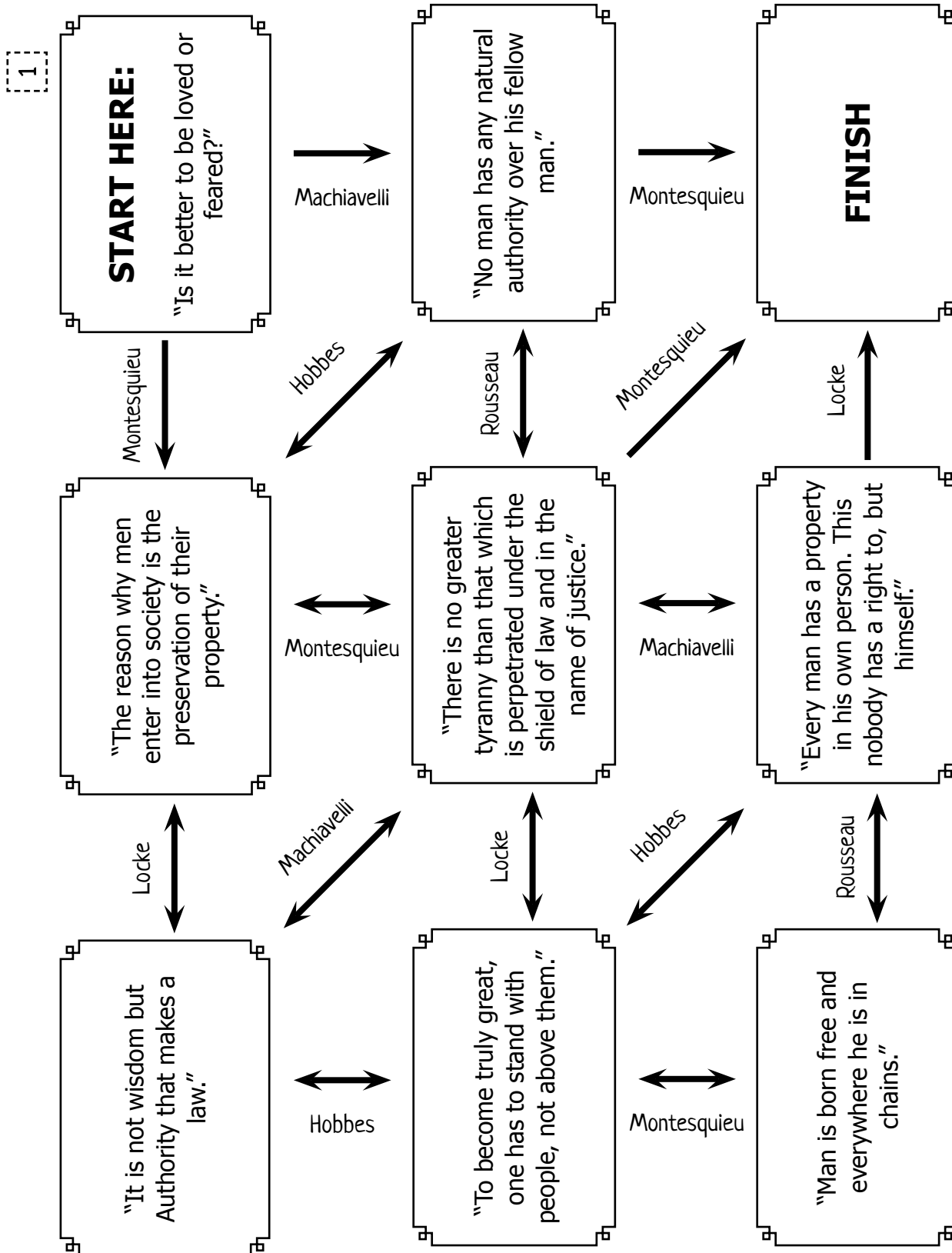


# Philosophically Correct

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**A. A-maze-ing Philosophers.** Complete the maze by matching each quote with the philosopher who wrote it. Draw lines or arrows to connect your path. Or number the boxes above each quote to indicate your path.



# Philosophically Correct

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Whose Idea Is It Anyway?** Read each of the excerpts below. Determine which philosopher's thoughts influenced the passage. Then identify the governmental concept from the reading that the passage reflects.

1. "Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it . . . in which Case it shall not be a Law."

— *Constitution, Article I, Section 7, Clause 2*

This idea belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

2. "All... will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail . . . the minority possess their equal rights."

— Thomas Jefferson, *First Inaugural Address*, 1801

This idea belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

3. "He [the President] shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur . . ."

— *Constitution, Article II, Section 2, Clause 2*

This idea belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

4. "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men..."

— *Declaration of Independence*

This idea belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

5. "... this Constitution, is really in its formation a government of the people; that is to say, a government in which all power is derived from, and at stated period reverts to them -- and that, in its operation, it is purely, a government of Laws made & executed by the fair substitutes of the people alone."

— George Washington, fragment from discarded *Inaugural Address*, 1789

This idea belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

# Philosophically Correct

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. What Would the Philosophers Think?** Read each scenario. Choose one philosopher who would agree with the scenario and one who would disagree. Explain why you think they would agree or disagree.

1. The President should be able to make any laws that he or she thinks is a good idea.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. The people should have the right to say whatever they want, whenever they want.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. People don't need to have a say in who governs them.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Some people are better than others.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. If I don't like what you're doing, it's my right to stop you.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. The leader's religion should be the religion of the nation.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Whatever the majority decides should be enforced on everyone.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. If the leader is abusing his or her power, the people should just deal with it.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Philosophically Correct

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration of Independence.** Read the excerpt from the Declaration of Independence. As you read, **highlight** phrases or sentences that illustrate each of the ideas listed below. Create an annotation key to mark where each idea is found. Then answer the questions on the next page.

*When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.*

## Annotation Key:

(Use colors or text boxes to indicate where each of these ideas are found in the reading. Fill out your key here.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Equality

\_\_\_\_\_ Consent of the Governed

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Contract

\_\_\_\_\_ Natural Rights

\_\_\_\_\_ Rule of Law

\_\_\_\_\_ Right to Revolution

\_\_\_\_\_ Popular Sovereignty

# Philosophically Correct

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration of Independence.** Use your annotated excerpt of the Declaration of Independence and the student reading to answer the questions below.

1. According to the Declaration of Independence, why are governments created? Which idea does this reflect? Explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. The Declaration says that power comes “from the consent of the governed”. What does this mean?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. According to the Declaration, when do people have a right to revolution? Why do they have this right?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Which philosopher’s ideas contributed most to the ideas found in this excerpt from the Declaration of Independence? Explain your choice.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Do you agree with the ideas expressed here in the Declaration of Independence? Why or why not?

**LETTER TO THE FUTURE**

Imagine that you are one of the philosophers discussed in the lesson. If you could take a time machine to the current day, would you see your ideas reflected in the government of the United States? Or would you be appalled at how your life's work had been disregarded?!

Choose a philosopher. Write a letter from his point of view to America's Founding Fathers. Describe where you see your ideas working effectively, or recommend what they should have done differently so that *(in your philosopher's opinion)* the government of today would be better. Include specific ideas from your philosopher and vocabulary from the lesson.

