of Parliament over the monarchy, establishing a constitutional monarchy. John Locke was involved in these events and is a pioneer of liberal ideas such as that

*John Locke*

### The Enlightenment, eighteenth century

Time period which saw the development of many new ideas across Europe. These ideas emphasized reason and challenged traditional forms of absolute authority. Rationalism, individualism, and freedom from external control were among the important and, at the time, revolutionary ideas that

*John Locke, John Stuart Mill, Mary Wollstonecraft*

### Utilitarianism, mid eighteenth century

Theory first advocated by Jeremy Bentham which stated that society should be organized to provide the greatest good for the greatest number. People should evaluate the utility of an action they take.

*John Stuart Mill*

### The American War of Independence, 1765–1783

Influenced greatly by the works of Thomas Paine who advocated the universal rights of man and republics. The Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson, espoused the ideas of John Locke, especially those regarding denial of the divine right of kings and belief that government exists for the common good.

*John Locke*

### The French Revolution, 1789

Influenced in part by the events in America, the French Revolution is arguably one of the most important in history. Seen as the 'triumph of liberalism', it gave many people fresh experiences of republicanism as an enduring governmental option. A key result was the abolition of the old hierarchies and all the privileges that came with it.

*Mary Wollstonecraft*

### The Revolutions of 1848

The year 1848 saw revolutionary outbreaks all across Europe, spreading new ideas across the continent. While the year saw all revolutions defeated, some minor changes were made. An important precedent had been set for granting people more freedoms, both political and social.

### The 'Golden Age' of liberalism, 1848–1873

This follow-up from the revolutions of 1848 saw the establishment of many new and more parliamentary and constitutional forms of government. Ideas such as the freedom of the press gained popularity across Europe and such ideas began to be championed by governments.

*Thomas Hill Green*

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**The Great Depression of 1873–1896**

The increased prevalence of classical liberalism (which focused on ultimate personal economic systems that reflected this) was blamed for the economic depression of 1873–1896 that liberalism saw during this period, a change was prompted which saw the birth of modern liberalism which included a focus on the responsibility of freedom.

*Thomas Hill Green*

**Development of the Welfare State, early–mid twentieth century**

The start of the twentieth century saw the development of the Welfare State in the UK. This was a result of the influence of the modern liberal ideas as well as some social ideas that had gained prevalence in the nineteenth century. The middle of the century saw the publishing of the Beveridge Report which highlighted the need for some government regulations of free economic systems in order to prevent unemployment.

*John Rawls*

**The ‘End of History’ 1989–**

The conclusion of the Cold War saw liberal democracy emerging as the victor and the end of history. This prompted the philosopher Francis Fukuyama, author of *The End of History* to claim that this was the greatest achievement of government known to man. Of course, he did not mean to imply that no changes would still occur (as we are well aware), but this is significant as it shows a renewed confidence in liberalism as an ideology as well as, in liberal democracy, a form of government.

*Betty Friedan*

**Extension**

*See italics above.*

**Activity 2: The Enlightenment in Focus**

These are just suggested answers and are not intended as a conclusive list.

Before	After
<p><b>The individual</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A person’s place in society is set at birth</li> </ul> <p><b>Freedom</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A person’s will is subject to God</li> <li>• Freedom as a concept is not accepted as the norm</li> </ul> <p><b>Human nature (rationalism)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A person’s best interests are judged by the Church and/or the state</li> <li>• Rationality as a concept is not accepted as the norm</li> </ul> <p><b>State</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government considered to know what is best for its citizens</li> <li>• Government should be absolute to allow for ease of control</li> <li>• Governments such as monarchies derive their legitimacy from God</li> </ul> <p><b>Society (equality)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inequality is accepted in societies</li> </ul>	<p><b>The individual</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A person has the right to choose their place in society (John Stuart Mill)</li> </ul> <p><b>Freedom</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone is born free</li> <li>• The individual possesses natural rights (Descartes)</li> </ul> <p><b>Human nature (rationalism)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone is born rational</li> <li>• The individual is the best judge of their own interests (Jeremy Bentham)</li> </ul> <p><b>State</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government is not always know what is best for its citizens (Stuart Mill)</li> <li>• Government should protect individual liberties (John Stuart Mill)</li> <li>• Government should be limited (John Locke)</li> </ul> <p><b>Society (equality)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People are born with equal rights (Thomas Paine)</li> </ul>

