Audio Files for Year 3 and Year 4

Year 3

Leviathan

*Leviathan* is a vigorous defense of a strong central government that was originally published in 1651, just after the English wars of 1642-49. This presentation explores the social and political turmoil during which *Leviathan* was written, including an examination of the radical political philosophies spawned by opposition to Stuart monarchy in England. It explains the materialistic foundation of Hobbes' philosophy and how this influenced his theory of man, society, and government.


The American Revolution, Part I

In 1764, Britain imposed the first of several taxes with the Sugar Act. This was followed by the Stamp Act and the Townshend Revenue Act. In 1773, the Seven Years War with France had made Britain the greatest power on earth. But the war had doubled her national debt; interest payments alone consumed 5/8ths of Britain's annual budget. To ease this burden, Britain made a fateful blunder: she decided to impose and enforce taxes upon the American colonies.


The American Revolution, Part II


Two Treatises of Government

*Two Treatises of Government* is the most famous and influential defense of limited government ever published. Written during a period of increasing opposition to the restored English monarchy, this work was published anonymously in 1689. It is a classic account of natural rights, social contract, government by consent, and the right of revolution.


Common Sense and the Declaration of Independence

*Common Sense* examines how Americans defended the right to resist unjust laws, and how this right of resistance was transformed into a right of revolution. It examines Thomas Paine's views on the difference between society and government, his defense of republican government, his
total rejection of hereditary monarchy, and his belief that Americans should take up arms against the English government.


The U.S. Constitution

The United States Constitution both established both a strong central government and protected states' rights. But to say that something is of two parts is not to say that the parts are equal. Advocates of state sovereignty believed the Constitution created an executive power that was so strong it might as well have been a monarchy, while advocates of national government felt that a strong executive was essential to steer America through crises.


The Federalist Papers

The U.S. Constitution was approved by the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787. It was to become law only if it was ratified by nine of the 13 states. New York was a key state, but it contained strong forces opposing the Constitution. A series of 85 letters appeared in New York City newspapers between October 1787 and August 1788 urging support for the Constitution. These letters remain the first and most authoritative commentary on the American concept of federal government.

http://www.audible.com/pd/History/The-Federalist-Papers-Audiobook/B002V8H24G?sr=1-5&qid=1354281964&ref_=sr_1_5

The Ratification Debates

In the fall of 1787, each of the 13 states assembled special conventions to consider ratification of a proposed Constitution of the United States. Without ratification by nine conventions, the Constitution would flounder: America would be a league of states, not one nation.

http://www.audible.com/pd/History/The-Ratification-Debates-Audiobook/B002UZKNHI?sr=1-1&qid=1329166709&ref_=sr_1_1

The Bill of Rights

The Constitution of the United States created a nation with a strong centralized government. In 1791, the Constitution was adjusted to include 10 amendments, commonly referred to as the Bill of Rights. These were guarantees of individual liberty upon which critics of the Constitution had insisted. Changing times raise changing questions. What of black rights, the right of former slaves to vote? And do women not share in that privilege? How many terms should a president serve? These and other issues were resolved through additional amendments to the Constitution.
Reflections on the Revolution in France and the Rights of Man

*Reflections on the Revolution in France* is a slashing attack on the French Revolution by one of Britain's most famous statesmen. Liberty and social order, Burke argues, are maintained by the traditional rights and duties embedded in custom and law. And when these traditions are overthrown in revolutions, society is threatened with chaos, bloodshed, and despotism.

Communist Manifesto

*Communist Manifesto* examines the theory and goals expounded by Karl Marx. Marx argues that history flows inevitably toward a social revolution, which will result in a society without economic classes. The influence on Marx of Hegel, Feuerbach, and other philosophers is examined, as is his friendship and collaboration with Engels.

Year 4

Darwin and Evolution

In 1859, Charles Darwin published a vastly important work, *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*. For centuries, man had been seen as a created species, distinct from any other animal. Then, Darwin persuasively argued that mankind and other species are descended from common ancestors. His theory of "natural selection", also known as "survival of the fittest", explains how life evolved through natural processes.

Karl Marx: Das Kapital

In his monumental work, *Das Kapital*, Karl Marx (1818-1883) tried to show that capitalism was both inefficient and immoral. His key to explaining capitalism is his labor theory of value, which he developed from ideas of Adam Smith and David Ricardo.

Monetarism and Supply side Economics
Dr. Arjo Klamer: *Monetarism* emerged in the 1960's under the leadership of Milton Friedman, who received the Nobel Prize in 1976. Friedman taught at the University of Chicago during this period, developing monetarism as a branch of Frank Knight's famous "Chicago School" of economics. Monetarists emphasize the role of money and the government's monetary policy in economic affairs; they vigorously defend the free market in their work.

http://www.audible.com/pd/Nonfiction/Monetarism-and-Supply-Side-Economics-Audiobook/B002VA9V8Y/ref=a_search_c4_1_1_srTtl?qid=1398279623&sr=1-1

**The Classical Economists**

The classical economists pioneered a new way of thinking about the uniquely human tendency to produce, trade, consume, and accumulate. Adam Smith (1723-1790) explained how the division of labor expands productive power and argued for freedom in economic affairs. David Ricardo (1772-1823), a London stockbroker, developed the concept of diminishing returns, the wages-fund doctrine, and classical rent theory.

http://www.audible.com/pd/Nonfiction/The-Classical-Economists-Audiobook/B002V02CVW/ref=a_search_c4_1_1_srTtl?qid=1398279663&sr=1-1

**The Keynesian Revolution**

John Maynard Keynes (1883-1946) was without question the most influential economist of the twentieth century. His most important work, *The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money*, was published in 1936, and it was widely perceived as offering plausible explanations and solutions for the Great Depression.

http://www.audible.com/pd/Nonfiction/The-Keynesian-Revolution-Audiobook/B002VB8L5SU/ref=a_search_c4_1_1_srTtl?qid=1398279687&sr=1-1

**The Austrian Case for the Free Market**

Ludwig von Mises (1881-1973) and Friedrich Hayek (1899-1992) were perhaps the foremost defenders of the free market and limited government during the mid-twentieth century ascendance of Keynesian economics.


**Frank Knight and the Chicago School**

Frank Knight (1885-1972) fathered the famous Chicago School of Economics, whose members are among the most decorated in history. An abstract theorist, Knight emphasized the role of risk and uncertainty in economic affairs, and was philosophically concerned with such topics as means vs. ends, economics as a study of human nature, and human communication. Although Knight did not create a systematic economic theory, his keen critical eye and his biting wit make him one of the most colorful and provocative of all the great economists.