

The French Revolution and Napoleon

1789-1815

I. The Old Regime

A. Peasant Distress

1. Peasants comprised over four-fifths of France's _____ million people
2. Peasants lost half their income in _____. They paid feudal dues to nobles, tithes to the _____ and royal taxes to the king's agents. In addition, they paid a land tax called the _____ and performed forced labor called the _____
3. Grain _____ led to sharp increases in the price of bread (major cause of discontent)

B. Government Debt

1. Louis XIV's profligate spending left a massive public _____ that consumed half the nation's tax revenues.
2. The cost of fighting the Seven Years' War and financing the _____ War for Independence worsened the _____ crisis.

C. Aristocratic Resistance

1. French _____ were exempt from paying taxes.
2. The nobles successfully resisted all attempts to _____ the tax system.

D. Royal Weakness

1. Louis XV (reigned 1715-1774) was a _____ and indecisive ruler.
2. Louis XVI (reigned 1774-1792) and his Austrian wife Marie _____ were particularly unpopular and frivolous.
3. The high court of Paris – the _____ - assumed the right to approve or disapprove the king's decrees, thus further _____ royal power.

II. Estates General

A. Calling The Estates General

1. By the spring of 1789, the French government faced the imminent threat of _____.
2. The refusal of the Assembly of Notables to support Louis XVI's program of tax reform forced the king to call a meeting of the _____.

B. The Three Estates

1. The first estate: the _____
 - The Catholic Church held about 20 percent of the land.
 - The French clergy paid no direct taxes. Instead, they gave the government a 'free gift' of about 2% of their income
2. The second estate: the _____
 - Nobles comprised 2 to 4% of the population
 - Nobles owned about 25% of the land

The Three Estates (con't)

3. The third estate: _____.
- the third estate comprised _____ of the population
- It included a diverse group of _____ farmers, urban workers, middle-class shopkeepers, wealthy merchants, and successful lawyers.
- those in their group _____ aristocrat _____.

C. The Tennis Court Oath, June 1789

1. Members of the first and second estates assumed that each estate would receive one _____. This system would enable them to _____ their will on the third estate.

2. Led by Abbe Sieyes, the third estate _____ this method of voting and demanded that _____ three estates meet together.

3. When the king refused, the third estate declared itself the true _____ Assembly of France.

Locked out of their official meeting place, the third estate met in a nearby indoor tennis court where they took an oath not to _____ until they drafted a written _____.

4. The Tennis Court Oath marked the _____ of the French Revolution.

III. The National Assembly, 1789-1791

A. The Storming of Bastille

1. Determined to reassert royal authority, Louis XVI ordered a mercenary _____ of Swiss guards to march toward Paris and _____.

2. In Paris, angry mobs were already protesting the soaring price of bread. As tensions rose, a mob stormed the _____, a royal fortress and prison. The mob freed a handful of prisoners and seized the Bastille's supply of gunpowder and weapons.

3. The fall of the Bastille marked an important _____ act against royal _____. It also pushed Paris to the forefront of the ongoing revolution.

B. The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen, August 1789

1. The declaration proclaimed that all men were 'born and remain _____ and _____ in rights'. These natural rights included the rights to '_____, property, security, and resistance to oppression'.

2. The declaration provided for _____ of religion, speech, arbitrary arrest, press and the right to petition the government.

C. The Rights of Women

1. Women gained increased _____ to inherit property and to divorce.
2. Women did not gain the right to _____ or to hold political office.
3. In her book, A Vindication of the Rights of Women, Mary _____ argued that women are not naturally inferior to men. The appearance of inferiority is created by a lack of _____.

D. Women's March to Versailles, October 1789

1. On October 5, 1789, thousands of women marched to Versailles demanding cheap bread and insisting that the royal family _____ to Paris.
2. The king quickly capitulated, and a few days later the National _____ also moved to Paris.

E. The Civil Constitution of the Clergy, August 1790

1. This act, passed by the National Assembly, did the following:
 - confiscated the lands owned by the Roman _____ Church
 - Decreed that bishops and priests would be _____ by the people and paid by the state
 - Required the clergy to take a loyalty _____ to support the new government
2. It is important to note that Pope Pius VI condemned the act and that over half of the clergy refused to take the oath of allegiance. _____ Catholics proved to be persistent _____ of the French Revolution.

F. Reforms of the National Assembly

1. The National Assembly did
 - create a _____
 - divide France into 83 departments governed by _____ officials

-establish the _____ system of measurement

-abolish internal _____

-abolish _____

2. The National Assembly did _____

-abolish _____ property

-give women the right to _____

IV. The Legislative Assembly, 1791-1792

A. Factions in the Legislative Assembly

1. Members of the _____ Assembly sat together in separate sections of the meeting hall. The political terms _____, center and _____ are derived from the seating arrangement.

2. _____ who supported the king made up the _____.

