



AP EUROPEAN HISTORY McKay, et. al. 11e, Chapter 19 – Study Guide *Revolutions in Politics (ca 1775-1815)*

Study Guides are scored **HOLISTICALLY** using the following criteria:

- 1) Student's original scholarship only!!
- 2) Product represents pride of effort and scholarship – it must be your BEST work!
- 3) Correctness, thoroughness, and thoughtfulness of responses.
- 4) **TIMELINE** must be comprehensively completed.

“It is the height of stupidity to claim that men who for a thousand years have had the power to berate us, to fleece us and to oppress us with impunity, will now agree, with good grace, to be our equals.”

Jean-Paul Marat

CHAPTER SUMMARY

The French and American revolutions were the most important political events of the eighteenth century. They were also a dramatic conclusion to the Enlightenment, and both revolutions, taken together, form a major turning point in human history. This chapter explains what these great revolutions were all about.

The chapter begins by describing classical liberalism, the fundamental ideology of the revolution in politics. Liberalism, which had deep roots, called for freedom and equality at a time when monarchs and aristocrats took their great privileges for granted. The immediate cause of the American Revolution, the British effort to solve the problem of war debts, was turned into a political struggle by the American colonists, who already had achieved considerable economic and personal freedom. The American Revolution stimulated reform efforts throughout Europe.

It was in France that the ideas of the Enlightenment and liberalism were put to their fullest test. The bankruptcy of the state gave the French aristocracy the chance to grab power from a weak king. This move backfired, however, because the middle class grabbed even harder. It is significant that the revolutionary desires of the middle class depended on the firm support and violent action of aroused peasants and poor urban workers. It was this action of the common people that gave the revolution its driving force.

In the first two years of the French Revolution, the middle class, with its allies from the peasantry and urban poor, achieved unprecedented reforms. The outbreak of an all-European war against France in 1792 then resulted in a reign of terror and a dictatorship by radical moralists, of whom Robespierre was the greatest. By 1795, this radical patriotism wore itself out. The revolutionary momentum slowed, and the Revolution deteriorated into a military dictatorship under the opportunist Napoleon. Yet, until 1815 the history of France was that of war, and that war spread liberalism to the rest of Europe. French conquests also stimulated nationalism. The world of politics was turned upside down.

BACKGROUND TO REVOLUTION (19.1)

Before you read:

-1760

-1770

-1780

-1790

-1815

1. Locke and Montesquieu were instrumental in the calls for “liberty and equality”.
True or False or I don’t know

Terms to know:

Bourgeoisie

Seven Years’ War

While you read:

1. What social changes were taking place that changed what was seen as “elite”?
2. Describe the differences in how liberals viewed “Equality”.
3. How did **Locke** and **Montesquieu** influence thinking at this time?

After you read:

1. Which of the following was not a theater for the 7 Years’ War?
A) Europe
B) North America
C) SE Asia
D) India

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY ERA (19.2)

Before you read:

1. The Constitution of the new United States represents the liberal ideas of the time.
True or False or I don’t know

Terms to know:

Stamp Tax

First Continental Congress

Second Continental Congress

While you read:

1. Did the Americans or the British have the better argument with regard to the taxation problem?

2. Explain the effect Thomas Paine's "*Common Sense*" had on the colonies.

After you read:

1. Who became one of George Washington's most trusted generals and a leader in the French Revolution?

- A) Rene de Maupeou
- B) Thomas Paine
- C) The abbe Emmanuel Joseph Sieyes
- D) The marquis de Lafayette

REVOLUTION IN FRANCE (19.3)

Before you read:



What do you know about the French Revolution? How does this image represent what you know?

Terms to know:

Estates General

National Assembly

Tennis Court Oath

Bastille- July 14, 1789

Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen

Declaration of the Rights of Women

Assignats

While you read:

- 1- Describe the three estates of France. Who paid the taxes? Who held the wealth and power in France?

- 2- What were the reforms of the National Assembly?

3. Describe “**The Great Fear**”, 1789. What caused it and what were the consequences?

4. How did the French Revolution deal with Women and Religion?

After you read:

1. How did preparations for the meeting of the **Estates General** affect the political environment?
 - A) The prospect for reforms eased political tensions for several months, until after the elections were held
 - B) The parlements’ role in resisting the monarchy gave most people great confidence in the leadership of the nobility during the reform process.
 - C) Delegates in each electoral district prepared lists of grievances, which galvanized demands for reform
 - D) The decision to hold the Estates General meeting at Versailles rather than in Paris encouraged most French people that the reform process was being pursued seriously.