**Extension**

*See above.*

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### Activity 3: The Individual and the State

Liberalism strongly promotes the idea of **individualism**. Individualism is the belief that the individual is more important than any **collective** group. Therefore, society is comprised of individuals and the state should be **central** to political and social considerations. Society should be constructed around the needs of **individuals** within it. The rights, interests and needs of the individual reign supreme over the needs of the state. Individualism that it is important to know about. **Egoistical** individualism refers to a form of individualism where the individual is more **responsible** for their own actions. **Developmental** individualism, on the other hand, refers to a more **responsible** form of individualism that values a common good over simple personal gain.

Liberals view the state as a necessary **evil**. It is required so as to prevent disorder and maintain order. However, it has the potential to restrict **individual liberties**. Therefore, liberals believe that the state should have a limited role in society. A good way to ensure this is to **split up** the power of government between different branches. This is known as the **separation of powers**. The existence of a **constitution** also confirms certain rights and freedoms. Governments should gain their legitimacy by **consent** which means that they should be chosen by the people and they should be **accountable** to those people for any mistakes they make. They should ensure that the government acts in **accordance** with the people's wishes. A similar concept is the **free market** which is preferred by liberals.

#### Extension

##### Potential concerns:

- The state could act as a limit to personal freedoms and liberties
- The state could try to control people's lives
- If everyone only acted out of their own self-interest as an individual, it could lead to a state of chaos
- Individualism implies that everyone will follow their self-interest and while a government is in place to regulate and allow people to freely follow their interests, these interests could conflict with the interests of others, causing problems for some people. This is the main clash within liberalism between individualism and the state.

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## Activity 4: FREEDOM!

1. The principal meaning of 'freedom' before the Enlightenment was political freedom which meant freedom from occupation by another power.

2. Self-determination means for an individual to be able to determine his or her own life.

*Self-determination means freedom for a people to determine their own form of government.*

3. The transfer of emphasis from political to individual freedom among liberals occurred in the early twentieth century.

*The transfer of emphasis from political to individual freedom among liberals occurred in the early twentieth century.*

4. The main enemy of liberty was seen as a government with absolute power.

5. Liberals had two complaints of government, one that they claimed to know what was best for the people, and the other that they only controlled people's actions when they threatened other people.

*Liberals had two complaints of government, one that they claimed to know what was best for the people, and the other that they only controlled people's actions when they didn't affect others.*

6. The utilitarian tradition maintained that government knew what was best for the people.

*The utilitarian tradition maintained that government did not know what was best for the people.*

7. Jeremy Bentham maintained that the essence of freedom was being able to make decisions that were influenced by what we want.

8. John Stuart Mill developed a view of 'true' freedom as being able to do anything.

*John Stuart Mill developed a view of 'true' freedom as being the lack of constraint.*

9. The term 'positive liberty' (or 'positive freedom') was coined later to describe Mill's view.

*The term 'negative freedom' was coined later to describe Mill's view.*

10. Negative freedom is a bad form of freedom.

*Negative freedom meant a lack of constraint.*

11. T H Green stated that freedom is not one-dimensional; it can be both individual as well as social.

12. Freedom is an unambiguous word. It is always known what is meant by it.

*Freedom can be a very ambiguous word! Always pay attention to the context it is used in.*

### Negative Freedom:

- Characterised by the lack of constraints
- Freedom FROM (e.g. discrimination, unlawful arrest, etc.)

### Positive Freedom:

- Characterised by availability of options
- Freedom TO (e.g. free speech, freedom of religion, etc.)

