World Politics Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Why do we have government?**

**The Age of Enlightenment and Social Contract Theory**

What would life be like with no government?

(Draw a quick sketch of what it would look like in the box below. Take no more than 3 minutes to do this.)

What does the picture you drew above say about your view of **human nature**? Are humans naturally good or bad? Greedy or charitable? Violent or peaceful?

Enlightenment thinkers believed that all people possessed certain rights and liberties. They also believed that governments were necessary.

How is this idea seem **contradictory**?

Theory of the **Social Contract:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Thinker** | **Thomas Hobbes** | **John Locke** | **Jean-Jacques Rousseau** |
| **Years lived** |  |  |  |
| **Major work (book title)** |  |  |  |
| **View of human nature** |  |  |  |
| **Preferred form of government** |  |  |  |
| **Implications of his ideas / Legacies** |  |  |  |

How much of your liberty are you willing to give up in exchange for safety?

Are there some people or some situations to which our social contract does not (or should not) apply?