**Origins of American Government**

1. **The Enlightenment**
	1. **Movement from Europe and America with Great Thinkers**
2. **John Locke**
	1. **People are generally good**
	2. **Natural Rights**
		1. **Life**
		2. **Liberty**
		3. **Property**
	3. **Social Contract: People agree to obey a ruler; ruler agrees to protect people and rights**
		1. **If a ruler does not protect the rights, the people can overthrow the Gov.**
3. **Thomas Hobbes**
	1. **Believed a ruler should be all-powerful**
4. **Baron de Montesquieu**
	1. **Separation of Powers**
5. **Thomas Paine**
	1. **Common Sense: Colonies should govern themselves**

**Historic Documents**

1. **Magna Carta**
	1. **Limits King’s power.**
2. **English Bill of Rights**
	1. **Limits King’s power**
	2. **Guarantee Individual Rights**
3. **Mayflower Compact**
	1. **Self-government**