



## Introduction (Page 1)

Welcome to this interactive worksheet! This worksheet is designed to help you explore the challenges to religious language from Enlightenment thinkers. You will engage with interactive questions, activities, and discussions to deepen your understanding of this complex topic.

1. What do you think is meant by "religious language"?

2. How do you think the Enlightenment period influenced religious thought?

## Activity 1: Timeline

Create a timeline of the major events and figures of the Enlightenment period. Include key thinkers such as Immanuel Kant, Voltaire, and David Hume.

Event/Figure	Date	Description

## Understanding the Enlightenment (Page 2)

Read the following passage: *"The Enlightenment was a period of significant intellectual and cultural transformation in Europe, marked by an emphasis on reason, individualism, and intellectual curiosity."*

1. What do you think were the main characteristics of the Enlightenment?

2. How do you think these characteristics influenced the development of critiques of religious language?

## Activity 2: Group Discussion

### Group Task:

Divide into small groups and discuss the following question: "How do you think the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason and individualism challenged traditional religious beliefs?"

## Immanuel Kant's Critique (Page 3)

Read the following passage: "Immanuel Kant argued that religious language often relies on metaphysical claims that cannot be proven or disproven through reason."

1. What do you think Kant meant by "metaphysical claims"?

2. How do you think Kant's critique of religious language relates to the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason?

## Activity 3: Debate

Debate the following topic: "Kant's critique of religious language is still relevant today."

## Voltaire's Advocacy for Religious Tolerance (Page 4)

Read the following passage: "Voltaire advocated for religious tolerance and the separation of church and state."

1. What do you think Voltaire meant by "religious tolerance"?

2. How do you think Voltaire's advocacy for religious tolerance relates to the Enlightenment's emphasis on individualism?

## Activity 4: Reflective Journaling

Write a reflective journal entry on the following question: "How do you think the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason and individualism has influenced contemporary religious discourse?"

## David Hume's Skepticism (Page 5)

Read the following passage: "David Hume's philosophical skepticism extended to religious language, particularly the concept of miracles."

1. What do you think Hume meant by "skepticism"?

2. How do you think Hume's skepticism relates to the Enlightenment's emphasis on empirical evidence?

## Activity 5: Case Study

Read a case study on a contemporary religious issue (e.g. the role of religion in public policy). Analyze the issue using the critiques of religious language from Enlightenment thinkers.

## Comparative Analysis (Page 6)

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*Compare and contrast the critiques of religious language from different Enlightenment thinkers (e.g. Kant, Voltaire, Hume).*

1. What do you think are the similarities and differences between their critiques?

## Activity 6: Creative Project

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*Create a creative project (e.g. poem, short story, visual art piece) that explores the challenges to religious language from Enlightenment thinkers.*

## Conclusion (Page 7)

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*What do you think are the main takeaways from this worksheet?*

1. How do you think the critiques of religious language from Enlightenment thinkers are still relevant today?

## Activity 7: Group Discussion

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### **Group Task:**

Divide into small groups and discuss the following question: "How do you think the Enlightenment's critiques of religious language have influenced contemporary religious discourse?"

## Reflection Questions (Page 8)

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*What did you learn from this worksheet?*

1. How do you think you can apply the critiques of religious language from Enlightenment thinkers to contemporary issues?

## Activity 8: Reflective Journaling

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*Write a reflective journal entry on the following question: "How do you think the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason and individualism has influenced your own understanding of religious language?"*



## Next Steps (Page 9)

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*What do you think are the next steps in exploring the challenges to religious language from Enlightenment thinkers?*

1. How do you think you can continue to engage with this topic in your future studies?

## Activity 9: Research Project

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*Research a contemporary religious issue and analyze it using the critiques of religious language from Enlightenment thinkers. Present your findings to the class.*

## Final Thoughts (Page 10)

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*What do you think is the significance of the Enlightenment's critiques of religious language?*

1. How do you think these critiques continue to shape contemporary religious discourse?

