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SOCRATIC SEMINAR I
THE ENLIGHTENMENT
(Pre-Seminar Task)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

A pre-seminar task is the first component of the seminar process. This task is intended to make you think deeply about the seminar before discussion begins. To be prepared for this seminar the facilitator will use this task to assess your readiness to participate by concentrating on information you should possess.

PREPARATION ACTIVITIES:

1. Read the two sheets in your note packet called "The Enlightenment."
2. As you read, mark the pages for main ideas and interesting facts.
3. Keep a note sheet where you trace significant ideas throughout the reading; including
4. Identify at least *three* ideas you would like to explore during the seminar.

TASK:

1. You are to write for 20 minutes on "The Enlightenment."
2. The form of the writing should be an extended paragraph supporting this topic sentence:
The belief in reason and natural law, established during The Scientific Revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries, was imposed upon other fields of study such as political, economic, religious, and social thought, during The Enlightenment of the 17th and 18th centuries.
3. Give at least two examples of how Reason and Natural Law were applied to each field of study mentioned above.

ASSESSMENT:

1. This writing is worth 20 points of the total seminar grade.
2. All elements of proper writing will be assessed:
 - a. Topic sentence
 - b. Supporting details
 - c. Elaboration of ideas
 - d. Drawing concluding inferences
 - e. Punctuation, spelling, and sentence structure.
3. The *Major Focus* will be your ability to answer the question.
4. You must observe the time limits, but may use the reading, your notes, and your text.

PRE-SEMINAR ASSESSMENT RUBRIC:

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|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Form: | |
| a. Topic sentence | 5 points |
| b. Each supporting reason | 2 points each (6 points total) |
| c. Elaboration of reasons | 1 point each (3 points total) |
| d. Clincher sentence(inference) | 1 point |
| 2. Punctuation, spelling and sentence structure | 5 points |
| Total Points | 20 points |