

The French Revolution

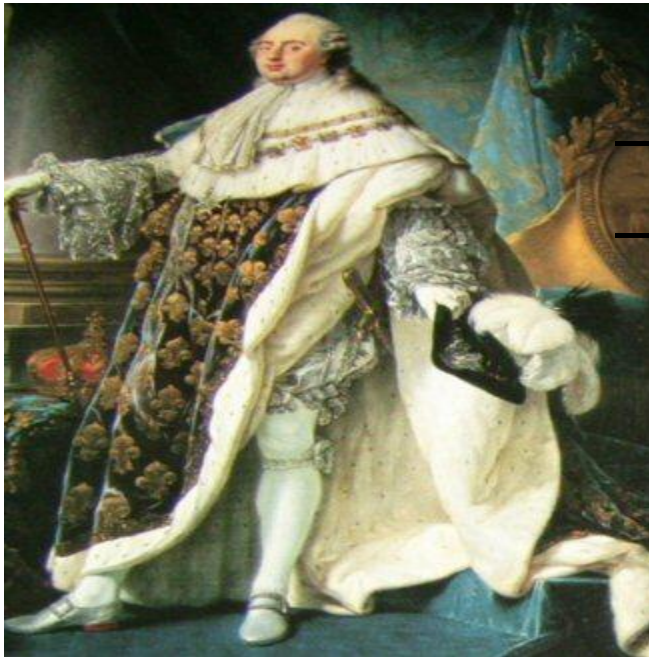


Using your notes, complete the following paragraph.

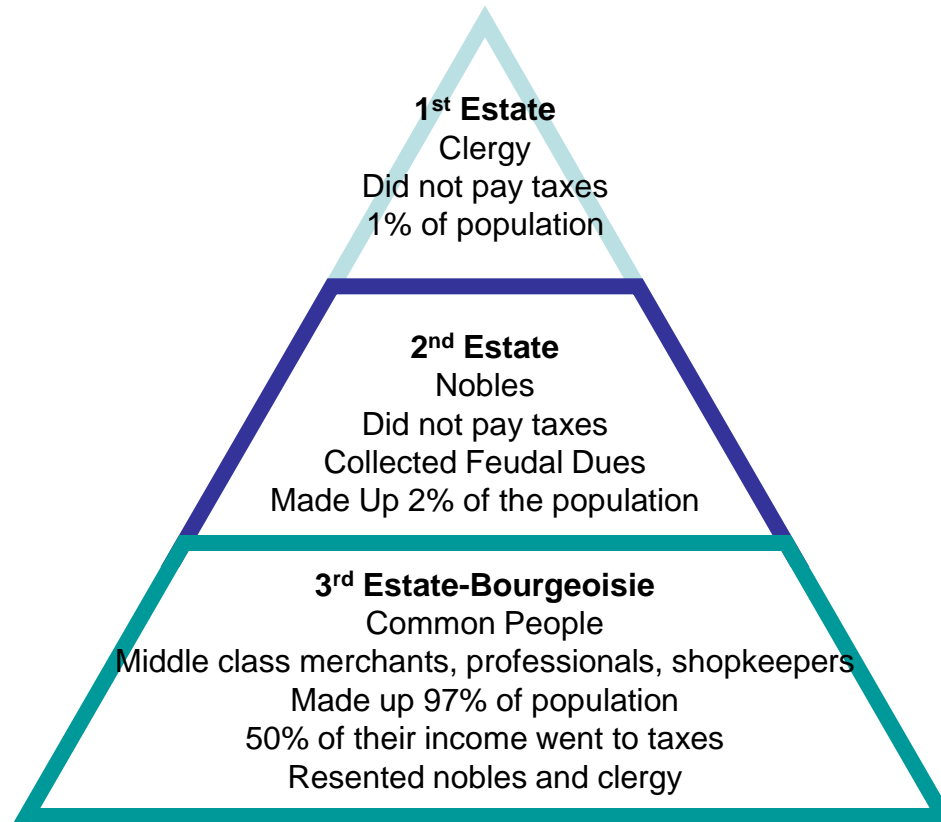
The Enlightenment is also known as the _____. During this time, people began to reject the teachings of the _____ and the _____ and question traditional authority. People believed that they had _____. These rights are rights that you are born with and can not be taken away. People also believed if the government does not protect these rights, that the people can _____ the government.

