Week Seventeen

Title

Some writers have so confounded society with government, as to leave little or no distinction between them; whereas they are not only different, but have different origins. Society is produced by our wants, and government by our wickedness; the former promotes our happiness positively by uniting our affections, the latter negatively by restraining our vices. The one encourages unity, the other creates distinctions. The first a patron, the last a punisher.

Society in every state is a blessing, but government even in its best state is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one; for when we suffer, or are exposed to the same miseries by a government, which we might expect in a country without government, our calamity is heightened by reflecting that we furnish the means by which we suffer. Government, like dress, is the badge of lost innocence; the palaces of kings are built on the ruins of the bowers of paradise. For were the impulses of conscience clear, uniform, and irresistibly obeyed, man would need no other lawgiver; but that not being the case, he finds it necessary to surrender up a part of his property to furnish means for the protection of the rest; and this he is induced to do by the same prudence which in every other case advises him out of two evils to choose the least. Wherefore, security being the true design and end of government, it unanswerably follows, that whatever form thereof appears most likely to ensure it to us, with the least expense and greatest benefit, is preferable to all others.

Monday – Read the selection carefully.

1. The selection is about _____.
2. At the top of this page, write an interesting title for this selection.
3. The author's purpose in writing this selection is to _____.
4. The genre of this selection is _____.
5. The tone of this selection is _____.

Tuesday – Read the selection carefully.

6. The word prudence in the selection most nearly means O caution. O recklessness. O factor.
7. What does the word uniform mean in this selection? O an identifying outfit O consistent
8. Circle in the selection three different prefixes that mean not.
9. The word calamity in the selection is an antonym of O disaster. O blessing. O situation.

Wednesday – Read the selection carefully.

10. According to the selection, perfect people would need no government at all. O True O False
11. The author of the selection would be in favor of a government that
    O raises taxes. O helps the poor. O provides security. O is led by a king.
12. This selection is an example of which type of writing? _____

Thursday – Read the selection carefully.

13. What is the thesis of this selection? _____
14. Make a chart contrasting society and government.

Friday – Read the selection carefully.

15. Highlight 5-6 key words in the selection. Write a 3-4 sentence summary of the selection using your key words. It is not necessary to use all of your key words.

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