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## Activity 5: Human Nature (rationalism)

1. A central theme of the Enlightenment was to usher in an 'age of reason.'
2. An important element of this was a wish to liberate people from **ignorance** and superstition.
3. Rationalism means a belief in a world that possesses an **understandable** order and that people are able to discern through **investigation** and enquiry.
4. Human beings are **rationally thinking** creatures driven by reason and, therefore, their own **best interests** and are also able to follow them.
5. A strong belief in rationalism means that liberals are against **paternalism**, which is the charge over society in order for the former to support the latter, similar to how a parent might control their child.
6. While individuals are rational, they are by no means **infallible**. Liberals accept that people can make mistakes.
7. Rationalism implies a belief in the **progress** of humanity. This means that liberals believe in a constant process of advance.
8. Rationalism is also important in that it stresses the significance of arguments and that to settle any disputes arising from conflicting interests should be a **last resort**.

### Link between a belief in the reason of human nature and other concepts of liberalism

Suggested answers:

- **Freedom:** people are able to come to their own decisions as to their best interests and are free to follow them. They can be trusted to rationally decide what their own best interests are.
- **Society (equality):** as all people are rational, they should be treated the same to all.
- **The individual:** as people can come to their own decisions about their own interests, the rational decisions of others belong only to themselves.
- **State:** as the world is understandable, government needs to draw its legitimacy from the consent to rule. Justifications for rule based on religion or hereditary principles are rejected.

## Activity 6: Society (equality)

Equality is...	... the principle that individuals should be treated uniformly.
Justice is a moral standard of fairness while social justice is...	... specifically about the distribution of rewards and benefits in a society.
A meritocracy is...	... rule by those who have the greatest ability.
Liberalism states that all humans are...	... born equal and have an equal right to freedom.
Any form of social privilege is...	... opposed by liberals.
Liberalism advocates tolerance because...	... everyone should be treated equally, despite differences such as religion.

### Foundational equality:

- Each human is born equal and has the same worth.
- Individuals should enjoy the same status within society.

### Formal equality:

- Includes equality before the law, meaning that only the law itself is of importance.
- Includes political equality which refers to the idea of one person one vote.

### Equality of opportunity:

- All should have the same opportunities at the start of life.
- Recognises that some people are born with disadvantages that they cannot overcome.

### Extension

Suggested answers for tensions:

- A belief in equal rights is not a belief in equality in general. People can be entitled to, but this does not guarantee them equality later in life or an equal opportunity.
- To achieve equality of opportunity it might be necessary to accept a lack of freedom because people tend not to have the same opportunities at birth.
- State intervention may be needed in order to ensure equality of opportunity (e.g. financial relief or positive discrimination) but this might reduce freedom (e.g. support the poorest, meaning the freedom to spend your own money is reduced).

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## Activity 7: Liberalism and the Economy