Background Information

- King Louis XVI made France was one of the most powerful nations in Western Europe
- Several conditions made France ready for revolution by 1789
 - Inequality among social classes
 - Unfair tax system
 - Bankrupt government



Three Social Classes of the French Revolution



Unfair Tax System

- Based on tradition-
was outdated and
unfair
- Different social
classes paid different
tax rates
- Towns taxed each
other's goods-
restricted trade



A Bankrupt Government

- Kings thought that the only way to fix financial problems was to tax the nobles
 - Nobles refused to pay unless the King summoned an Estates General
 - The King gave into the demands



The Estates General: Background

- Government body where all three Estates are represented
- Elections were held in France to select delegates for the different Estates



Events of the French Revolution

Follow along using your flow chart

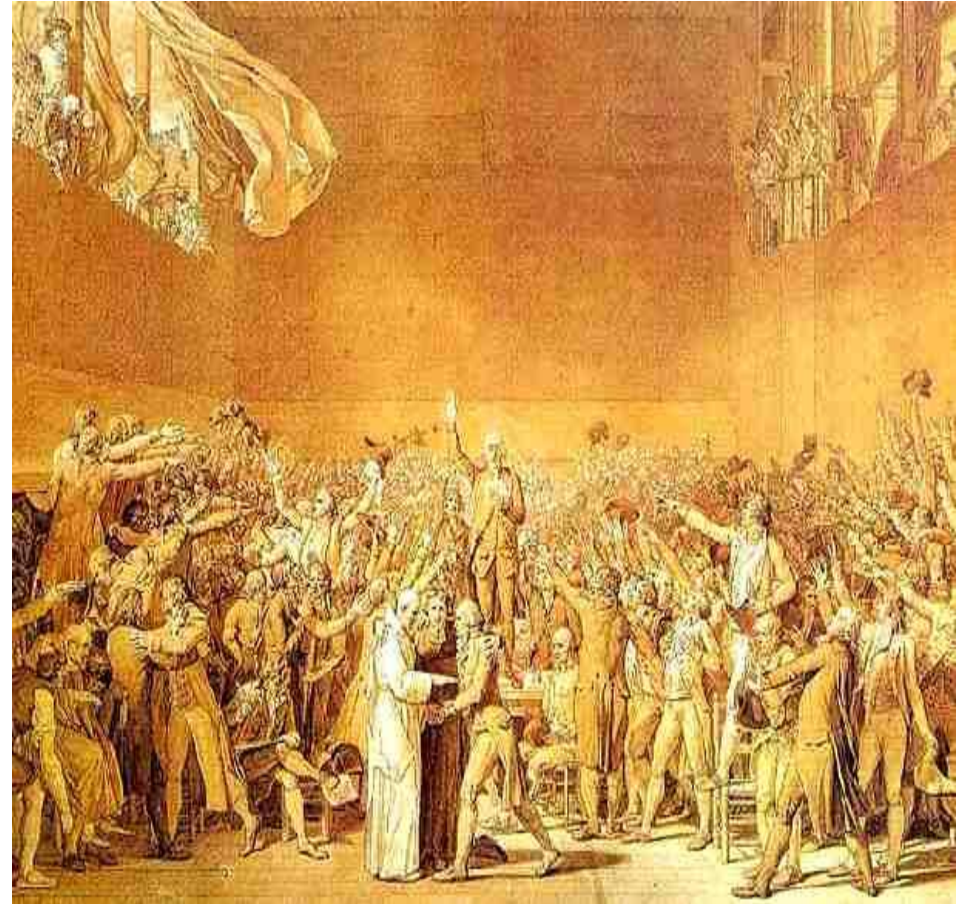
The Estates General

- A government body made up of all three estates
- Each Estate had one vote, regardless of population
- 3rd Estate saw this as unfair



The National Assembly

- Created by the 3rd Estate
- An elected body
- Wanted change in France
- Wanted fair taxes and fair representation
- Promised to write a new constitution for all of France



The Storming of the Bastille

- Working people were rioting over the cost of everyday items because they were so expensive
- They stormed a prison called Bastille of July 14, 1789
- Fighting broke out all over France
- Peasants attacked the Nobles
- The National Assembly wrote the Declaration of Rights of Man

