

# 19 – French Revolution and Napoleon

**Key Concept 2.1: Different models of political sovereignty affected the relationship among states and between states and individuals.**

IV. The French Revolution posed a fundamental challenge to Europe's existing political and social order.

- A. The French Revolution resulted from a combination of long-term social and political causes, as well as Enlightenment ideas, exacerbated by short-term fiscal and economic crises.
- B. The first, or liberal, phase of the French Revolution established a constitutional monarchy, increased popular participation, nationalized the Catholic Church, and abolished hereditary privileges.
  - **Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, Civil Constitution of the Clergy, Constitution of 1791, Abolition of provinces and division of France into departments**
- C. After the execution of the Louis XVI, the radical Jacobin Republic led by Robespierre responded to opposition at home and war abroad by instituting the Reign of Terror, fixing prices and wages, and pursuing a policy of de-Christianization.
  - **Georges Danton, Jean-Paul Marat, Committee of Public Safety**
- B. Revolutionary armies, raised by mass conscription, sought to bring the changes initiated in France to the rest of Europe.
- C. Women enthusiastically participated in the early phases of the revolution; however, while there were brief improvements in the legal status of women, citizenship in the republic was soon restricted to men.

- D. Revolutionary ideals inspired a slave revolt led by Toussaint L'Ouverture in the French colony of Saint Domingue, which became the independent nation of Haiti in 1804.
- E. While many were inspired by the revolution's emphasis on equality and human rights, others condemned its violence and disregard for traditional authority.

V. Claiming to defend the ideals of the French Revolution, Napoleon Bonaparte imposed French control over much of the European continent that eventually provoked a nationalistic reaction.

- A. As first consul and emperor, Napoleon undertook a number of enduring domestic reforms while often curtailing some rights and manipulating popular impulses behind a façade of representative institutions.
  - **Careers open to talent, Educational system, Centralized bureaucracy, Civil Code, Concordat of 1801**
  - **Secret police, Censorship, Limitation of women's rights**
- B. Napoleon's new military tactics allowed him to exert direct or indirect control over much of the European continent, spreading the ideals of the French Revolution across Europe.
- C. Napoleon's expanding empire created nationalist responses throughout Europe.
- D. After the defeat of Napoleon by a coalition of European powers, the Congress of Vienna (1814-1815) attempted to restore the balance of power in Europe and contain the danger of revolutionary or nationalistic upheavals in the future.

## Major Themes and BIG Questions

### Themes:

- Analyze the long-term and short-term causes of the French Revolution.
- Analyze the impact of Enlightenment ideas on the French Revolution.
- To what extent did the political, economic, social and religious goals of the National Assembly (1789-1791) become a permanent feature of the French Revolution by 1799?
- To what extent did each of the following groups succeed in achieving their goals during the French Revolution (1789-1799)?

§ Monarchy

§ Aristocracy

§ Urban working class

§ Clergy

§ Bourgeoisie

§ Peasantry

### § Women

- Compare and contrast the goals and actions of the leaders of the National Assembly (1789-91) with those of the National Convention (1792-1795).
- To what extent was Napoleon an "Enlightened Despot"? Contrast Napoleon's rule with that of Frederick the Great, Catherine the Great, and Joseph II.
- To what extent did Napoleon maintain the ideals of the French Revolution?
- To what extent was the balance of power maintained in Europe by 1815?

