

Enlightenment Essay Planning Scaffold:
Which philosopher (or philosophy) should have the greater influence on our school?

In the table below you can organize your thoughts about which philosophers and philosophies you think should have the greater and lesser influence.

Options you might like: (fill out at least 2)

Philosophers and Philosophies:	Option 1:	Option 2:	Option 3:
Summary			
Things you like			

Options you don't like: (fill out at least 2)

Philosophers and Philosophies:	Option 1:	Option 2:	Option 3:
Summary			
Things you don't like			

Letter to your Principal

Directions: You have studied the complex and exciting history of the different philosophers and philosophies of the Enlightenment. You are now going to write a letter to the principal of your school taking your position on which philosophies and philosophers should have the greater influence on how our school is run. Your letter should include 4 paragraphs and answer this question: **Which philosophies and philosophers should have the greater influence on how our school is run?**

Requirements:

1. Your letter must include 4 paragraphs as described below.
2. Your letter should use persuasive language and should be written for everyone to read.
3. Your letter should be written in the 1st person, – “I”.
4. Your letter should be persuasive by building arguments supported by evidence.

Letter Format:

Paragraph 1:

Describe the history of the Enlightenment and the different people of the movement. What was going on at the time? Is this an important time. Provide a quick (one sentence) answer to the question.

Paragraph 2:

Provide the most persuasive arguments you can for your answer. Why are the philosophers and philosophies you named in your answer the ones that should have the greatest influence on our school. If possible, provide some concrete examples if you can.

Paragraph 3:

Provide the most persuasive arguments you can for the philosophers and philosophies we should not use. Why are these philosophers and philosophies you named here not ones we should rely on. If possible, provide some concrete examples if you can.

Paragraph 4:

What is your view of which philosophers and philosophies we should use and why. Make sure to thoroughly explain your answer and reference specific ideas and concepts that you found convincing. Explain why they would make the school better.