

*Big Brother follows “Houseguests” who are strangers who are forced to live together in the same house cut off from the outside world. The “Houseguests” are under constant video surveillance to record their lives and interactions with one another. There are weekly contests and evictions to determine who ultimately wins the show and a prize of $500,000.*

You are the casting director for CBS’s popular show Big Brother. The network has gotten its hands on an amazing new technology that is able to bring people from the past back to the present day. You have been tasked with casting the “Blast from Europe’s Past” season. CBS has narrowed down the time period that they would like to consider individuals for as cast members: the late 1500’s - late 1700’s. Of course, as you know this period of time encompassed the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and many monarchs (some constitutional monarchs, but most were absolute). Your goal as a casting director is to provide a lot of drama amongst the cast members for the cameras. Given the wide range of personalities, beliefs, and interests during this period, it shouldn’t be hard to whip up some drama in the house!

The difficult job for you will be to select which seven individuals you feel should live in the house together. The network executives have given you some parameters that you must work within.

1. Two cast members need to be scientists from the Scientific Revolution.

2. Two cast members must be philosophers from the Enlightenment.

3. Two cast members must be monarchs from a European country.

4. One cast member must be a notable individual of your choosing from the time period.

For each individual you select, you must complete a casting bio sheet (see attached) for the CBS network executives so that you can justify the need to include the person in the new season. In addition, you must write a 1 page explanation detailing why these are the best choices to put together in The Big Brother house. In other words, how are these individuals’ beliefs guaranteed to cause drama when the cameras begin rolling? You must support your argument with factual information for the CBS Network executives.

**Grading** - There are seven people you are choosing to put in the house, and eight areas that must be addressed on the Casting Bio Sheets. (70 points). The one-page typed explanation of your choices is worth 30 points, for a total of 100 points on this assignment. This is due no later than Thursday, October 29. You can turn it in early for 10 points extra credit!

Partners: If you would like, you may work with a partner for the casting bio sheets. You can share information in Google Docs for these. However, each student must write his/her own typed summary for why the individuals were selected. If you choose to work by yourself, you must complete a bio sheet for one scientist, one enlightenment philosopher, one monarch, and one other individual of your choosing. You must also complete the page explanation.

***For your casting consideration…***

***Scientists: Kepler, Copernicus, Galileo, Bacon, Newton, Descartes***

***Enlightenment philosophers: Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Voltaire***

***Monarchs: King Charles I, King Charles II, James II, William and Mary, King Louis XIV, Peter the Great, Catherine the Great,***

***Other Notables: Oliver Cromwell, Thomas Hobbs, Pope Paul V***



**Casting Bio**

**Information Sheet**

Name:

Country of Origin:

Occupation:

Religion (if known):

Famous Quote:

Reason This Person Is Famous (2-3 sentences):

Views on Government (Enlightenment philosophers and monarchs only - 3-4 sentences):

Views on Science and Religion (Scientists only - 3-4 sentences):

Interesting facts about this person that would appeal to the viewers:

1.

2.

3.

Casting picture of the person: