

# MINIMUM KNOWLEDGE

Revolutions may occur when a society experiences social, economic, political and/or intellectual unrest.

- A. The SOCIAL conditions of eighteenth century France grew from a medieval structure.
1. Why were two classes privileged and two classes without privilege?
  2. How did the middle-class bourgeoisie become wealthier than the privileged noble?
  3. How was the peasant locked into a social structure?
- B. In 1789, the French ECONOMY was burdened with a bankrupt government, a tax structure unfair to many people, and a series of bad harvests that caused a depression.
4. Why was the peasant so heavily taxed?
  5. What were the taille, corvee, gabelle, feudal duties, and lettres de cachet?
  6. By 1789 France was the wealthiest commercial power in Europe. Why was the government bankrupt?
- C. The French POLITICAL structure since the reign of Louis XIV remained a Divine Right Monarchy.
7. Explain the difference between a divine right monarch and an enlightened despot.
  8. Why had the Estates-General not met for 175 years?
  9. What were the parlements?
  10. Why did the nobles, the bourgeoisie, and the peasants each want the Estates-General called?
  11. How did the behavior and personal qualities of Louis XVI affect the constitutional monarchy?
  12. How and why did the National Assembly form? What were some of its accomplishments?
- D. The INTELLECTUAL movement preceding the revolution was called the Enlightenment or the Age of Reason.
13. What were the ideas of John Locke, Voltaire, Rousseau, Diderot? How did their ideas encourage a change from the Old Regime?
  14. What effect did the American and English Revolutions have on the people of France?
  15. What was the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen?
- E. As the revolution gained strength, many of the nobles were active in a COUNTER-REVOLUTION.
16. Why did France declare war on Austria, Holland, England?
  17. Was the king involved in counter-revolutionary activities?
  18. How did the Reign of Terror "happen?"
  19. What ended the Reign of Terror?
- F. Show your understanding of the French Revolution by correctly identifying the following concepts and events.
20. What is the meaning of: Radical, Liberal, Moderate, Conservative, Reactionary
  21. Put the following events in chronological order:
    - Calling of the Estates-General
    - National Convention
    - Declaration of the Rights of Man
    - Committee of Public Safety
    - Reign of Terror
    - Tennis Court Oath
    - September Massacres
    - Constitution of 1791
    - Civil Constitution of the Clergy
    - National Assembly
    - Bastille Day
    - Constitution of the Year III
    - Directory