**Note to teachers: I show the slide show all the way through with some discussion, clarification and questions. Then, after I put them in groups, I give students the transcript and questions.**

**Transcript: *The Avengers* Loki meet’s Captain America**

Loki: “Is this not this simpler. Is this not your natural state? It’s the unspoken truth of humanity that you crave subjugation. The bright lure of freedom diminishes your life’s joy in a mad scramble for power, for identity. You were made to be ruled. In the end you will always kneel.”

Older man: “Not to men like you”

Loki: “There are no men like me”

Older man: “There are always men like you”

Loki: “Look to your elder people, let him be an example.”

Captain America: “You know, the last time I was in Germany and saw a man standing above everybody else we ended up disagreeing”

**Transcript: *A Bug’s Life* Revolution Scene**

Hopper: There was that ant that stood up to me.

Grasshoppers: Yeah but we can forget about him. Yeah it was just one ant.

Hopper: You’re right its just one ant

Grasshopper: Yeah boss, their puny

Hopper: Hmm, puny? Say, lets pretend this grain is a puny little ant. Did that hurt?

Grasshopper: No.

Hopper: Well how about this one?

Grasshopper: Are you kidding?

Hopper: How about this? (avalanche of food comes down on the grasshoppers)

Hopper: You let one ant stand up to us then they all might stand up to us. Those puny little ants outnumber us a 100 to 1. And if they ever figure that out there goes our way of life. Its not about food it’s about keeping those ants in line. That’s why we are going back.

**New scene**

Hopper: You’re a piece of dirt. No, I’m wrong your lower than dirt. You’re an ant. Let this be a lesson to all you ants, ideas are dangerous things. You’re mindless, soil shoving losers put on this earth to serve us.

Flick: You’re wrong Hopper. Ants are not meant to serve grasshoppers. I’ve seen these ants do great things and year after year they somehow manage to pick food for themselves and you. So who is the weaker species? Ants don’t serve grasshoppers. It’s you who need us. We are a lot stronger than you say we are and you know it, don’t you?

Hopper: Well princess.

Molt: Uh, Hopper. I hate to interrupt but uh…

Hopper: You ants stay back.

Thumper: Oh this was such a bad idea.

Princess Atta: You see Hopper, nature has a certain order. The ants pick the food, the ants keep the food and the grasshoppers leave.

Dot: I’m so proud of you flick.

Hopper: Where are you going their just ants?

Dot: No, bad grasshopper, bad grasshopper. Go home!

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

**Enlightenment ideas in *The Avengers* and *A Bug’s Life***

***The Avengers***

1. How does Loki represent Hobbesian thought?

2. Any civilized society has laws. What is the difference between Loki’s ideas of government and the system we have in America?

3. To whom is Captain America referring when he says “the last time I was in Germany and saw a man standing above everybody else…”?

4. From what you know about this man, do you think he embraced Hobbesian thought? Explain.

***A Bug’s Life***

1. The US Constitution begins with the phrase “We the people of the United States, …”. How does this segment reflect the idea that people have the power and that government should serve the people?

2. How does Hopper represent Hobbesian ideas?

3. How does Flik represent the ideas of John Locke?

4. Which of Locke’s three natural rights does Princess Atta defend?

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

**Answer Key: Enlightenment ideas in *The Avengers* and *A Bug’s Life***

***The Avengers***

1. How does Loki represent Hobbesian thought?

*He states: Is this not your natural state? It’s the unspoken truth of humanity that you crave subjugation. The bright lure of freedom diminishes your life’s joy in a mad scramble for power, for identity. You were made to be ruled. In the end you will always kneel.”*

*Our natural state as humans is to crave a strong leader*

2. Any civilized society has laws. What is the difference between Loki’s ideas of government and the system we have in America?

*Loki’s ideas are top down – dictatorial whereas in America the people elect leaders to make laws and can un-elect leaders. There is also a system of checks and balances.*

3. To whom is Captain America referring when he says “the last time I was in Germany and saw a man standing above everybody else…”?

*Hitler*

4. From what you know about this man, do you think he embraced Hobbesian thought? Explain.

*Yes. He was a dictator*

***A Bug’s Life***

1. The US Constitution begins with the phrase “We the people of the United States, …”. How does this segment reflect the idea that people have the power and that government should serve the people?

* *Hopper fears the people and says: You let one ant stand up to us then they all might stand up to us. Those puny little ants outnumber us a 100 to 1. And if they ever figure that out there goes our way of life. Its not about food it’s about keeping those ants in line.*
* *The whole ant colony stands up to Hopper*
* Flik says: Ants are not meant to serve grasshoppers. I’ve seen these ants do great things and year after year they somehow manage to pick food for themselves and you. So who is the weaker species? Ants don’t serve grasshoppers. It’s you who need us.

2. How does Hopper represent Hobbesian ideas?

*He tells Flik: You’re a piece of dirt. No, I’m wrong your lower than dirt. You’re an ant. Let this be a lesson to all you ants, ideas are dangerous things. You’re mindless, soil shoving losers put on this earth to serve us.*

3. How does Flik represent the ideas of John Locke?

*He believes in the ability of ants and says: I’ve seen these ants do great things*

*In essence Hopper represents the government but that he needs the people (ants). Ants are not meant to serve grasshoppers. I’ve seen these ants do great things and year after year they somehow manage to pick food for themselves and you. So who is the weaker species? Ants don’t serve grasshoppers. It’s you who need us. We are a lot stronger than you say we are and you know it, don’t you?*

4. Which of Locke’s three natural rights does Princess Atta defend?

*Property rights. She says: You see Hopper, nature has a certain order. The ants pick the food, the ants keep the food and the grasshoppers leave.*