

Name _____

Voltaire's Adventures: Enlightenment and Wit

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Explore the challenges and risks that Voltaire faced in advocating for freedom of thought and expression during the Enlightenment era. How did his experiences shape his commitment to these values?
2. Reflect on the significance of Voltaire's famous declaration, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." How does this statement embody his philosophy and impact the concept of free speech today?
3. Voltaire's life was marked by wit, satire, and a relentless fight for justice. Discuss the enduring relevance of his ideas in today's world, particularly in the context of promoting reason, tolerance, and freedom of expression.
4. Voltaire's novella "Candide" is known for its satirical critique of optimism. Analyze the central message of the novella and its implications for how individuals navigate the challenges and uncertainties of life.