3. _____ comprised a large group in the _____.

4. _____ who distrusted the king and wanted the Revolution to continue sat to the _____. The Left was divided into two groups:

- _____ wanted to overthrow the monarchy and create a republic. Key Jacobin leaders included Jean-Paul _____, Georges-Jacques _____, and Maximilien _____.

- _____ wanted to involve France in a war that would discredit the monarchy and extend France's revolutionary ideals across Europe.

NOTE: It is important to remember that Lafayette was not a Jacobin, and that Girondists favored using war to spread French revolutionary ideals.

B. France Versus Austria and Prussia

1. Leopold of _____ and Frederick William II of Prussia issued the Declaration of Pillnitz (Aug. 1791) declaring that the restoration of absolutism in France was of 'common interest to all _____ of Europe'.
2. The Legislative Assembly declared war against Austria and Prussia in April 1792, thus beginning the War of the First _____.
3. The war began _____ for the poorly equipped French armies. By summer 1792, Austrian and Prussian armies were advancing towards _____.

C. The Second French Revolution

1. Faced with defeat, recruits rushed to Paris singing the _____, a stirring appeal to save France from _____. The rejuvenated French forces _____ the Austro-Prussian army, thus saving the Revolution.
2. During the summer of 1792, radicals called _____ (literally 'without breeches') took control of the Paris Commune (the City gov't). The revolutionary Paris commune intimidated the Legislative Assembly into deposing Louis XVI and issuing a call for the _____ of a national convention. This new body would then form a more _____ government.
3. _____ once again exploded in Paris. Convinced that royalists would _____ the Revolution, mobs of sans-culottes executed over a thousand priests, bourgeoisie, and aristocrats. These '_____' marked the beginning of a second French Revolution dominated by _____.

V. The National Convention, 1792-1795

A. The Execution of Louis XVI

1. The newly elected National Convention _____ the monarchy and declared that France was now a _____.

2. The National Convention then had to decide Louis XVI's fate. The Girondists favored _____ while the Jacobins demanded that he be _____ as a _____ and a traitor.
3. After a contentious debate, the National convention passed a resolution condemning Louis XVI to _____. The resolution passed by _____ vote!
4. Supported by the sans-culottes, the _____ branded the Girondins as counterrevolutionaries and ousted them from the National Convention.

B. European Reaction

1. At first, European liberals supported the French Revolution and applauded the fall of the Old _____.
2. The English statesman Edmund _____ offered a conservative critique of the French Revolution. Burke warned that _____ would lead to _____ and ultimately military _____. To many moderate Europeans, the Sept. massacres and the execution of Louis XVI _____ Burke's dire predictions.

C. Foreign and Domestic Threats

1. _____, Spain, Holland and Sardinia joined Prussian and Austria to form the First Coalition. In the spring of 1793, First Coalition armies _____ on France.
2. _____ strife also threatened the National Convention. Girondists and royalist Catholics _____ against the tyranny of radical Jacobins.

D. The Reign of Terror

1. Faced with _____ invaders and the threat of _____ rebellion, the National Convention established the Committee of _____ Safety to defend France and safeguard the Revolution.
2. Led by _____, the Committee of Public Safety exercised dictatorial power as it carried out a Reign of _____.
3. In the name of creating a Republic of _____, Robespierre executed the queen, his chief rivals, and thousands of 'dangerous' class enemies.

E. The 'Nation in Arms'

1. While the Terror _____ domestic dissent, Robespierre turned to the danger posed by the First Coalition. In 1793, the Committee of Public Safety proclaimed a 'levee en masse' decreeing _____ military service for all men between the ages of 18 and 40.
2. The levee en masse created a national _____ based upon mass participation. This marked the first example of the complete _____ of a country for war.
3. Motivated by patriotism and led by corps of talented young officers that included Napoleon _____, France's citizen-soldiers defeated the First Coalition's professional armies.

F. The Thermidorian Reaction

1. The Committee of Public Safety successfully crushed internal dissent and defeated the First Coalition. Despite these victories, Robespierre continued to pursue his _____ dream of creating a Republic of Virtue.
2. Fearing for their lives and yearning for stability, the National Convention reasserted its authority by _____ Robespierre.
3. Robespierre's death ended the _____ phase of the French Revolution. On the new revolutionary calendar, July was called Thermidor from the French word for '_____'. Hence, the revolt against Robespierre is called the _____ reaction.

VI. The Directory, 1795-1799

A. Bourgeoisie Misrule

1. The government consisted of a two-house legislature and an executive body of five men known as the _____.
2. Dominated by rich bourgeoisie, the Directory proved to be _____ and unpopular.

B. The Fall of the Directory

1. Public discontent mounted as the Directory failed to deal with _____, food shortages and corruption.
2. On November 9, 1799, an ambitious and talented young _____ named Napoleon Bonaparte _____ the Directory and _____ power.