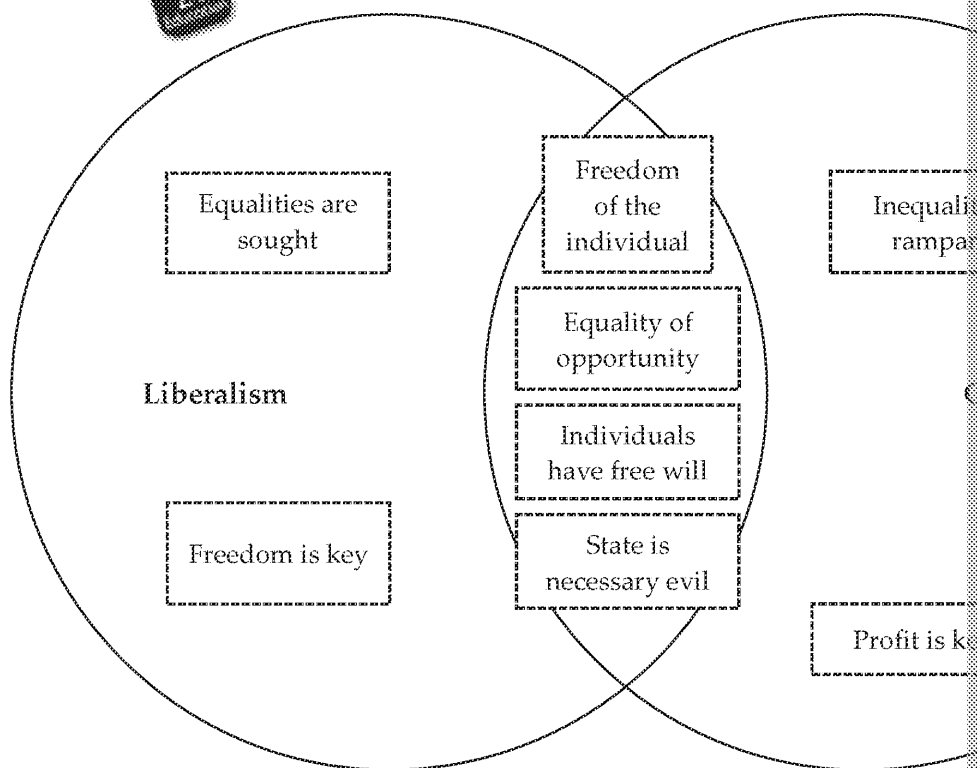
### Task 1

- *Free market / Laissez-faire* – Economic system with minimal government intervention. Prices are not controlled, and the market forces determine prices or impose tariffs / give subsidies.
- *Capitalism* – Economic system where independent entrepreneurs organise production and trade. They are free to make profits, but they also stand to make losses if they are unsuccessful.
- *Keynesianism* – A belief that a stagnating economy can be stimulated by state intervention, such as public works.

Suggested definition for laissez-faire capitalism – Economic system where individuals have as much freedom as possible to organise production and to make profits. Prices are determined by market forces rather than government and there is freedom of economic competition. Government intervention is as little as possible.

### Task 2

These are just suggested answers for the Venn diagram.



Suggested answers for how capitalism influenced modern liberalism:

- The unrestricted economy that capitalism creates was seen to create rampant inequality. Liberals thought that these inequalities should be addressed.
- To ensure these inequalities were reduced, the state intervened. This led to the development of the welfare state. In a free capitalist system, the state would not intervene.

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## Activity 8: Liberalism vs Democracy

### Task 1

Liberalism	Democracy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Priority is given to the freedom of the individual</li><li>• Advocates one vote for each citizen</li><li>• Advocates a limited government</li><li>• Equality of all people is a key tenet</li><li>• States that government is a necessary evil</li><li>• Has its origins in the Enlightenment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By definition it means that the people elect their name</li><li>• Characterised by regular, fair elections</li><li>• Has its origins in the Enlightenment</li></ul>

### Task 2

1. Liberal democracy is a blend of the liberal belief in popular rule and the limited government.
2. Legitimacy in liberal democracies is attained by success at **regular, fair elections** and **one vote per citizen**.
3. A liberal democratic government has **strong checks on its power, such as a separation of powers**.

### Extension

Suggested answers only:

- As democracy is essentially majority rule, it could damage the ability of individuals to make their own decisions.
- The collective will may be different from the will of individuals. Referendums.
- Even democratic government can create inequalities and puts some in a position of disadvantage.
- Liberals would prefer a form of consensus politics, rather than simple majority rule.
- The easiest solution is to ensure strong checks and balances on the power of government.

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## Activity 9: Essay Question – Liberal Democracy

### Indicative content

*These are suggested responses only. Students may find alternative ways to answer the question.*

### Indicative content for how democracy helps to achieve liberalism:

- Liberalism believes that government should be limited. A democratic government with checks and balances on power is the best method of ensuring a limited government which cannot monopolise power, which means that democracy helps the liberal goal of a limited government.
- Liberalism believes in personal freedoms. Democratic government allows more personal freedoms than authoritarian forms of government; therefore, it helps to achieve liberalism as liberalism can flourish under democracy.
- (Modern) Democracy and liberalism both attest to the principle of universal suffrage for all people; therefore, the equality of liberalism can be achieved under democratic government.
- Democracy promotes debate and discussion, which is similar to the liberal principle that conflicts of interests should be solved peacefully. Democracies uphold the liberal principle of non-violence, and so help to achieve liberalism.
- Liberalism advocates the progress of society. Participation in democratic processes leads to development as well as improving society as a whole; therefore, both concepts of progress, meaning that democracy helps to achieve liberalism.