## Essential Questions:

### The French Revolution:

- What are the First, Second, and Third Estate and what portion of the population do each represent?
- Who was the bourgeoisie and what role did they play in the revolution?
- How did the power of the nobility change under Louis XV?
- How did the cost of wars and taxes contributed to France's financial troubles?
- How did the American Revolution impact Europe and why was France impacted the most?
- How did France's involvement in the American Revolution contribute to financial crisis?
- Why did Louis XVI call for the Estates General to meet?
- What striking similarities emerged as grievances of the three estates?
- Discuss, in detail, the concerns over the voting procedure made by each of the estates.
- How was the National Assembly different from the Estates General?
- How did the king respond and how did this prove his insecurity?
- What led to the July 14, 1789 Storming of the Bastille and why is this event so significant in history?
- What actions taken by the peasants led to the "Great Fear" and what were the results of those actions?
- Explain the "Declaration of the Rights of Man."
- What role did women play in the early stages of the revolution? (specifically October)
- Describe the Constitutional Monarchy established in July 1790
- What did women gain from the Monarchy and what were they denied?
- How did the National Assembly reorganize religion?
- How did foreign philosophers such as Edmund Burke, Mary Wollstonecraft and Olympe de Gough react to the revolution?
- Discuss the impact the attempted flight of the king and queen had on France, Austria and Prussia.
- Why was the Legislative Assembly that convened in October 1791 more radical than the National Assembly?
- Who were the Jacobins and what were their goals?
- Characterize the Girondists, The Mountain (Montagnards), and the Plain factions within the National Convention.
- Who were the sans-culottes and why were they a decisive political factor?
- What was the Committee of Public Safety and how did it employ a planned economy, Reign of Terror and Nationalism to protect France?
- What role did Robespierre play in the Revolution and why was he executed?
- What changes were brought about by the Thermidorian Reaction?
- What was the Directory and why did people grow to resent it?

### Napoleon:

- How did Napoleon Bonaparte come to power?
- What two revolutionary principles were reasserted by the Napoleonic Code?
- How did Napoleon's rule impact each of the following: the Middle Class, Catholic Church, Peasants, Women, the French Bureaucracy, dissemination of information.
- Outline the major events that took place in Napoleon's quest for empire.
- Describe the Grand Empire as it existed in 1810.
- What was the Continental System and what was its impact on France?
- Describe the "Hundred Days" and its result?

[reformatted from Angelee Rusk, Erie High School, CO]

## VOCABULARY

[How many of these can you remember?]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Louis XV             | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>bourgeoisie</i>         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parlement of Paris   | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>corvée</i>              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> nobility of the robe | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Lettre de cachet</i>    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Louis XVI            | <input type="checkbox"/> ancien regime (Old Regime) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Estate         | <input type="checkbox"/> American Revolution        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Second Estate        | <input type="checkbox"/> Jacques Necker             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Third Estate         | <input type="checkbox"/> Assembly of Notables       |

- Estates-General
- cahiers de doléances*
- Abbé Sieyès, *What is the Third Estate?*
- National Assembly
- Tennis Court Oath
- storming of the Bastille
- “Great Fear”
- Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen
- Olympe de Gouges, *The Rights of Woman*
- Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
- Madame de Staël
- Women’s march to Versailles
- Jean-Paul Marat
- Civil Constitution of the Clergy, 1790
- “refactory clergy”
- 83 Departments
- assignats
- Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*
- Thomas Paine, *Rights of Man*
- Flight to Varennes
- Legislative Assembly
- Jacobins
- Girondins
- Declaration of Pillnitz
- Émigrés
- War of the First Coalition
- Brunswick Manifesto
- storming of the Tuileries
- Georges-Jacques Danton
- September Massacres
- National Convention
- Equality, Liberty, Fraternity
- Mountain
- sans-culottes*
- Enragés*
- Committee of Public Safety
- Maximilien Robespierre
- Law of Maximum
- Lazare Carnot
- lève en masse*
- Reign of Terror
- Law of Suspects
- Vendée
- Cult of the Supreme Being
- “Temple of Reason”
- Revolutionary Calendar
- Thermidorian Reaction
- The Directory
- Conspiracy of Equals
- Coup d’Etat Brumaire
- Consulate Era
- plebiscite
- Napoleon Bonaparte
- Consulate Period
- First Consul
- Napoleonic Code
- careers open to talent
- Concordat of 1801
- Bank of France
- lycées*
- St. Domingue (Haiti)
- Toissant L’Ouverture
- Jacques-Louis David
- Empire Period
- Grand Empire
- War of the Third Coalition
- Battle of Trafalgar
- Lord Horatio Nelson
- Battle of Austerlitz
- Arc de Triomphe
- Treaty of Tilsit
- Confederation of the Rhine
- Continental System
- Peninsular War
- Russian Campaign
- War of the Fourth Coalition
- Battle of Leipzig
- Quadruple Alliance
- Louis XVIII
- Charter of 1814
- “First” Treaty of Paris, 1814
- Congress of Vienna
- Klemens von Metternich
- legitimacy
- compensation
- balance of power
- German Confederation (Bund)
- Hundred Days
- Battle of Waterloo
- Duke of Wellington