

Ch - I

French Revolution

Q1. Why does Louis XVI called the Estate General?

Ans As treasury was empty and King Louis needed money day to day expenses

~~Louis~~ Kingdom was forced to increase taxes.

In France of the Old Regime, King did not have the power to impose taxes according to his will alone he had to call a meeting of the Estates General which would pass his proposal for new taxes.

Q2. What was Estates General?

Ans It was a Political body to which the 3 Estates sent their representatives last time it was done in 1614.

Q3. Why Third Estate walked out of Assembly?

Ans Voting in the Estate General in the past had been conducted according to the principle that each estate had one vote. Louis XVI followed this formula but III Estate demanded the voting now be conducted each member would have one vote inspired by the thinkers like Rousseau but being rejected their proposal. So they walked out of the Assembly to protest.

Q4. Write in Brief

1) Mirabeau

2) Abbe Sieyes

Ans Mirabeau - He was born in noble family but was convinced of the need to do

away with a society of feudal privilege:

Able Sieyès: He was originally priest

wrote an influential pamphlet called 'What is III Estate?' French Revolutionaries

was inspired by Mirabeau and Able

Sieyès.

Qs. Who gave recognition to the National Assembly? Why?

Ans Faced with the power of revolting subjects Louis XVI finally gave recognition to the National Assembly and accepted that his power would be from now on be checked by the Constitution.

On the Night of 4 August 1789, the assembly passed a decree abolished the feudal system of obligations and taxes. Members of the clergy

was forced to give up their privileges.

Tithes were abolished and owned by the church were confiscated. Thus Government acquired assets worth 2 billion livres.

Q6. How France became a constitutional monarchy?

Ans. The main object of National Assembly was to limit the powers of the monarch. The power was divided ~~into~~ different institutions - legislative, Executive and judiciary. They made France constitutional monarchy.

Q7. What were active citizens and passive citizens?

Ans. The constitution of 1791 vested the power ^{to make laws} ~~to~~ the National Assembly which was indirectly elected. Citizens voted for electors who turn to choose National Assembly.

Only men above 25 years of Age
 who paid taxes equal to at least 3 days
 of labourer's wage, was given status
 to Active Citizen. Remaining men and
 women were passive Citizens.

To qualify electors and Members of National
 Assembly, a man had to belong to
 the highest bracket of tax payers.

Q8. What is marcellais?

Ans. Marseillaise is National Anthem of France.
 France. It was composed by Rouget-de-Lille.
 It was sung for the first time by
 volunteers from Marseilles as they
 marched into Paris during French Revolution.

Q9. Write Short note on Lacation Club.

Ans. The most successful ref. the club was that

In complete work

Page No.	
Date	

of Jacobian club. It got its name from the former convent of St Jacob in Paris.

★ The members of the Jacobian club belonged to the less prosperous section of Society

★ They included small shopkeepers, shoemakers, watch makers, servants and daily wage workers.

★ Their leader was Maximilian Robespierre

★ They wore long-stripped trousers like stock markers

Q10. Who, when ascended throne of France?

Ans In 1774, Louis XVI of Bourbon family.

ascended the throne of France. He married the Austrian Princess Marie Antoinette

found

Q 11. Why King Louis ~~found~~ an Empty treasury?

Ans Due to wars the ^{inherited} financial resources of France has been drained. They also helped American colonies to gain their independence from Britain.

He was added billions of debt to the France amounting upto billions of livres. The loan lenders started charging 10% ~~off~~ interest on loan.

Q 12. Why King Louis XVI wanted to increase tax?

Ans The treasury was totally Empty, He needed money due to following reasons :-

- To meet the war Expenses
- To repay the loan with high interest Rate
- To maintain army, court, running

Government officials and universities, king was forced to increase taxes.

Q13. Why there was struggle in France to survive in 1789.

Ans The population of France rose from about 23 million in 1715 to 28 million in 1789.

- Production of grains could not keep pace with the demand.
- So the price of bread rose rapidly.
- The wages of workers did not increase.
- So the Gap between the poor and rich widened.
- Situation became worse when drought and hail reduced ~~to~~ the harvest. This leads the Subsistence crisis.