### Indicative content for how democracy does not help to achieve liberalism:

- Democracy is basically majority rule. This means that the will of the majority of individuals, and as liberalism advocates the primacy of the individual, democracy may mean that an individual may lose the freedom to do something because of the decisions of the majority, which actually hinders liberalism.
- Democracy advocates that representatives will govern in the interests of their constituents; however, it attests that people should follow their self-interests. This is contradictory as a representative may misrepresent the interests of the individuals they represent or will be unaccountable to them.
- Democracy is based on the notion of people power, while liberalism is based on individual power, so there is a contradiction in that while democracy attests to the primacy of the sum of everyone's interests, liberalism attests the opposite – that the will of the individual is paramount – making democracy a hindrance to liberalism.
- Liberalism believes in the rational decision-making of the individual. Democracy is based on the will of the majority and this ignores the fact that knowledge is not equally distributed and the majority might not be a rational one, and this threatens the liberal principle of rational decision-making, making democracy a hindrance to liberalism.

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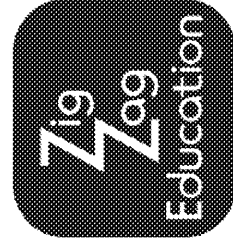
## Activity 10: Revision Task – Key Concepts

As these are complex concepts, the below should simply be seen as a guide to one way that students can approach the task.

Concept	Definition	How it was used in liberalisation
The individual	Idea that everyone is an individual with their own interests and a capacity to follow them on their own terms.	As a result of liberalisation, people should have freedom of movement and choice in all areas of society; people should not be restricted to specific classes, families, castes, etc. by birth or social status.
Freedom	Liberty to do whatever one wishes (within the law) and to determine one's own place in society.	Liberties are natural rights that every person has and people should be free to develop themselves as individuals. People should not only have freedom to do what they want but also freedom from restrictions or discrimination.
Human nature (rationalism)	Idea that the world is understandable and explainable and that people are capable of following reason which they can use to follow their own interests.	Faith in reason means that individuals should be free to make their own decisions in their own lives. Freedom is justified. Also encourages the development of established forms of authority.
State	A politically organised community which has a single system of government.	The state is a necessary evil that should be kept to a minimum. It should interfere as little as possible with individuals. The state should still maintain the basic order that society needs. An ideal government is a liberal government.
Society (equality)	Idea that everyone is the same and there are no privileges, especially under the law, where everyone is likewise treated the same.	Used as a result of liberalisation, everyone should have equal opportunities in life. There should be equal from the government. There should be equal from the government. There should be equal from the government.
Economy	The production and consumption of goods in a country.	The economy should be largely left to the free market. This promotes freedom and choice. However, later liberalisation led to state intervention to reduce the inequality caused by a free market.

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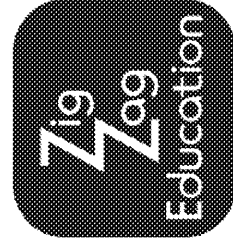
## Activity 11: Quote Bank

Below are suggested answers possible. Some other points could be made and the quotes are just examples.

