**The French Revolution**

Part II

(September 1791-1799)

***Significant People in the Upper Class:***

King Louis XVI – King of France

Queen Marie Antoinette– Princess from Austria.

Jacques Necker – finance minister to Louis XVI.

* He urged the king to hold the meeting of the Estates General in 1789.
* He was liked by the people.
* Gets Fired.
* Causes the Storming of the Bastille.

Layfayette - military advisor to Louis XVI.

- In American Revolution.

-Urged the meeting of the Estates General.

- Lead the National Assembly at first

(he represented Louis XVI- King)

***REVOLUTIONARIES:***

Maximillian Robespierre- Political Leader of the French Revolution

- Central leader of the French Revolution.

- Nickname: The Incorruptible

- A lawyer.

- Represented the rights of the people.

Georges Jacques Danton - Military leader

- Military leader of the revolutionary forces.

- Leading figure in the early stages of the French Revolution

- President - ***The Committee of Public Safety***

- Military Leader for Robespierre’s ***National Guard***.

>Later starts up the “Dantonists” against excessive killing.

>Dantonists threaten Robespierre leadership.

Later, Danton and his group are guillotined!

Jean-Paul Marat – Journalist (Radical Propagandist)

-Scientist, philosopher, journalist.

-Best known for his intense and radical support of the French Revolution.

-***Newspaper: L’Ami du Peuple”*** ("The Friend of the People")

> Eventually murdered by Charlotte Corday.

Charlotte Corday (Peasant from the country – kills Marat)

* Young lady from the French countryside.
* Tired of excessive killing.
* Kills Marat hoping to restore peace to France and stop the killing.

>Tried and guillotined as well, for the murder of Marat.

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Robespierre.jpg)

Anonymous Portrait c.1793

(-taken from Wikipedia)

***Maximelien Robespierre***

“The Incorruptible”

* Lawyer, politician, master orator (very good public speaker) and chief spokesperson of the French Revolution.

- By 1790, he was elected the president of the Jacobin (political club)

* Later became the first deputy for Paris, to the National Convention.

-Robespierre had been a student, and believer of the ideas of the Enlightenment.

Philosopher: Jean-Jacques Rousseau, were at the foundation of Robespierre’s passion for “Equality, Liberty, and Brotherhood.”

*Getting Deeper Into The Events :*

1. May, 1789 – Maximillian Robespierre had essentially represented the 3rd Estate.
2. During the Meeting of the Estates (first one 175 yrs), Louis XVI actually locked the 3rd Estate out of the Palace of Versailles.

So instead they assembled in a nearby tennis court. Being inspired by such great speakers as Robespierre, they all signed an oath, not to leave Versailles until a new government system was formed. This became known as **“The Tennis Court Oath”**

1. June 12th, 1789 – there had certainly been more speeches in the streets. Also, the common people were becoming increasingly hostile. They were gathering weapons. However, something else happened to really stir up the common people……
2. June 14, 1789 – Louis XVI fires Jacques Necker, the finance minister whom the people had really liked. He had supported the concept of taxing the 1st and 2nd Estates. This was the last straw.

* ***They Stormed the Bastille***, looking for gun powder to fuel their weapons to revolt against Louis XVI.
* The Storming of the Bastille was **absolutely horrific**. A lot of rage and animalistic behavior was released by the people.

It was as if centuries of frustration were exploding during this savage event. The people essentially killed the King’s soldiers, and impaled the severed head of the jail’s master. This type of gruesome violence was the first symbolic representation of a very savage time to follow.

* On October 5th, 1789

> 7,000 women march to the Palace of Versailles.

> The King and Queen were hosting a huge party! This was outrageous to the staring people of France.

> Essentially the women broke into the palace, killing most of the guards, and were looking to kill the Queen!

> Lafayette convinced the Royal Family to give into the demands of the crowd, and relocate to Paris.

> They would never see Versailles ever again! Under the protection of the National Guards (Robespierre’s Revolutionary Army).

> When the Royals left, this legitimized the National Assembly.

May 1791 :

1. France has now entrenched the ***“Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen”.***

b) Equal Rights; Justice for All; a Constitutional Monarchy (government is running all the legal stuff and the Monarch is just a figure head ) has been established.

c) Louis XVI is alive, and his status of King is acknowledged in a figure head type way.

d) Next, Louis and the family make a break for foreign land,(Austria) in hopes of building up an army, and winning France back.

However, they get caught and are taken back to Paris as TRAITORS to the Revolution.

**Legal Charge = Treason** (crime against your country)

1. Louis XVI, can therefore be tried in court for ‘Treason’. Right now he and Family are prisoners.

April 1792 :

1. Austria, and Prussia start raising an army to infiltrate into France, and overthrow the Revolution.
2. Marie Antoinette, (Austrian Princess – Now Queen of France) sends secret messages to her family to help this effort. She gives away information regarding the position of the revolutionary armies.
3. \* Prussian Military leader**: “Duke of Brunswick”** makes a critical mistake!

He issues an announcement in a French Newspaper, threatening the revolutionaries not to harm the monarch, or he will destroy Paris.

\*\* Really, not the best move \*\*\*

D ) This totally upsets the French people, who are insulted.

In August 1792 , they attack the King’s residence paris…leaving about 800 people dead !

Louis XVI flees for safety in the National Assembly, and instead is arrested ! THE MONARCH is out of time….he has no more power.

Robespierre, once against the death penalty, now agrees that for the Revolution to live, the King must die!

January 20th, 1793 – Louis XVI goes on trial - is found guilty of treason - sentenced to death.

**January 21st, 1793--- 10:22 am – The Guillotine goes down, Louis XVI is dead!**

\*\*At this point, the rest of the Royal Family are locked in the ‘temple prison’.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEZqarUnVpo> (2:50 mins\_French Revoution in a nutshell)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsYs0ypqHEw> (7:25 mins\_ Reign of Terror Part 1)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKDlvpnYTRA>

(9:15 mins\_Jean-Paul Murat & The guillotine )

**\*It would be good to write short point form notes on the readings and video clips, to help you remember the key points and to provide evidence of your engagement with the key concepts\*\***