

Teacher's Guide for CALLIOPE: The French Revolution

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“The Oath of the Tennis Court” p. 4-5

The Tennis Court Oath is significant because it opened the door to “the present era of democratic politics”. What events led up to this historic oath and what did the members of the National Assembly vow to one another as they met at the indoor tennis court during the meeting of the Estates-General?

“2 Extraordinary Episodes” p. 6-9

Create a collage!

Materials needed:

Poster board

Scissors

Glue

Divide students into groups of four.

Have each group draw a line down the middle of the poster board. One side should be labeled “The Storming of the Bastille” and the other “The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen”. Students should use magazines and/or go online to find pictures, quotes, and symbols that represent the significance of each of these historic events.

Upon completing the collage, each group should present its poster to the rest of the class with an explanation of how the collage represents why each of these events is significant.

“Betrayal” p. 10-11

You are to imagine that you are either Louis XVI or Marie Antoinette and that you have made your plans to flee Paris and escape to Austria. Write a one page journal/diary entry explaining why it is you have decided to flee. What are your thoughts? Do you see yourself as betraying your people or do you fear for your own safety? Have you considered working with the people of France to build a future?

“The Revolution of August 10, 1792” p. 12- 16

1. What occurred on August 10, 1792?
2. What led the French to believe that the King and Queen were unpatriotic?
3. Why did many demand the overthrow of the king?
4. What was the Commune and what did it do?
5. Why has the Revolution of August 10 been described as the “second revolution”?

“A King on Trial” p. 18-20

Debate.

Create two groups of five students each and a third group of the remaining students in the class. The two groups of five will debate whether or not Louis XVI should have been tried for and ultimately accused of treason. Have one group argue that he should have and the other that he should not have. The jury is to take notes and weigh the arguments of each side and ultimately declare a winner.

“The Terror” p. 24-27 and “Popular Politics and the Sans-Culottes” p. 28-30

There were a variety of reasons as to why the French government decided to resort to terror at this point. In an essay, please answer the following questions and use evidence from the above articles to support your thesis.

In what ways did the Terror contradict the principles of the French Revolution and in what ways did it further democratic ideals?

“The Emigration” p. 32-33

1. How many people fled France during the Emigration?
2. Where did these people go and for how long would they stay before returning to France?
3. Did the émigrés assimilate into their new cultures? Explain.

“The Revolution Spreads” p. 34-36

Mark the following statements true or false.

1. _____ Under the old order, a king had absolute power.
2. _____ The Roman Catholic position lost its position the official religion of France as a result of the Revolution.
3. _____ Though the ideals of the French Revolution were powerful, they did not spread beyond France.
4. _____ The French introduced a written constitution and a merit-based civil service system as a result of the Revolution.
5. _____ Feudalism remained powerful in France long after the French Revolution ended.
6. _____ The civil code emphasized indicial citizen’s rights.