

# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: SOCIAL SCIENCE	Subject: History
Chapter 1 Question Bank No:1	Topic: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION	Year:2025-26

## A) MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS [1 MARK]

Q1	Bastille was hated by all, because
	(a) it stood for the despotic power of the king
	(b) it is a fortress
	(c) It is a famous palace in France
	(d) All of the above
Q2	France helped the thirteento gain their independence
	(a) regions in India
	(b) states in Germany
	(c) monuments in France
	(d) American colonies
Q3	Indirect taxes were levied on articles of everyday consumption such as
	(a) Sugar and wheat
	(b) Tea and coffee
	(c) Salt or tobacco
	(d) All of the above
Q4	Who was the active revolutionary member who wrote to a friend in 1793 about
	the French society?
	(a) Abbe Sieyes
	(b) Georges Danton,
	(c) Rousseau
	(d) Robespierre
Q5	Who was the Englishman who travelled through France during the years
	from 1787 to 1789 and wrote detailed descriptions of his journeys.?
	(a) Arthur Young
	(b) Lord Byron
	(c) John Locke
	(d) Voltaire
Q6	National Assembly was led by
	(a) Louis XVI
	(b) Rousseau and Montesquieu
	(c) Mirabeau and Abbé Sieyès.
	(d) Robespierre
Q7	The Peasants in several districts seized hoes and pitchforks and attacked
	(a) King Louis VVI
	(a) King Louis XVI
	(b) Nobels
	(c) Manor
Q8	(d) Chateaux What was the main chiestive of the constitution of 17012
ų0	What was the main objective of the constitution of 1791?  (a) Freedom for all

### (b) To limit the powers of the monarch

- (c) Universal Adult Franchise
- (d) Political rights for women

## Q9 What does the image of a Snake biting its tail to form a ring signify?



- (a) Knowledge
- (b) Equality
- (c) Eternity.
- (d) Liberty

### Q10 What is the newly elected assembly called?

- (a) The Convention
- (b) National Assembly
- (c) The Constitution
- (d) The Estates

# Q11 Which newspaper carried the speech of Robespierre at the Convention in 1794?

- a) The freedom of the unfree
- b) Le Moniteur Universel.
- c) L'Ami du peuple
- d) Le Barbier

### Q12 What was the slogan of the French Revolution?

- a) Freedom, Justice, Nation
- b) Peace, Land, Bread
- c) Unity, Discipline, Strength
- d) Liberty, Equality, Fraternity

### Q13 Which of the following statements is /are incorrect about the Third Estate?

- A) Richer members of the Third Estate owned lands.
- B) Within the Third Estate some were rich and some were poor.
- C) The Third Estate was made of the poor only.
- D) Peasants were obliged to serve in the army or build roads.

### Q14 Match the pairs

	COLUMN A		COLUMN B
i	Louis XVI	а	A political body
ii	Olympe de Gouges	b	National Assembly
iii	Marat	С	What is the third estate?
iv	Estate General	d	Bourbon Dynasty
٧	Abbe Sieyes	е	Declaration of the Rights of
			Woman and Citizen
		f	L'Ami du people

- a) i.d, ii.a, iii.b, iv.f, v.e
- b) i.d, ii.e, iii.f, iv.a, v.c
- c) i.c, ii.f, iii.d, iv.e, v.a

	d) i.b, ii.e, iii.a, iv.c, v.d
Q15	Complete the analogy
	Montesquieu: The spirit of laws:: Social contract
	a) Rousseau
	b) John Locke
	c) Voltaire
	d) Dalton

#### Assertion/Reason:

In the following questions, a statement of assertion(A) is followed by a statement of reason(R). Mark the correct choice:

**Assertion (A):** The revolutionary wars brought losses and economic difficulties to the people.

**Reason (R):** While the men were away fighting at the front, women were left to cope with the tasks of earning a living and looking after their families.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true, but R is false.
- d) A is false, but R is true.
- Assertion (A) Throughout the 18th century there was little criticism of slavery in France. Reason (R): The National Assembly passed a law that gave rights to all the French subjects including those in colonies.
  - a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
  - b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
  - c) A is true, but R is false.
  - d) A is false, but R is true.

