

Aim: How did the French Revolution begin?

I. American Revolution

1. Enlightenment ideas sparked the Revolution
2. Men had inalienable rights (Can not be surrendered)
3. Helped spark the French Revolution

II. French Society

1. France made up into 3 estates
2. First Estate: Clergy
3. They owned 10-15% of the land
4. Second Estate: Nobles
5. Highest positions in gov't, church and army
6. Third Estate: Peasants, middle class, bourgeoisie, artisans, and merchants
7. Made up 98% of population

III. Causes of the French Revolution

1. 1789 France was Bankrupt
2. Could no longer pay their debts
3. Clergy, nobles, universities, did not pay taxes
4. Third estate paid all the taxes
5. Kings: deficit spending
6. Low wages
7. High prices
8. Deficit Spending
9. Wars: 7-years War AKA, French and Indian War 1754-1763
10. France gave GB Canada and Land East of the Mississippi
11. American Revolution also expensive

IV Women

1. 1789 could not feed their families
2. Marched on Paris
3. 6 thousand women took Louis XVI and family hostage
4. They did this to help food crisis

V. Storming of the Bastille

1. July 14, 1789
2. People despised the Bastille
3. It was a symbol of beatings and torture
4. Peasant's mob surrounded Bastille
5. Plan was to steal weapons (cannons, muskets) for protection
6. Eventually took control of Bastille
7. The Bastille surrenders; the head of the Bastille was killed
8. Started the French Revolution