

The French Revolution

I. Reasons for the French Revolution

A. France in the 1700s

1. In the 1700s, France was the _____ capital of Europe, home to numerous _____ thinkers, & had wealth from colonies
2. King Louis XIV was the most _____ in Europe; After his death in 1715, Louis XV & _____ continued to rule France as absolute monarchs
3. But, political & economic problems led to the _____ in 1789

B. One problem was France's _____ social hierarchy that was made up of three classes (called _____)

1. First Estate—The _____ of the Roman Catholic Church made up the First Estate; Owned _____% of land in France but paid little in taxes to the gov't
2. Second Estate—The Second Estate was made up of _____; Owned _____% of French land but were _____ from paying taxes
3. Third Estate—The Third Estate made up _____% of the population & included _____ peasants but also the well-educated _____ (bourgeoisie); This group paid _____% of their income in taxes
 - a. The members of the Third Estate _____ the special treatment the First & Second Estates received
 - b. Members of the Third Estate gained inspiration from the _____ ideas of John Locke, Voltaire, & Rousseau
 - c. After the success of the _____, the Third Estate began demanding _____, equality, & liberty in France

C. Social tensions were made worse by a growing _____ in the 1770s & 1780s

1. The French government faced massive _____ due to decades of lavish spending, expensive wars, & poor economic planning
2. By 1789, half the budget went towards _____ on the national debt; _____% of people were unemployed
3. The excessive _____ by King Louis XVI & his wife _____ angered French citizens
4. By 1789, France was _____ & faced a serious financial crisis

D. The Estates-General (1789)

1. Louis XVI called an emergency meeting of the _____ where members from all 3 classes could advise the king
 - a. During the Estates-General, the First & Second Estates voted to _____ on the Third Estate
 - b. The First & Second Estates decided to vote by _____ (1 vote per estate) rather than by _____ (by person)
2. These decisions angered the members of the Third Estate who believed their _____ were being _____

E. The National Assembly (1789)

1. The Third Estate formed a new _____ to make laws for the French people
2. In 1789, the National Assembly swore to a _____ promising a new constitution & limitations on the king's _____
3. The National Assembly wrote their revolutionary ideals in the *Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen* which said:
 - a. "Men are born _____ and _____ in rights"
 - b. Rights include "_____, property, security, & resistance to oppression"
 - c. It guaranteed freedom of _____, & freedom of _____, & equal justice

II. The French Revolution

A. Meanwhile, the _____ crisis continued

1. Citizens were without food & faced _____
2. Angry _____ in Paris demanded new reforms

B. Storming of Bastille (1789)

1. When rumors circulated that the king was going to send his _____ to Paris, citizens attacked the prison _____ to seize weapons to defend themselves
2. The storming of the Bastille in 1789 represented the _____ of the _____

C. In 1791, Louis XVI finally agreed to a new constitution that limited his power & created a _____

1. But, Louis XVI _____ to _____ the National Assembly & France's problems continued
2. Fearing the spread of France's revolutionary ideas, _____ & _____ assembled armies to restore France's absolute monarchy

D. The National Convention (1792)

1. In 1792, _____ took control of France & made important decisions:
 - a. _____ was declared against Austria & Prussia and 300,000 French soldiers were _____ into a national army in order to defend France

b. The French monarchy was _____ & democratic _____ was created called the National Convention

2. In 1793, King Louis XVI was arrested, convicted of _____, & _____ by guillotine

E. The Reign of Terror (1793-1794)

1. The radical leaders of the National Convention feared that "_____ of the revolution" would try to overthrow the new republic

2. In 1793, radical _____ slowly gained control of the National Convention

3. From 1793 to 1794, Robespierre _____ 40,000 "_____" during an era known as the Reign of Terror

4. The _____ ended when French citizens turned on Robespierre & executed him

F. The revolution came to an end in 1795, but France was in _____

1. The _____ had not been solved & people faced starvation

2. _____, Holland, _____ joined Austria & Prussia in the _____ against France

3. The National Convention was replaced by France's _____ gov't in _____ years called the Directory

4. The _____ proved to be ineffective & corrupt

G. Napoleon Bonaparte (1799-1815)

1. In 1799, a French military general named _____ led a coup d'état & seized power in France

2. As emperor of France, Napoleon introduced needed _____, defeated foreign armies, & conquered a massive French _____