Chapter 6: The French Revolution and Napoleon

1. Objectives Chapter 6 Section 1
2. Economic troubles added to the social unrest and heightened tensions.

3. In 1789, France’s society was based on a system created in the Middle Ages. The ancien régime separated everyone in French society into one of three estates:

4. The first two estates enjoyed most of the wealth and privileges of France.

5. At all levels, members of the Third Estate had reason to resent the existing social order.

6. To solve the financial crisis, the government had to increase taxes, reduce expenses, or both.

7. Louis XVI appointed Jacques Necker as his financial advisor. Necker made recommendations   
to reduce the debt:

8. The pressure for reforms mounted, but the powerful classes demanded that the king summon a meeting of the Estates-General.

9. Events that led to the storming of the Bastille

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10. On July 14, 1789, events erupted into revolution with the storming of the Bastille.

11. Objectives Chapter 6 Section 2

12. The political crisis of 1789 in France coincided with the worst famine in memory.

13. The National Assembly reacted to the uprisings and voted to end the privileges of the nobility.

14. At the end of August, 1789, the National Assembly issued the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen.

15. The Declaration of the Rights of Man did not please everyone.

16. Some 6,000 women marched on Versailles on October 5, 1789.

17. The National Assembly placed the Church under state control.

18. The National Assembly produced the Constitution of 1791. This set up a limited monarchy.

19. At the time of the creation of the Constitution of 1791, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette attempted to escape France.

20. The sans-culottes and the Jacobins pushed the revolution to more radical action.

21. Objectives Chapter 6 Section 3

22. Radicals took control of the Legislative Assembly and called for the election of a new legislative body—the National Convention.

23. The National Convention put Louis XVI on trial as a traitor to France. He was sentenced to death.

24. By 1793, France faced external and internal threats.

25. The National Convention granted the Committee of Public Safety absolute power to save the revolution.

26. Maximilien Robespierre became the leader of the Committee of Public Safety.

27. In reaction to the Reign of Terror, moderates produced the Constitution of 1795.

28. By 1799, France had changed dramatically from the country of Louis XVI and his court.

29. Objectives Chapter 6 Section 4

30. When Napoleon helped create the Consulate, he became First Consul.

31. Napoleon restored order and prosperity and strengthened the central government. He:

32. His most lasting reform was a new code of laws known as the Napoleonic Code.

33. From 1804 to 1812, Napoleon successfully battled most of Europe and created an empire.

34. Britain was the only major European power to remain outside of Napoleon’s empire.

35. Many Europeans who had welcomed the ideas of the French Revolution saw Napoleon and his army as oppressors.

36. Napoleon’s disastrous invasion of Russia in 1812 was a turning point in the Napoleonic Wars.

37. In 1813, the newly created alliance defeated Napoleon in the Battle of the Nations.

38. Napoleon’s return to power lasted only 100 days.

39. Napoleon’s legacy affected not only France, but the rest of Europe and the Americas.

40. After the Battle of Waterloo, diplomats and heads of state at the Congress of Vienna redrew the map of Europe.

41. The architects of peace promoted the principle of legitimacy and restored monarchies in nations throughout Europe.

42. The creation of the Concert of Europe enabled the powers to meet periodically to address any new problems affecting the peace of Europe.