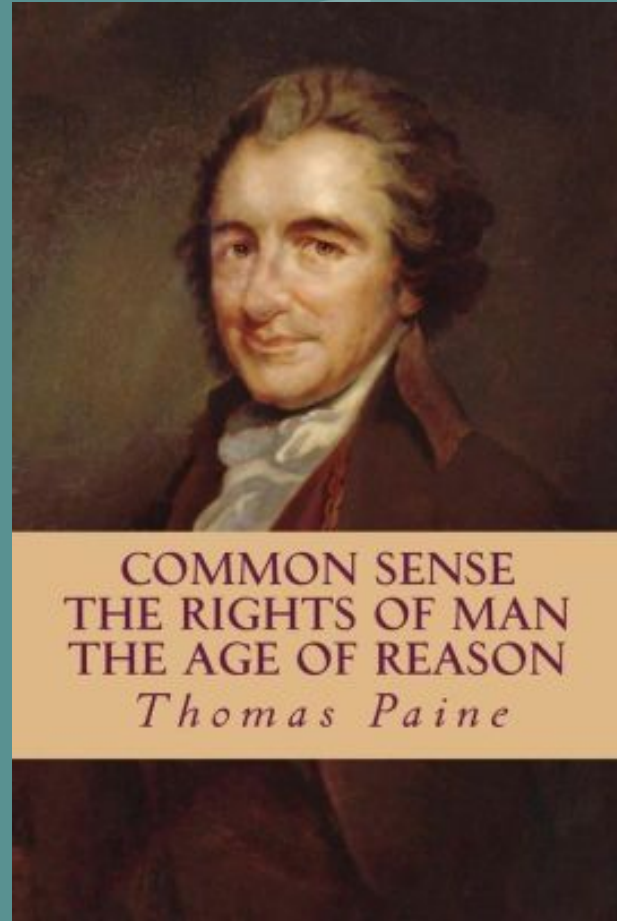


Age of Reason 1750-1800

The fight for *Independence*
from *Britain*





The People

The **Deists** believed that natural laws are a **God-given** faculty.

They believed that the world is **orderly and good**.

Many important thinkers in the **18th** century (1700s) held **deist beliefs**.



Beliefs

- Public **welfare**
- **Scientific** experimentation and **investigation**
- Rationalism leads to **truth**
- The **mind** is inspired by God, but **truth** comes from **reason**
- God made it **possible** for **ALL people** to discover **natural laws**
- Improve **living conditions** and forms of **government**
- Improve the **individual mind**
- **Social Conscience**



History and Influence

Small pox epidemic lead to an increased reliance on **science**

The Revolutionary War was fought for American **independence**

France - Rene **Descartes**: “**I think, therefore I am.**”



Types of Writing:

- Persuasive **speeches** and documents
- **Imitated** British poetry



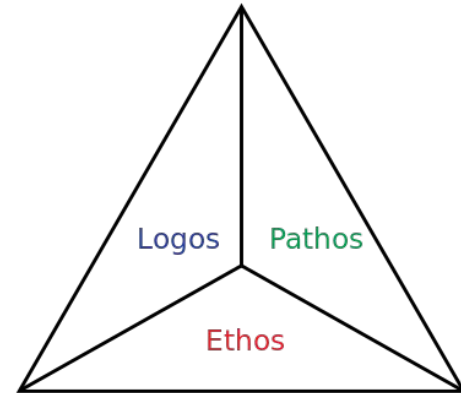
Writers

- Thomas Paine
- Benjamin Franklin
- Patrick Henry
- The Founding Fathers



Persuasive Techniques

- Call to **action**
- **Heightened** style/ elevated language
- Facts, **proof**, support
- Appeal to **logic (logos)**
- Appeal to **emotion (pathos)**
- Appeal to **authority (ethos)**
- **Concession**
- **Rhetorical** questions
- **Analogy**



Elements of an argument