#### **B) DESCRIPTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS**

Q1 Explain the circumstances under which Louis XVI finally accorded recognition to the National Assembly.

OR

What were the main causes of the French Revolution of 1789? POLITICAL CAUSE:

- Louis XVI ascended the French throne in 1774.
- He found an empty treasury
- The bourbon Kings believed in the 'Divine Right Theory of Kingship'

#### **ECONOMIC CAUSES:-**

- Long years of wars had drained the financial resources of France.
- Too much of money was being spent on the maintenance of an extravagant court at the immense palace of Versailles.
- France had helped the Thirteen American colonies in the war against Britain to gain their independence. It increased the debt and France was forced to spend a large sum of money on interest payment.
- To meet the regular expenses, army, the court, government offices, universities expenses the State was forced to increase taxes

#### **SOCIAL CAUSES:**

 French Society was divided into three Estates. The First Estate comprised of clergy, the Second Estate comprised of nobility and the Third Estate comprised of businessmen, traders, merchants, artisans, peasants and servants.

- The members of Church and nobility enjoyed certain privileges by birth, the most important being the exemption from paying taxes to the State.
- Feudal dues were extracted by nobles from peasants and one-tenth of the
  agricultural produce of peasants, in the form of Tithes came to the share of clergy.
  All members of the Third Estate including peasants paid taxes, thus, the burden of
  financing activities of the state through taxes was borne by the Third Estate alone
  creating heavy discontentment.

### **ROLE OF THE PHILOSOPHERS:-**

- The ideas envisaging a society based on freedom and equal laws and opportunities for all were put forward by the philosophers such as John Locke, Jean Jacques Rousseau and Montesquieu.
- In his 'Two Treaties of Government', Locke criticized the doctrine of the divine and absolute right of the monarch.
- Rousseau proposed a form of government based on a 'social contract' between people and their representatives.
- In 'The Spirit of Laws' Montesquieu proposed a division of power within the government between the legislative, the executive and the judiciary.

#### **IMMEDIATE CAUSE:-**

Subsistence crisis and summoning of the Estate General by Louis XVI were the immediate causes for the Revolution. The parliament had its last meeting in 1614.

# Describe the event which led to the fall of Bastille. Ans:

- On 20th June the representatives of the Third Estate assembled in the hall.
- The National Assembly was busy at Versailles drafting a constitution.
- After spending hours in long queues at the bakery, crowds of angry women stormed into the shops. At the same time, the king ordered troops to move into Paris.
- On 14 July, the agitated crowd stormed and destroyed the Bastille.

# "The inequality that existed in the French Society in the Old Regime became the cause of the French Revolution". Justify the statement by giving three suitable examples.

#### Ans:

The examples are:

- French Society was divided into three Estates. The First Estate comprised of the clergy, the Second Estate comprised of the nobility and the Third Estate comprised of businessmen, traders, merchants, artisans, peasants and servants.
- The members of the Church and nobility enjoyed certain privileges by birth, the most important being the exemption from paying taxes to the State.
- Feudal dues were extracted by nobles from peasants and one-tenth of the
  agricultural produce of peasants, in the form of Tithes came to the share of clergy.
  All members of the Third Estate including peasants paid taxes, thus, the burden of
  financing activities of the state through taxes was borne by the Third Estate alone
  creating heavy discontentment.

# Q4 State the events that led to the formation of the National Assembly. Ans:

- The Estates General was a political body of France to which the three estates sent their representatives. The voting in it had been conducted according to the principle that each estate had one vote.
- This time too when Louis XVI called a meeting of the Estates General, he decided to continue the same old practice.
- But the members of the Third Estate demanded that voting now be conducted on the democratic principle of one person, one vote.