Name of philosopher or thinker	Summarise their most influential idea(s)
John Locke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All humans are born free and equal and have natural rights: life, liberty, property, ownership, pursuit of happiness</li> <li>Government is established by consent of the people and should be limited and avoid impinging on personal liberties (minimal state)</li> <li>'Social contract': government should be established by an unspoken agreement between the governors and the governed (fiduciary power of government – government based on trust)</li> <li>Government agrees to govern according to natural laws while the people accept authority of such a government</li> </ul>
John Stuart Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An individual is the best judge of their own interests and no one or nothing else can claim to know better</li> <li>Actions can be split into those that only influence the actor (e.g. expressing religious beliefs) and those that influence others (e.g. anti-social behaviour)</li> <li>Governments should control behaviour that affects other people but tolerate behaviour that does not. Individuals should only be free to do the latter (harm principle).</li> <li>An entirely free society could be unjust so the state should interfere to correct these injustices</li> <li>Criticism of the notion that the sole motivation of people is the pursuit of pleasure arguing instead that there are higher goods than pleasure (criticism of hedonism)</li> </ul>
John Rawls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconciled liberalism's belief in freedom with the need to reduce inequalities in society, thus addressing the issue of justice. Any action taken to reduce inequality will also result in a loss of liberty.</li> <li>'Original position': ideal state of humanity that existed before society came about. 'The veil of ignorance': life is like a lottery as one cannot determine one's likelihood of success; therefore, we need to agree on a basis for society that is fair to all</li> <li>Society would be formed with inequality but with a minimum standard of living that no one falls below and no one has so much that someone is forced below. If that happens then the state would be free to intervene for social justice (enabling individuals should only be as free as possible so long as this freedom does not make problems for other people)</li> </ul>

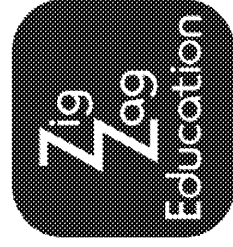
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Name of philosopher or thinker	Summarise their most influential idea(s)
Thomas Hill Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People aren't just self-seeking individuals but have a responsibility to care for others, and it's possible to enjoy liberty while maintaining a sense of social responsibility</li> <li>• Society is not just a collection of separate individuals but rather a united entity with a consciousness of the whole</li> <li>• Emphasised two types of freedom: negative freedom, meaning freedom from external constraint, and positive freedom, meaning the realisation of one's goals</li> <li>• Argued that there should not be complete freedom in society, which would make achieving one's goals impossible for most, but rather some state intervention was required, such as providing equality of opportunity, in order to promote positive liberty</li> </ul>
Mary Wollstonecraft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stressed that women had equal rights to men and women should be treated as rational beings, just like men</li> <li>• Imagined a social order that was founded on reason</li> <li>• Identified lack of education as a big limiting factor on female progress</li> <li>• Spoke against those who defended aristocracy, advocating instead personal freedom and also promoted rationality instead of tradition ('revolution controversy')</li> </ul>
Betty Friedan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sought the legal equality of women and men</li> <li>• Fought against sexual discrimination and for equal employment opportunities for women</li> <li>• Sought more freedom for women such as the right to an abortion</li> </ul>



## Activity 12: In-depth Thinker Profile

Below are suggested answers for this activity.

<b>Name and Dates:</b>	John Locke (1632–1704)
<b>Nationality and Profession:</b>	English philosopher and politician.
<b>Background:</b>	His father was a country lawyer who had fought for Parliament during the English Civil Wars.
<b>Contributions:</b>	He believed that all men were rational and free, advocated religious toleration, believed that both the government and the Church were constructs created for practical purposes and so should pursue utility. Therefore he denied the divine right of kings and believed that the government was necessarily better than another. He advocated a limited government that could not obstruct individual freedom. He also maintained that government was based on agreement between the rulers and the ruled (called the social contract) and was based on trust (fiduciary power of government).
<b>Life Events:</b>	He was involved in the Glorious Revolution of Britain in 1688–89, which established parliamentary sovereignty over and above the crown.
<b>Legacy:</b>	Very influential to later thinkers who developed liberalism, including the Founding Fathers.

