Critical Challenge: **Contemporary Challenges to Modern Liberalism?**

SO 2.12 - Students analyze the extent to which modern liberalism is challenged by Alternative Thought.

Background: Read – Chapter 8 + Negative and Positive Rights

Step One: Define Terms
Students will complete the **Step One Critical Challenge Tool: Defining Terms**.

Step Two: Gather Sources
Students will complete **Step Two Critical Challenge: Gather Sources Presentation**.

Students will find two great sources (quote, image, cartoon, satirical news, short video or audio clip) that represent both sides:

1.   One of the modes of Alternative thought that are challenging Modern Liberalism

2.   Modern Liberalism's response to the challenging perspective

Consider answering these questions your presentation:

- What is the explicit, implicit message and perspective(s) of the source?

- How is the source challenging the values or principles of modern liberalism?

Or

- How is the source responding to the challenge of alternative thought?

- What is the controversy or conflict between the ideological perspectives of the source and modern liberalism?

- What do you think society should do?

Step Three: Presentation and Discussion
Students will complete **present their sources and ideas to the class.**

Background: Negative and Positive Rights

Negative Rights

- *negative rights* permit or oblige inaction – especially from government (legal) but they may be moral - either permitting one to act or refrain from acting.

- Rights considered *negative rights* may include civil and political rights such as freedom of speech, private property, freedom from violent crime, freedom of worship, *habeas corpus*, a fair trial, freedom from slavery and the right to bear arms.

Positive Rights

- *positive rights* permit or oblige action – especially from government (legal) but they may be moral - or obliging others to act or refrain from acting.

- Rights considered *positive rights*, as initially proposed in 1970's, may include other civil and political rights such as police protection of person and property and the right to counsel, as well as economic, social and cultural rights such as public education, national security, military, health care, social security, and a minimum standard of living.

How did they Develop?

- negative rights are often associated with the first generation of rights (Classical Liberalism), while positive rights are associated with the second and third generations (Modern Liberalism).

- Negative rights are often associated with historical political and social inequalities – positive rights are attempts by modern liberal democracies to address these inequalities.

Step One Critical Challenge Tool: Defining Terms (Answer while Reading)

Define Environmentalism (p. 280)	
Philosophers or influential thinkers, politicians etc. and their contribution	**How does it challenge Modern Liberalism**

Define Neo Conservatives (p. 284)	
Philosophers or influential thinkers, politicians etc. and their contribution	**How does it challenge Modern Liberalism**

Define Religious Perspectives (p. 287)

Philosophers or influential thinkers, politicians etc. and their contribution	How does it challenge Modern Liberalism

Define Aboriginal Collective Thought (p. 294)

Philosophers or influential thinkers, politicians etc. and their contribution	How does it challenge Modern Liberalism