Declaration of Rights of Man

- Written in 1789
- The National Assembly abolished the privileges of the 1st and 2nd Estate
- Used the Declaration of Independence as a model
- Says:
 - All men have natural rights
 - All male citizens are equal under the law
 - Freedom of religion
 - Promises to tax people based on what they can afford
- Slogan was ***Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity***

Constitution of 1791

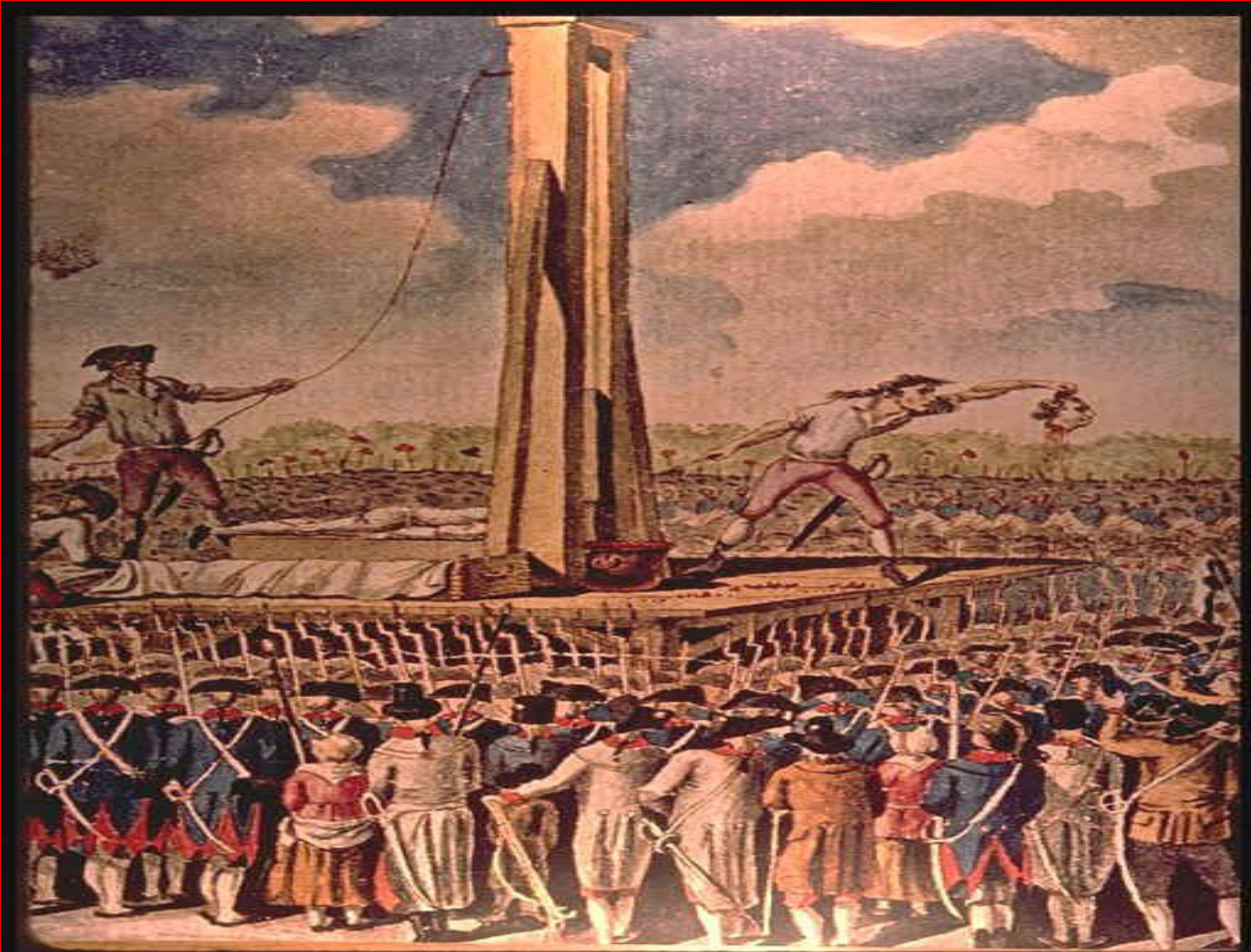
- Written by the National Assembly
- Defined the purpose of government
- Set up a **limited monarchy** and a **representative assembly**
- Said that people have natural rights and it's the governments job to protect those natural rights