Q14. Name the philosophers and thinkers who inspired the people for revolution.

Ans. The merchants, manufacturers, lawyers and administrative officers were all educated and believed that no group should be privileged by birth.

These ideas were put forward by philosophers and thinkers.

John Locke: In his two treatises of Government Locke sought to refute the doctrine of Divine and absolute right of Monarch.

Rousseau: Carried the idea forward by proposing a form of Government based on Social Contract between people and their representatives.

Montesquieu: proposed through his book The Spirit of the Laws - a division of power

nothing Government between legislative,

Executive and Judiciary-

Conclusion

The idea of these philosophers were discussed in salons and their idea spread through newspaper and magazines/books

Q15. What do you mean by 'Republic' When France became Republic?

Ans In the summer of 1792 Jacobins wanted the revolt and they were angered by short supplies and high prices of food. On the morning of August 10 they stormed the palace of the Tuileries, massacred the King's guard and held the King himself as hostage.

1. Elections were held. All men of 21 years and above regardless of wealth got the right to vote.

2. The newly elected policy was called Convention. On 21 September 1792 it abolished Monarchy and declared France a Republic.

A Republic is a form of Government where people elect the Government ~~and~~ including the head of Government. There is no hereditary Monarchy.

Q16. Write a short note on the Reign of Terror.

Ans. After the execution of Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette, Robespierre's followed the policy of severe control and punishment, during 1793-1794 this period is referred as the reign of terror.

All those whom he saw as being enemies of the Republic - Ex nobels
Clergy
Members of
other political parties.

His party members
who did not agree with his methods were arrested
imprisoned, tried by revolutionary tribunal

• If the court found them guilty they guillotine.

Q17. What is guillotine?

Ans It is a device consisting two plates and
blade with which a person is beheaded.

It was named after Dr. Guillotin who
invented it.

Q18. Write some laws issued by Robespierre.

Ans The laws issued by Robespierre.

1. placing maximum ceiling on wages and prices
2. Meat and bread were rationed.
3. Peasants were forced to sell their grain

at prices fixed by Government.

4) Excessive white flour was forbidden.

5) Citizens were required to eat Pain-egalite (equality bread), a loaf of whole wheat.

6) Instead of the traditional Monsieur (sir) and Madame (Madam), all French people Citizen and Citizenn.

Q 19. How you would explain the rise of Napoleon?

Ans: The fall of Jacobin Government allowed the wealthier middle classes to seize power.

2. A new constitution denied the vote to non-propertied sections of society.

3. It provided for two elected legislative Councils were appointed directory - an executive made up of 5 members.

4. But the directory often clashed with legislators who then sought to dismiss them.

5. The political instability of Directory gave the way for the Rise of Military dictator Napoleon Bonaparte.

Q20. Why French women founded their own Political clubs and newspapers.

Ans 1. In order to discuss and vote their interests women started their own clubs and newspapers.

2. About 60 women's clubs came up in French cities.

3. Society of Revolutionaries.

Republic women. were not famous clubs.

4. The main demand was women- they enjoy the same political rights as men.

5. As they were disappointed that the Constitution of 1791 reduced them passive citizen.

6. As they were disappointed that the Constitution of 1791 reduced them passive citizen.

7. They demanded the right to vote to be elected National Assembly and to hold political office.

Q21. What was Slave Trade?

Ans 1. The colonies in the Caribbean were important suppliers of commodities such as tobacco, Indigo, sugar, coffee.

2. But Europeans did not want to go unfamiliar land to work.

3. It led a shortage of labour as plantations

4. This was made by a triangular, slave trade between Africa, America, Europe.
5. The slave trade began in 17th Century.
6. French Merchants sailed from Port of Bordeaux and Nantes to the African Coast.
7. The bought slaves from chief branded and shackled, they were packed tightly to ship. Brought to Caribbean, sold to plantation.
8. The exploitation of slaves made it possible to meet the demand of European nations for sugar, coffee, indigo.
9. Bordeaux and Nantes became prosperous due to slave trade.