



The French Revolution

*"Is it a revolt?" asked Louis XVI. The duke replied:
"No sire, it is a revolution."*

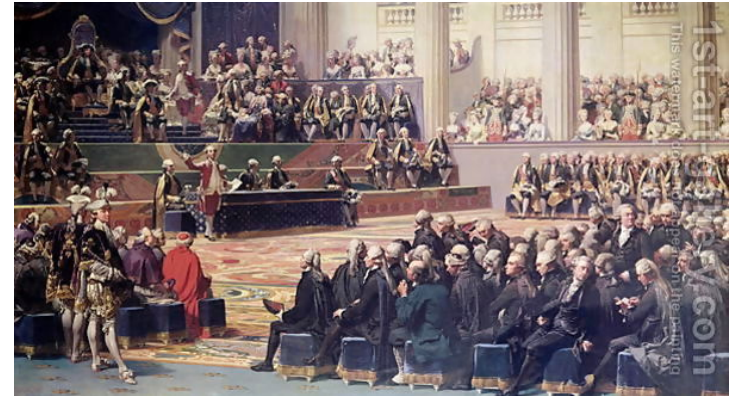
Before the Revolution...

- France needed \$\$\$\$!!!
 - Country in MAJOR debt
 - King Louis XVI added to debt by helping in American Rev.
- France had an unequal society:
 - 1st Estate = clergy (church)
 - 2nd Estate = nobility (rich)
 - 3rd Estate = everyone else (mostly poor)



How it Started

- #1: the King called the Estates General (meeting of 3 estates)
 - Each estate only gets 1 vote
- #2: the 3rd estate made the National Assembly
- #3: the 3rd estate made the Tennis Court Oath
 - Promises to write a new constitution

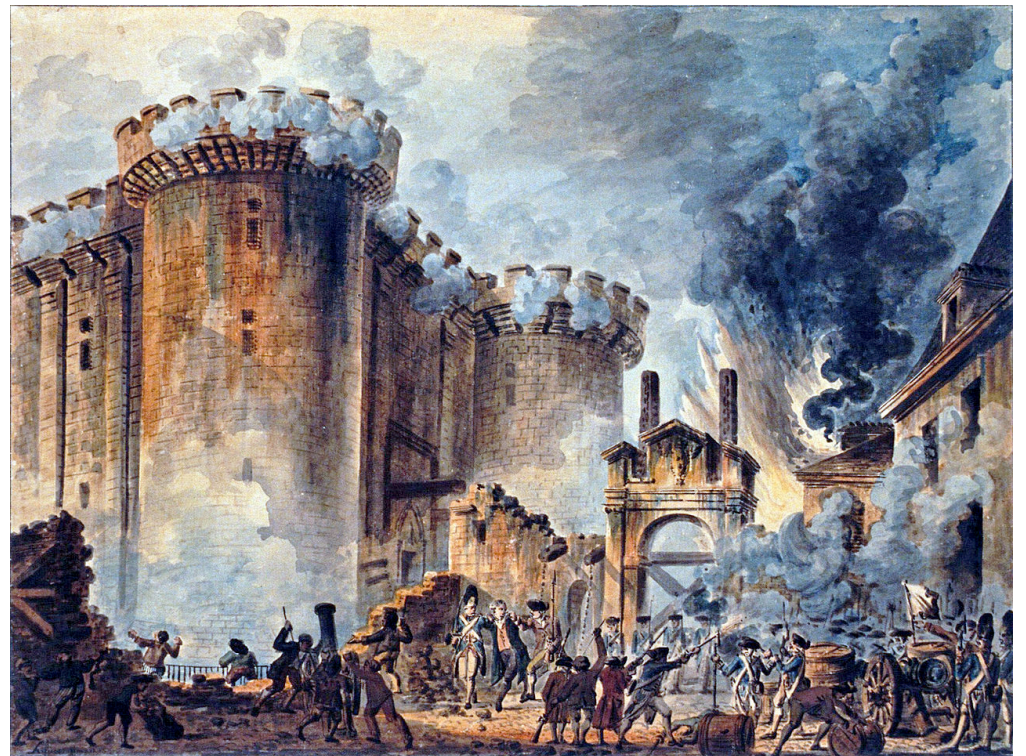


Quick Summary

- At your tables, answer the following questions. Write your responses on your notes under “Quick Summary”:
 1. How was France’s society divided? Why was this unfair?
 2. What was the National Assembly? Why was it made?
 3. What was the purpose of the Tennis Court Oath?

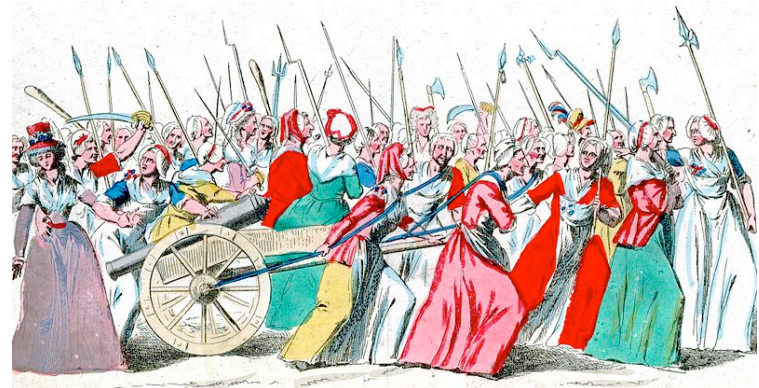
It is a Revolution!

- (July 1789) Storming of the Bastille
 - Rumors spread that guards were coming to Paris
 - People break into the prison for weapons
 - Sparks the revolution!



Chaos Continues!

- (Oct 1789) March on Versailles
 - Women upset with food shortages
 - 7,000 march to king's palace
 - King, queen taken prisoner
- (1791) Constitution created
 - King's power limited
 - Must follow the constitution
 - FAILURE! King is unwilling to share power



Reign of Terror & The Directory

- (1793 – 94) Reign of Terror
 - Led by Robespierre
 - Kills counterrevolutionaries
 - Beheads King and queen
- The Directory
 - Robespierre is killed
 - New govt. controlled by 5 directors who share power



Exit Ticket

- On a piece of binder paper, write a paragraph that answers the following questions:
 - Why did the French Revolution happen?
 - What was an event that occurred during the revolution?
 - How is the revolution different from the American Revolution?