Unicameral Legislature

- A one house assembly in the government
- The people were able to vote on its members
- Helps to make decisions in government



The Revolution Takes a Radical Turn

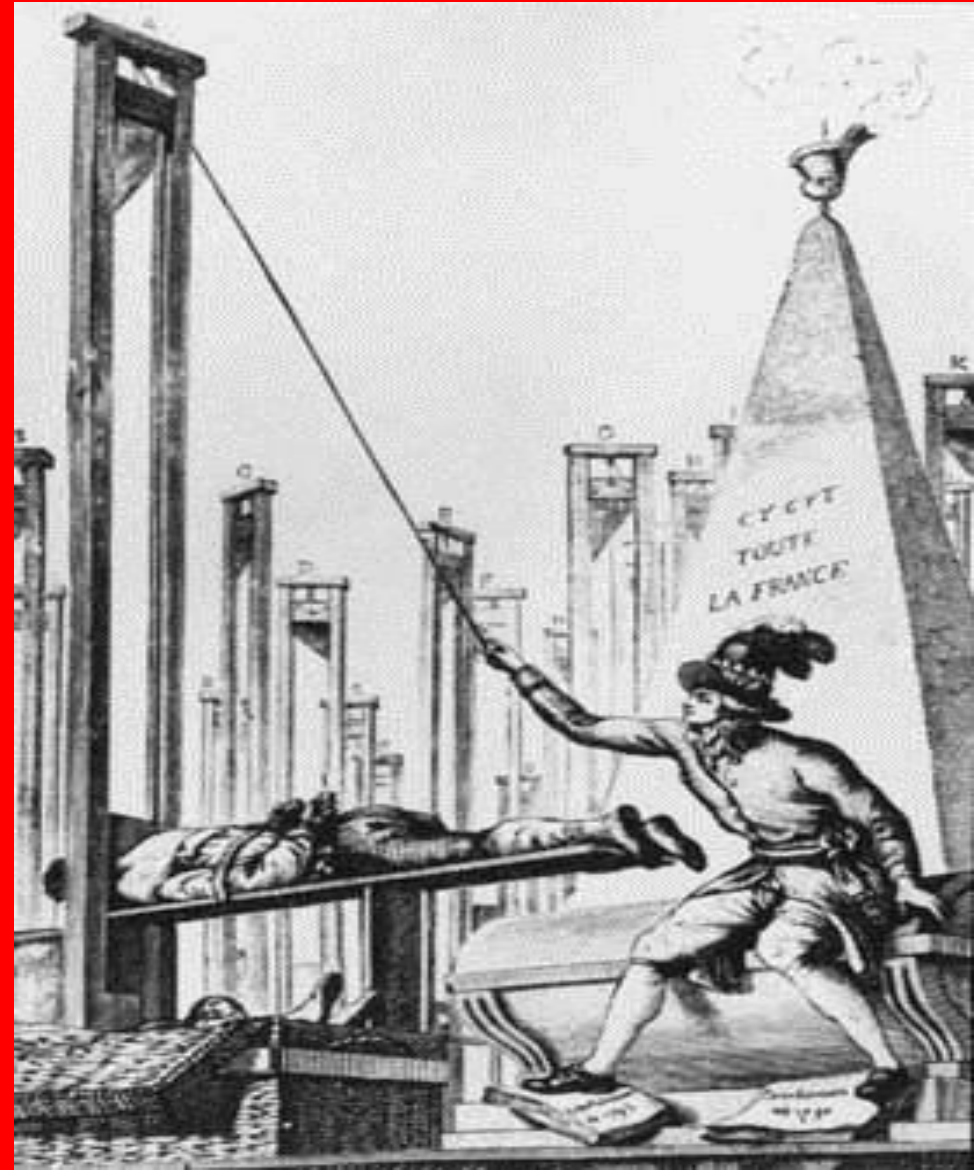


The Radical Phase: Background

- Many did not trust the king because he began as a “divine right” ruler
- Radicals gained control
- Turned France into a Republic
 - A state where the head of government is elected
- Louis XVI and his wife were executed
- The execution got the attention of the other countries of Europe

