

29-Crash Course World History Video Notes The French Revolution

1. France in the 18th century was a rich and populous country, but it had a systemic problem collecting _____ because of the way its society was structured. They had a system with kings and nobles we now call the _____ regime; where the people with the money—the nobles and the clergy—never paid taxes.
2. By 1789, France was deeply in debt thanks to their funding the _____ Revolution and the extravagant lifestyle of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette.
3. This nicely coincided with hailstorms that ruined a year's _____, thereby raising food prices and causing widespread hunger.
4. So basically the peasants were hungry, the intellectuals were beginning to wonder whether God could or should save the King, and the nobility were dithering about, and failing to make meaningful _____.
5. In response to the crisis, Louis XVI called a meeting of the _____, the closest thing that France had to a national parliament, which hadn't met since 1614.
6. The Estates General was like a super parliament made up of representatives from the First Estate, the _____, the Second Estate, the _____, and the Third Estate, _____.
7. Disagreement developed and the Third Estate left and declared itself the _____. They later met in an indoor tennis court where they swore the famous Tennis Court Oath; agreeing not to give up until a French _____ was established.
8. Louis XVI responded by sending troops to Paris primarily to quell uprisings over food shortages, but the revolutionaries saw this as a provocation, so they responded by seizing the _____ Prison on July 14th.
9. The really radical move in the National Assembly came on August 4, when they abolished most of the ancien regime-- _____ rights, tithes, privileges for _____, unequal taxation; they were all abolished --in the name of writing a new constitution.
10. On August 26th, the National Assembly proclaimed the _____ of Man and Citizen, which laid out a system of rights that applied to every person, and made those rights integral to the new constitution.
11. In October of 1789, a rumor started that Marie Antoinette was hoarding _____ somewhere inside the palace of Versailles; and in what became known as the _____, a bunch of armed peasant women stormed the palace and demanded that Louis and Marie Antoinette move from Versailles to Paris.
12. This is a nice reminder that to many people at the time, the French Revolution was not primarily about fancy _____ ideas; it was mostly about lack of _____ and a political system that made economic contractions hardest on the poor.
13. The most radical wing, of the French legislature, the Jacobins, called for the creation of a _____.
14. Meanwhile, France's monarchical neighbors were getting a little nervous about all this republic business, so Leopold II of _____, Marie Antoinette's brother and King William Frederick II of _____ together issued the Declaration of Pilnitz, which promised to restore the French monarchy.
15. Louis XVI encouraged the Prussians, which made him look like an enemy of the revolution, which, of course, he was. And as a result, the Assembly voted to suspend the _____, have new elections in which everyone could vote and create a new republican constitution.

16. Soon, this Convention decided to have a trial for Louis XVI, who was found guilty and, by _____, sentenced to die via guillotine.
17. Dr. Joseph Guillotine, the inventor of the guillotine, envisioned it as an egalitarian way of dying. They said the guillotine was _____ and it also made no distinction between rich or poor, noble or peasant. It killed _____.
18. The death of Louis XVI marks the beginning of The _____, the best known or at least the most sensational phase of the revolution; the government was under the leadership of the Committee of Public Safety led by Maximilien _____.
19. The Committee of Public Safety changed the measurements of _____ because the traditional measurements are so irrational and religion-y. So they renamed all the months and decided that every day would have 10 hours and each hour 100 minutes.
20. After the Terror, the revolution pulled back a bit and another new _____ was put into place.
21. At this point, France was still at war with _____ and _____, wars that France ended up winning, largely thanks to a little corporal named _____ Bonaparte.
22. In 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte led a coup d'état which established him as the _____ of France.
23. As with the American Revolution, it's easy to conclude that France's revolution wasn't all that revolutionary. Napoleon was basically an _____ and, in some ways, he was even more of an absolute monarch than Louis XVI had been.
24. Gradually the _____ came back to France, although they had mostly lost their special privileges. The _____ returned, too, although much weaker because it had lost land and the ability to collect tithes.
25. When Napoleon himself fell, France restored the _____, these were no longer absolute monarchs who claimed that their right to rule came from God; they were _____ monarchs of the kind that the revolutionaries of 1789 had originally envisioned.
26. Some argue the revolution succeeded in spreading _____ ideals even if it didn't bring democracy to France.
27. I'd (Mr. Green) argue that the French Revolution was ultimately far more revolutionary than its American counterpart. America never had an _____, and the American Revolution did nothing to change that polarization of wealth. What made the French Revolution so radical was its insistence on the _____ of its ideals.