**9th Grade Philosophe Activity**

(24 Points)

You will be playing the part of your Enlightenment philosophe in a recorded personal statement regarding 1 of the issues below:

* Hong Kong Democracy Protests
* North Korea. Do we allow nukes? Do we invade to stop?
* Income Distribution… Is it a problem? Not a problem?
* Islamic Extremism / Terrorism…how to solve?
* Democracy is the ***best*** form of government

You will record a statement on one of the issues above while playing the role of your philosophe. **You need to provide a thesis that is** not your opinion, but rather **the opinion of your philosophe.**

**How will you be graded?**

**Each of these criteria are assigned three points** in your grade on this activity.

* Did you portray the beliefs and character of your philosophe accurately? Statements such as, **“because I believe this, my take on X is Y…” will be helpful.**

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| **What needs improvement** | **Criteria** | **How you nailed it!** |
|  | Opinions on the issue reflect the philosopher’s beliefs not the student’s |  |
|  | There is a clear thesis present |  |
|  | Opinions on the issue are supported by quotes from the philosopher |  |
|  | There is an acknowledgment of alternative perspectives, “some may say…” |  |

* Was your opinion on the modern issue sufficiently grounded with examples and details about the issue? Is it clear that you know what the modern issue’s crucial elements are? Are sources cited? Such as, “according to a 2016 NY Times article….”

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| **What needs improvement** | **Criteria** | **How you nailed it!** |
|  | A bit of “background” on the issue is provided in order to inform the listener and set a “context” for the discussion. |  |
|  | “deeper” issues surrounding the issue are acknowledged. |  |
|  | Evidence is cited regarding the issue to substantiate claims or provide context |  |
|  | A “solution” or “way forward” is provided that reflects the views of the philosopher. |  |

**What should you focus on to help you prepare for the salon?**

* Personal Background
* Education
* Famous Quotes
* Contribution to political philosophy / belief re: government’s role/structure
* Take on human nature
* Specific details about each issue and situation.
* Major Accomplishments and/or Theories
* Attitudes toward Enlightenment Thinking
* Books Published or other notable Achievements