	When the king rejected this proposal, the members of the Third Estate walked out of the assembly in protest.		
	<ul> <li>They assembled on 20 June, 1789 in the hall of an indoor tennis court in Versailles.</li> </ul>		
	These representatives of the Third Estate viewed themselves as spokesmen for		
	whole French nation. They declared themselves a National Assembly.		
Q5	"Ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the		
۵5	French Revolution". Explain the statement in the light of French Revolution.		
	Ans:		
	People of the Third Estate demanded a society based on freedom and opportunities		
	to all.		
	The National Assembly was formed in 1791 with an object to limit the powers of the		
	monarch.		
	The Constitution framed in 1791 began with a Declaration of the Rights of Man and		
	Citizens.		
00	Censorship was abolished in 1789.  Fundamental management of Constitutional management from a constitutional management of Constitutional management from the constitutional management of Constitutional management from the constitutional management of Constitution management of		
Q6	Explain how the new political system of Constitutional monarchy in France worked.		
	OR		
	Explain any five features of the Constitution drafted in 1791.		
	Ans:		
	The Constitution of 1791 vested the power to make laws in the National Assembly,		
	which was indirectly elected.		
	With the new Constitution the powers to govern the country were assigned to		
	different institutions, i.e., the legislature, executive and the judiciary.		
	The judiciary and the legislature were elected by the people. Only men above 25		
	years of age who paid taxes equal to at least 3 days of a labourer's wage were		
	given the status of active citizens, that is, they were entitled to vote.		
	Under this system the powers of the monarch were limited. Most of the powers were in the hands of logicletures.		
	<ul> <li>in the hands of legislatures.</li> <li>The ministers were also answerable to the legislature. The king enjoyed the veto</li> </ul>		
	The ministers were also answerable to the legislature. The king enjoyed the veto power.		
Q7	What was the Convention? Describe its role in France.		
Φ.	Ans:		
	The elected assembly formed in France in 1792 was called Convention.		
	Role in France:		
	It abolished the monarchy and declared France a republic.		
	Hereditary monarch Louis XVI and his wife were sentenced to death.		
	Robespierre was elected President of the National Convention.		
00	He followed the policy of severe control and punishment		
Q8	Describe any four steps taken by Robespierre to bring equality.		
	OR 'The period from 1793 to 1794 is referred to as the Reign of Terror'.		
	Ans:		
	Maximilian Robespierre was the leader of Jacobin Club.		
	• The period from 1793 to 1794 is referred to as the Reign of Terror. Robesdierre		
	<ul> <li>The period from 1793 to 1794 is referred to as the Reign of Terror. Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment.</li> </ul>		
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	<ul> <li>followed a policy of severe control and punishment.</li> <li>All those whom he saw as being 'enemies' of the republic-ex-nobles and clergy, members of other political parties, even members of his own party who did not agree with his methods were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary tribunal.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>followed a policy of severe control and punishment.</li> <li>All those whom he saw as being 'enemies' of the republic-ex-nobles and clergy, members of other political parties, even members of his own party who did not agree with his methods were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary</li> </ul>		

#### OR

#### **Explain the reforms introduce by the Jacobin Government.**

Ans. • Robespierre's government issued laws placing a maximum ceiling on wages and prices. • Meat and bread were rationed.

• Peasants were forced to transport their grain to the cities and sell it at prices fixed by the

government.

• The use of more expensive white flour was forbidden. All citizens were required to eat plain

bread (equality bread), a loaf made of whole wheat.

- Equality was also sought to be practiced through forms of speech and address.
- Instead of the traditional Monsieur (Sir) and the Madame (Madam) all French men and

women were henceforth Citoyen and Citoyenne (citizen).

• Churches were shut down and their buildings converted into barracks or offices.