<b>Name and Dates:</b>	John Stuart Mill (1806–1873)
<b>Nationality and Profession:</b>	British philosopher, politician and economist.
<b>Background:</b>	In his early life he followed the utilitarians and, like them, as a man knew his own interests best.
<b>Contributions:</b>	He came to change his mind and criticised the utilitarians for their focus on intervention proposals. He also believed that there were higher pleasures, such as personal development that not just enrich human society but help it progress also. He argued that utility should not impact on anyone else and those that did affect utility should be limited to those that affected others. Individuals should only be free to act in ways that did not affect others (called the harm principle). He also advocated tolerance and that all beliefs should be respected regardless of their beliefs, for instance. Late in his life he argued that workers and women needed assistance.
<b>Life Events:</b>	He was one of the key thinkers during the Enlightenment.
<b>Legacy:</b>	Often referred to by later thinkers due to his role in the development of utilitarianism.

<b>Name and Dates:</b>	John Rawls (1921–2002)
<b>Nationality and Profession:</b>	American political philosopher.
<b>Background:</b>	In his early life he served in the Second World War.
<b>Contributions:</b>	He brought together modern liberal thought and social democracy. He argued that the liberal belief in freedom and individualism with its emphasis on social justice stemming from inequalities existent in society should be as free as possible without impeding the overall prosperity, but not if they make the poor worse off. He proposed an idea called the 'veil of ignorance', which suggested that no one could predict how it would turn out for them. He argued that they agreed on the type of society they wished to live in based on the greatest possible situation with the greatest possible options.
<b>Legacy:</b>	He influenced politicians such as Bill Clinton and Tony Blair.

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<b>Name and Dates:</b>	Thomas Hill Green (1836–1882)
<b>Nationality and Profession:</b>	English philosopher and idealist.
<b>Background:</b>	On his father's side of the family he was descended from a clergyman, a rector and Green was able to gain a decent education, study law and become a barrister.
<b>Contributions:</b>	He identified two types of freedom: negative freedom, which meant freedom from external restraint, and positive freedom, which meant freedom to achieve one's goals. He considered that society could not be entirely without external restraint (which would have a detrimental effect on the ability of people to pursue their goals of freedom). The state intervention he proposed was limited, but it was of importance through providing education and limiting income. Society was just made up of unrelated individuals. Therefore, people had to be brought together in their society, and he considered it possible to balance this.
<b>Life Events:</b>	During the passage of the Second Reform Act (which expanded the franchise) for the vote to be extended even further than the first, he was more radical than most liberals of the day.
<b>Legacy:</b>	He saved liberalism from decline at a time when it was being criticised by the free market, which was blamed for the Great Depression of the 1840s.

<b>Name and Dates:</b>	Mary Wollstonecraft (1759–1797)
<b>Nationality and Profession:</b>	English social thinker and feminist pioneer.
<b>Background:</b>	Her family was fairly wealthy during her childhood but came to ruin later. She was able to gain a decent education, rare for women at the time.
<b>Contributions:</b>	She advocated the equality of women, who she stated were not naturally inferior to men, but should be treated as such. She identified education as a limited contribution to society, for few women were able to get a decent education. She argued against both tradition and aristocracy, promoting individualism and rationalism.
<b>Life Events:</b>	She was involved with the French Revolution, though siding with the moderate Girondins rather than the radical Jacobins.
<b>Legacy:</b>	As one of (if not the) earliest feminists, she is often quoted as an inspiration for later generations.

<b>Name and Dates:</b>	Betty Friedan (1921–2006)
<b>Nationality and Profession:</b>	American political activist and writer.
<b>Background:</b>	Born to a Jewish family from Eastern Europe, she enjoyed a good education from an early age.
<b>Contributions:</b>	She focused her attacks on the cultural myths that sustained the status quo in the domestic sphere and pointed out that women were dissatisfied with their lives. She wished for wider involvement in public life. However, she argued that women should pursue such a 'new domesticity', where the domestic sphere should remain important. She also advocated legal equality for women, but argued that discriminatory laws needed overturning, but that social values had to change if women truly gain legal equality.
<b>Legacy:</b>	She is sometimes considered the mother of women's liberation.