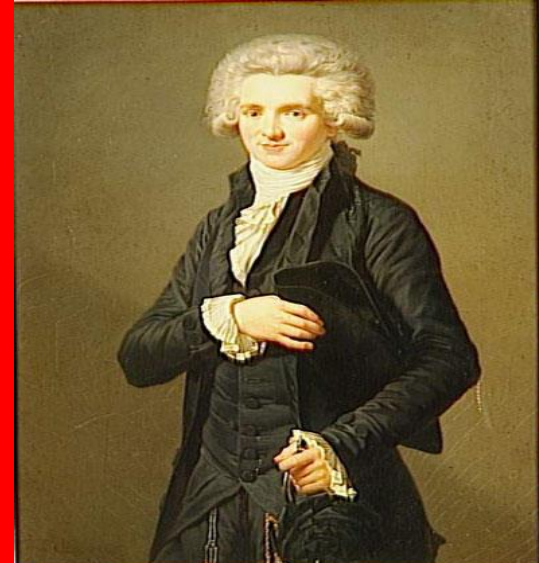
The Radical Phase: Background

- Most of Europe wanted to crush France's revolution
- In response, the government created the **“Committee of Public Safety”**
- Given broad legislative, executive, and judicial powers, the committee was led by Maximilien Robespierre



Robespierre

- **Committee of Public Safety**
 - Maximilien Robespierre
- **Reign of Terror:** save the revolution from invasion
 - Many people executed
- Threat of invasion passed, French citizens tired of violence
- Power shifted back to moderates



Napoleon Bonaparte: 1769 - 1821



Napoleon: Background Information

- Went to military school in France as a child
- One of the most gifted generals of all time



Militarism and Empire Building

- Under leadership of Napoleon, French Armies invaded Italy and defeat the Austrians and Russians
- 1799- Napoleon came to power in France
- People of France support Napoleon because they hoped he would bring stability to the region
- Napoleon tries to include the social reforms of the French Revolution

Militarism and Empire Building

- 1803- Napoleon crowns himself emperor of France
- 1805- Napoleon defeats all European powers except England
 - Tries the **continental system** to defeat England, but fails
 - England has a powerful navy and is protected by the English Canal
- Creates a French empire including most of Europe
 - Puts relatives in power in Italy, Germany, Holland, and Spain
- 1804-1814- Napoleon ruled much of Europe

The Empire of Napoleon, 1810



Achievements

- Economy
 - Controlled prices
 - Supported new industry
 - Built roads and canals
- Education
 - Established a government supervised public school system
- Napoleonic Code

Napoleonic Code

- Created stability by creating the Napoleonic Code
 - Law code that included many Enlightenment ideas
 - Promoted social equality
 - Religious toleration
 - Trial by jury

Reasons for Napoleons Fall

- **Nationalism**
 - People in conquered territories looked at Napoleon and his army as foreign oppressors
 - People across Europe revolted against French rule
- **Invasion of Russia**
 - 1812- Napoleon invades from the west, Russians retreat to the east
 - Napoleon invaded in the winter –very cold
 - Russians scorched earth policy- burning crops and villages as they retreated, left French troops hungry and cold
 - Napoleon lost the majority of his army to the winter.
- **An alliance of Russia, Britain, Austria, and Prussia defeated Napoleon**
 - Napoleon stepped down in 1814
 - Napoleon returned to power in 1815
 - Battle at Waterloo- Napoleon is defeated by the British and Prussians for the final time
 - Napoleon lived the rest of his life in exile

The Restoration of Europe

Background Information

- After Napoleon's defeat, Europe's rulers met in Vienna to redraw national boundaries

The Congress of Vienna: 1814 - 1815

- Great Britain, Russia, Austria and Prussia restored many former rulers and borders
 - Brought Europe back to the way it was before the Revolution
- Established a **Balance of Power**
 - A system where no single one country could ever become powerful enough to dominate other countries
- The Spirit of Nationalism
 - Was ignited in Europe
 - People believed that governments should represent the will of the people
 - Napoleon's conquest led to resentment against France