# Q10 Describe the conditions of women during the period of French Revolution. Ans:

Conditions of women during the period of French Revolution are :

- From the very beginning women were active participants in the events which brought about major changes in the French Society.
- Most women of the Third Estate had to work for a living as seamstresses or laundresses. They even sold flowers, fruits and vegetables at the market.
- They were employed as domestic servants in the house of prosperous people.
- They started their own political clubs and newspapers in order to voice their interests.
- They demanded the right to vote to be elected to the Assembly and hold political office.
- They did not have access to education or job training. Only daughters of wealthier members of the Third Estate could stay at the convent.
- Working women had to take care of their families. Their wages were lower than those of men.

# Q11 Explain triangular slave trade carried on during 18th and 19th century. Ans:

- The triangular slave trade was carried between Europe, Africa and America.
- The slave trade began in the seventeenth century. French merchants sailed from the ports of Bordeaux or Nantes to the African coast, where they bought slaves from local chieftains.
- Branded and shackled, the slaves were packed tightly into ships for the three-month long voyage across the Atlantic to the Caribbean. There they were sold to plantation owners.
- The exploitation of slave labour made it possible to meet the growing demand in European markets for sugar, coffee, and indigo.
- Port cities like Bordeaux and Nantes owed their economic prosperity to the flourishing slave trade.

# Q13 Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the people of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Ans:

- The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French Revolution. These ideas became an umpiring force for the political movements in the world in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- The ideas of liberty, equality and fraternity spread from France to the rest of Europe, where feudal system was finally abolished.

- Colonised people reworked on the idea of freedom from bondage into their movements to create a sovereign nation-state.
- The idea of Nationalism that emerged after the French Revolution started becoming mass movements all over the world. Now people began to question the absolute power.
- The impact of the French Revolution would be seen in India too. Tipu Sultan and Raja Ram Mohan Roy got deeply influenced by the ideas of the revolution. In the end, we can say that after the French Revolution, people all over the world became aware of their rights.

# Q14 How would you explain the rise of Napoleon as an Emperor in France?

- The political instability of the Directory paved the way for the rise of a military dictator, Napoleon Bonaparte.
- In 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself Emperor of France. He set out to conquer neighboring European countries, dispossessing dynasties and creating kingdoms.
- Napoleon saw his role as a modernizer of Europe.
- He introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.
- Initially, many saw Napoleon as a liberator who would bring freedom for the people. But soon the Napoleonic armies came to be viewed everywhere as an invading force. He was finally defeated at Waterloo in 1815.

## Q15 Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

The National Assembly held long debates about whether the rights of man should be extended to all French subjects including those in the colonies. But it did not pass any laws, fearing opposition from businessmen whose incomes depended on the slave trade. It was finally the Convention which in 1794 legislated to free all slaves in the French overseas possessions. This, however, turned out to be a short-term measure: ten years later, Napoleon reintroduced slavery. Plantation owners understood their freedom as including the right to enslave African Negroes in pursuit of their economic interests. Slavery was finally abolished in French colonies in 1848

- 1. Which are the continents involved in slave trade? Africa, Europe and America
- 2. Mention the crops grown in the Caribbean plantation. tobacco, indigo, sugar and coffee.
- 3. Explain the triangular slave trade that benefitted France.
- The triangular slave trade was carried out between Europe, Africa and America.
- The slave trade began in the seventeenth century. French merchants sailed from the ports of Bordeaux or Nantes to the African coast, where they bought slaves from local chieftains.
- Branded and shackled, the slaves were packed tightly into ships for the three-month long voyage across the Atlantic to the Caribbean. There they were sold to plantation owners
- The exploitation of slave labour made it possible to meet the growing demand in European markets for sugar, coffee, and indigo.
- Port cities like Bordeaux and Nantes owed their economic prosperity to the flourishing slave trade. [any two points]

#### **MAP SKILL**

