

14—The Age of Revolutions: American, French and Latin American

AKS:

analyze the Age of Revolutions and Rebellions (GPS) (SSWH_G2007-43)

Indicators of Achievement:

43a - identify the causes and results of the revolutions in England (1689), United States (1776), France (1789), Haiti (1791), and Latin America (1808-1825), 43b - explain Napoleon's rise to power, defeat, and consequences for Europe

1775-1781	American Revolution
1789-1799	French Revolution
1799-1815	Napoleon's rule
1810-1826	Latin American Revolutions

The American Revolution:

- Inspired by the ideas of the European Enlightenment.
- Great Britain's King George III ruled the American colonies.
- The 13 colonies paid taxes to England but had no representation in Parliament.
- Colonists were angry.
- They wrote the Declaration of Independence to break ties with Great Britain.
- George Washington led the American troops to victory.
- Influenced the French Revolution.

The French Revolution:

Key Terms:

- Old Regime- social and political system in ancient France prior to the French Revolution
- Estates – social classes in pre-revolutionary France
- First Estate- Clergy, under 1% of the French population, paid few taxes and higher clergy had large income.
- Second Estate- Nobility, under 2% of the French population, paid few taxes, enjoyed many privileges.
- Third Estate- everyone else (bourgeoisie, sans-culottes, peasants), over 97% of the French population, had the least amount of wealth but paid the majority of the taxes.
- Estates General- an assembly of representatives from all three estates
- National Assembly- French congress established by representatives of the Third Estate to enact laws and reforms in the name of the French people
- Tennis Court Oath- a pledge made by the members of France's National Assembly in 1789 in which they vowed to continue meeting until they had drawn up a new constitution
- Great Fear- a wave of senseless panic that spread through the French countryside after the storming of the Bastille in 1789.
- Legislative Assembly- A French congress with the power to create laws and approve declarations of war, established by the Constitution of 1791.
- Émigré- a person who leaves their native country for political reasons

- Jacobin- radical political organization during the French Revolution
- Reign of Terror- from mid 1793-1794 when Maximilien Robespierre ruled France nearly as a dictator and thousands of political figures and ordinary citizens were executed.

Napoleon:

- Napoleon Bonaparte, a national hero, leads the new government and appoints himself Emperor of France.
- Napoleon wants to conquer the continent of Europe and begins a series of military campaigns.
- Becomes very powerful and makes his family and friends rulers of newly conquered countries.
- After a series of wars with Europe, Napoleon is defeated and exiled.

Congress of Vienna:

- European countries needed to restore stability and restructure pre-Napoleonic boundaries.
- Austria's conservative foreign minister, Metternich, led a meeting in Vienna.
- His goals were to: restore legitimacy of the monarchs, restore the balance of power, weaken France, compensate severely damaged countries (reparations)
- The Congress of Vienna was successful, however, democratic ideas could not be erased.
- New Political philosophies were born.
- Conservatism: keep the old ways
- Radicalism: violent changes
- Liberalism: small reforms, no violence
- Nationalism: love of one's country.

Latin American Revolutions:

Key Terms:

- Peninsulare- Spanish colonists who were born in Spain.
 - Creole- a colonist who was born in Latin America to Spanish parents
 - Mulatto- persons of mixed European and African ancestry
 - Mestizo- persons of mixed Spanish and Native American ancestry
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- Spain had colonies in Latin America.
 - Latin America includes the countries south of the United States.
 - The people of Latin America wanted their freedom from Spain.
 - 1813- Napoleon lost power in Europe.
 - The people of Latin America chose this time to revolt.
 - Haiti was the first colony to win independence from France in 1804. The revolt was lead by Toussaint L'Ouverture. Former slaves and freedmen of African descent were the new leaders.
 - Creoles in Mexico also wanted independence. Father Miguel Hidalgo, Jose Maria Morelos and Agustine de Iturbide helped Mexico win its freedom from Spain by 1821.
 - Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin fought for the freedom of the Spanish South American countries which included Argentina, Venezuela, Chile and Peru. Creoles were in charge of the new countries.
 - Brazil ended its colonial status and separated from Portugal in 1822 when they made the Portuguese prince, Dom Pedro their new emperor in a bloodless revolution.

Summary of Causes of the Revolutions:

	France	Latin America
Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Third Estate Wanted greater representation. • Louis XVI was a weak ruler and his wife, Marie Antoinette, was unpopular. • American Revolution inspired political ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Revolution inspired political ideas. • Royal officials committed injustices and repression. • Napoleon's conquest of Spain triggered revolts.
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wars and royal extravagance created debt. • Inflation and famine caused problems. • Peasants made little money but paid high taxes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peninsulares and creoles controlled wealth. • Lower classes toiled as peasants with little income or as slaves.
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Estates resented the First and Second Estates' privileges. • Enlightenment ideas of equality and liberty spread. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only peninsulares and creoles had power. • Mestizos, mulattos, Africans and Indians had little status. • Educated creoles spread Enlightenment ideas.

Adapted from World History: Patterns of Interaction, page 708.

Document Practice:



<http://www.historywiz.com/oldregime.htm>

Study the above cartoon depicting the French Revolution. Write one paragraph explaining how this illustration of the Three Estates helps to explain the causes of the French Revolution.