Causes of the French Revolution

- The wars and debt of Louis XIV and poor rule of Louis XVI •
- inequalities in the tax structure
- Third Estate paid ALL the taxes, First and Second paid no taxes •
- inspired other peoples seeking democracy and independence (Latin American Rev's) •

**GIII-** The French Revolution

Robespierre and the Reign of Terror

- After a few years of an unstable gov't the radical Jacobin Club comes to power
- Robespierre started Reign of Terror = purged and violently killed his opponents (anti-revolutionaries) •
- Reign of Terror ended Robespierre's death •

## Napoleon

- Nationalist leader that provided stability for the nation
- Ended the French Rev and started the Age of Napoleon
- Expanded the French Empire (1799-1815) with the Wars of Napoleon
- Finally defeated in Russia because of the severe winters and large size
- The loss at the Battle of Waterloo ended the Age of Napoleon
- Followed by the Congress of Vienna

## **Sample Questions**

1. The American and French Revolutions were turning points in history because these revolutions

(1) led to the abolition of slavery

(2) inspired other peoples seeking democracy and independence

- (3) marked the end of European influence in the Western Hemisphere
- (4) demonstrated the need for strong international peacekeeping organizations

2. What was a major cause of the French Revolution?

- (1) inequalities in the tax structure
- (3) failure of the Congress of Vienna
- (2) economic success of mercantilism
- (4) Continental System in Europe

3. One way in which Maximilien Robespierre, Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, and Saddam Hussein are similar is that these leaders all

(1) purged their nations of political opponents (3) supported the ideals of the European Enlightenment

(2) followed the teachings of Karl Marx (4) obtained their goals through the use of passive resistance

4. One similarity between the Reign of Terror during the French Revolution and the Cultural Revolution in China was that both

(1) limited the power of absolute leaders

(2) illustrated the power of public opinion in forming national policy

(3) established social stability and economic growth

(4) used violent methods to eliminate their opponents

5. Which factors helped cause the defeat of Napoleon during his invasion of Russia?

(1) the severe winters and large size of Russia

- (2) the many rivers and mountains of Russia
- (3) the alliance between the Russia and democratic leaders
- (4) the well-trained and well-supplied Russian army

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6. The French people supported Napoleon Bonaparte because they hoped he would

(1) adopt the ideas of the Protestant Reformation(2) restore Louis XVI to power

- (3) provide stability for the nation
- (4) end British control of France

7. Which factors protected Russia from control by Napoleon's army?

- (1) religious and cultural similarities
- (2) industrialization and modernization
- (3) geographic size and location
- (4) political and economic instability

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