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## Activity 13: Classical vs Modern Liberalism

### Classical Liberalism

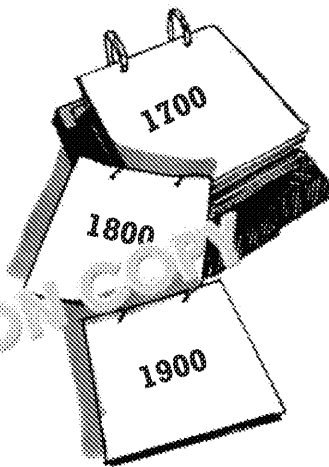
Freedom of the individual is paramount and absolute

The state should be limited in power to just providing the absolute necessities

The economy should be based on completely free and unregulated markets

Democracy is the tyranny of the majority so representative democracy is preferred. Suffrage based on property qualifications

Behaviour that does not affect others should be uncontrolled



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### Extension

1) These are suggested answers only:

Differences:

- In classical liberalism, property owners are considered to be more tolerant, while modern liberalism does not think they are necessarily any different in this regard.
- Classical liberalism espoused primarily negative freedoms while modern liberalism espoused positive freedoms.

Similarities:

- Both subscribe to the idea of government by consent.
- Both maintain that people are inherently rational.

2) Contradictions:

Classical liberalism: People's interests may be conflicting but restricting this is necessary to protect their freedoms.

Modern liberalism: The insistence on providing equality of opportunity and a high standard of living means that the freedoms of the wealthier in society are curtailed.

3) John Locke and John Stuart Mill are associated with classical liberalism while Rawls are associated with modern liberalism.

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## Activity 14: Manifesto

Below are just suggested responses to the exercise.

### Classical Liberalism

- *The individual:* The freedom of the individual is key and the individual should be in a position in society free of external pressure.
- *Freedom:* Focus on maximising personal freedoms and liberties; all unharmed. Modern liberalism restricts people's freedoms because of its insistence on government.
- *State:* The state will be rolled back to reflect this as it is only needed to provide defence and public services. The state is a necessary evil. We will allow companies to interfere as little as possible in life.
- *Society (equality):* All people are inherently equal.
- *Economy:* Free market is the best model for the economy as it allows for maximum growth. We will also allow the most prosperity as companies will be allowed to follow demand and drive prices down and keep the focus on the consumer.

### Modern Liberalism

- *The individual:* The freedom of the individual is key and the individual should be in a position in society free of external pressure as long as this does not affect anyone else.
- *Freedom:* We will ensure that all elements of society are free to follow their religion without persecution. While freedom is a right, there are also responsibilities associated with it.
- *State:* The state will have a role to ensure equality of opportunity; it will aim to level the playing field at the start as much as possible.
- *Society (equality):* Everyone is equal and, therefore, we believe that everyone should have a say, and as a result we favour universal suffrage. We recognise that some sections of society might need further support to ensure equality of opportunity, which is necessary for a fair society.
- *Economy:* If the economy is left to its own devices, it might cause gross inequality. Interference from the government is needed to prevent abuses by larger corporations.

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## Activity 15: Liberalism Grid Fill

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						2	M	E	R	I	T	O	C	R	A	C	
3	J	E	R	E	M	Y	B	E	N	T	H	A	M				
						4	T	O	L	E	R	A	N	C	E		
						5	J	O	H	N	R	A	W	L	S		
						6	M	E	C	H	A	N	I	S	T	I	C
7	M	A	R	Y	W	O	L	F	O	N	E						
						8	I	N	D	I	V	I	D	U	A		
						9	L	A	S	E	Z	F	A	I	R	E	
						10	T	H	O	M	A	S	P	A	I	N	
						11	C	O	G	I	T	O	E	R			
12	S	O	C	I	A	L	C	O	N	T	R	A	C				
						13	D	E	M	O	C	R	A	C	Y		
14	J	O	H	N	S	T	U	A	R	T	M	I	L	L			
						15	J	O	H	N	L	O	C	K	E		
						16	B	E	T	T	Y	F	R	I	E	D	A

Suggested answer for bonus:

Form of democracy that balances the need for government with the need to maintain

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