

Lesson 4 - The Enlightenment in Europe

Voltaire – Freedom of Speech

Objective:

- Explain the ideas of the Enlightenment thinkers, Voltaire's (freedom of speech)
- What is the meaning of Voltaire's famous quotation "I do not agree with a word you say but will defend to death your right to say it"
- How did Voltaire's ideas influence important democratic documents such as the 1st amendment of the US Constitution?

Standard(s): CA 10.2.1, HI 2

Set: Notes

"I do not agree with a word you say, but will defend to death your right to say it"

In your own words, what is the meaning of this quotation?

Instruction:

Input – Have students copy lecture notes from PowerPoint

Highlights: What's happening in France?

Who was François Marie Arouet?

Guided Practice:

Display of Jonathan Hollingsworth's exhibit "What We Think Now" (2006)

Series of large-scale photographic works that explore current thought about the U.S involvement in Iraq by Californians under the age of 30.

In the U.S. today, freedom of speech is a highly protected right. Individuals have the opportunity to exercise this right without the fear of persecution from government.

Individuals can openly discuss a variety of viewpoints regarding our country's political situation regardless if you are for or against our government's actions.

Students will read and comment on a current event: supreme court case that deals with freedom of speech.

Checking for Understanding:

Pass out a copy of the wording of the U.S Constitution First Amendment.

Have students read and make sense of what the language means.

Have students answer question – *What does Freedom of Speech mean to you?*

Reflection...what would life be like without the right to freedom of speech?

Independent Practice:

Create a Photo Gallery – like Jonathan Hollingsworth's exhibit

Have students create posters with the statement – *Freedom of speech means...*

I will take photos of students with their posters; pictures will be shared in class.