2. The Declaration of Rights of Man and of the Citizen represented
 - A) The radical revolutionary ideal
 - B) The liberal revolutionary ideal
 - C) The moderate revolutionary ideal
 - D) Conservative acceptance of the Revolution

3. The king responded to the Oath of the Tennis Court in all the following ways *except*?
 - A) He promised to revoke noble and clerical privileges
 - B) He made a conciliatory speech to the Estates General urging reform
 - C) He asserted his divine right to rule and dismissed his more liberal ministers
 - D) He called eighteen thousand troops toward Paris

Primary Source – Abbe Sieyes, *What is the Third Estate* (19.2)

- 1- What does Sieyes think about “noble privileges”? Why does he believe nobles are “foreign” to the nation?

- 2- How does Sieyes define the nation, why does he believe that the third estate constitutes the nation?

WORLD WAR AND REPUBLICAN FRANCE (19.4)

Before you read:

1. The French Revolution was finally stopped when Napoleon killed the leaders.
True or False or I don’t know

Terms to know:

Declaration of Pillnitz

Jacobins

Girondists

San-culottes

Committee of Public Safety

Vendee

Thermidorian Reaction

While you read:

- 1- Why did the Revolution turn into war in 1792?

- 2- Who were the sans-culottes? Why were they important to radical leaders such as Robespierre? What role did the common people play in the Revolution?

- 3- How was the French Republic able to defeat the First Coalition?

After you read:

1. In *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, Edmund Burke
 - A) Criticized the French monarchy and nobility for seeking to sustain privileges that had no basis in enlightened reason
 - B) Argued that the principal problem with France was its commitment to Catholicism and urged religious reforms that would lead to the adoption of Protestant ideas and practices.

- C) Claimed that the French Revolution, like the American Revolution, signaled a basic human desire for freedom
- D) Defended inherited privileges and predicted that reform such as that occurring in France would lead to chaos and tyranny

2. How did the Mountain outmaneuver the Girondists in 1793?

- A) The Mountain gained broad support across the nation by promising local communities greater control over their own affairs.
- B) By promising to implement free trade policies, the Mountain gained the support of merchants, who in turn loaned large sums to the Mountain to secure the state's credit.
- C) The Mountain joined with san-culottes activists to engineer a popular rebellion in which armed san-culottes forced the arrest of twenty-nine Girondist deputies.
- D) The Mountain convinced military leaders that the Girondists were responsible for the poor showing by French troops in their collaboration with foreign forces.

Living in the Past – “A Revolution of Culture and Daily Life” (19.4)

1- Why did revolutionaries believe it was necessary to create a new calendar?

2- What values of the Revolution do the new festivals seem to emphasize?

THE NAPOLEONIC ERA (19.5)

Before you read:



What do you know about Napoleon? What does this image tell you about the ruler?

Terms to know

“Confidence from below, authority from above”

Napoleonic Code

Battle of Trafalgar

Grand Empire

Continental System

While you read:

- 1- Describe the domestic reforms of Napoleon and their success.
- 2- Explain how the invasion of Russia was a poor decision for Napoleon.
- 3- Describe how the restoration of the Bourbon dynasty affected France.

After you read:

1. The impact of Napoleon's Grand Empire on the peoples of Europe included all of the following consequences *except*
 - A) Feudal dues and serfdom were abolished, which benefited some of the peasants and middle class.
 - B) French rule sparked the emergence of a patriotic nationalism in many lands.
 - C) France came to be regarded as a benevolent liberating force
 - D) France came to be regarded as a conquering, tyrannical regime

Primary Source - Napoleon's Proclamation to the French People (19.5)

1. How does Napoleon justify his actions, and the dismissal of the existing legislature of France?
2. How does this document illustrate Napoleon's recurrent tactic of presenting his actions as a means to preserve, not destroy, the Revolution and its achievements?

THE HAITIAN REVOLUTION (19.6)

While you read:

- 1- Describe the way the revolution progressed in Haiti. Were the issues the same as they were in France?

After you read:

- 1- The efforts of the French to retain control of Saint-Domingue turned in their favor when

- a- The British fleet was detained by poor weather and thus was prevented from providing supplies and reinforcements to the British troops in Saint-Dominique.
- b- The slave armies exhausted their supplies and their enthusiasm following several brutal defeats at the hands of the French troops.
- c- The French colonial planters determined that their only hope to retain their plantations was to support the French colonial government
- d- Toussaint L'Ouverture joined the French cause, bringing his military and political skills along with his four thousand well-trained soldiers

FREE RESPONSE ESSAY PROMPT

Write an introductory paragraph which includes an original thesis to the following prompt:

“The essential cause of the French Revolution was the collision between a powerful rising bourgeoisie and an entrenched aristocracy defending its privileges”

Assess the validity of this statement as an explanation of the events leading up to the French Revolution of 1789.