1. **FRENCH SOCIETY DURING THE LATE 18TH CENTURY**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Who was the king at the time of Revolution took place in France in 1789 ?**

**Ans:** King Louis XVI.

1. **When was the Bastille Prison stormed ?**

**Ans:** On 14th July, 1789.

1. **What is meant by “subsistence crisis” ?**

**Ans:** It refers to an extreme situation where the basic needs of livelihood were endangered.

**SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Describe the French society in the 18th Century.**

**Ans:** The French Society was divided into three Estates in the 18th Century.

1. **First Estate:** It comprised the church and the clergy. They enjoyed certain privileges by birth. They were exempted from paying taxes to the state.
2. **Second Estate:** It consists of the nobles and other rich members. They were also exempted from paying taxes. They also enjoyed feudal privileges. They were also paid feudal dues from the peasants.
3. **Third Estate:** About 90% of the population was peasants. They were obliged to work in the fields of their landlords as well as in their houses, and also serve in the army. They were paying all direct taxes like ‘*taille*’ and a number of indirect taxes also like taxes on the articles of daily consumption.
4. **Why was treasury empty when Louis XVI ascended the throne of France ?**

**Ans:** (i) When Louis XVI ascended the throne, the treasury of France was empty as most of the French kings were involved in wars which emptied their treasury.

(ii) His wife Marie Antoinette was also extravagant and spent too much money of treasury for herself.

(iii) Long years of war had drained the financial resources of France and along with it was the cost of maintaining an extravagant court at immense palace of Versailles.

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Describe the role of the philosophers in the French Revolution.**

**Ans:** : The revolutionary ideas of philosophers encouraged people to fight for their rights.

1. **Voltaire** believed that man’s destiny was in his own hands.
2. **John Locke** criticized the divine and absolute rights of the rulers.
3. **Rousseau** put forward the idea of formation of a government based on a social contract between people and their representatives. Men had the right to change their government if they were not satisfied with it.
4. **Montesquieu** believed that all powers should not be concentrated in one person’s hand. They should be divided between the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary.

The ideas of these philosophers were discussed by common people in salons and coffee-houses and inspired them to fight for their rights.

1. **THE OUTBREAK OF THE REVOLUTION**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Which proposal of the Third Estate was rejected by Estates General ?**

**Ans:** The Third Estate demanded that voting should be conducted by the assembly as whole, in which each member would have one vote. But the king rejected this proposal. Hence, members of the Third Estate boycotted the assembly in protest.

1. **What do you know about Mirabeau ?**

**Ans:** Mirabeau was a representative of Third Estate. He delivered speeches to the crowds assembled at Versailles. He was born in noble family but was convinced of the need to do away with a society of feudal privilege.

1. **Which sections of French Society were forced to give up their power after the French Revolution ?**

**Ans:** First and Second Estate.

1. **What is meant by Estates General ?**

**Ans:** The **Estate General** was a political body of France in which the three estates sent their representatives.

**SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **What was the ‘Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen’ according to the French Constitution of 1791 ?**

**Ans:** The Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen:

1. Men are born and remain free and equal in rights.
2. The objectives of each political association is the preservation of the natural and inalienable rights of man; these are right to liberty, property, security and resistance to oppression.
3. The source of all sovereignty resides in the nation; no group or individual may exercise authority that does not come from the people.
4. The law has the right to forbid only actions that are injurious to society.
5. **FRANCE ABOLISHES MONARCHY AND BECOMES A REPUBLIC**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **What is the national anthem of France ?**

**Ans:** Marseillaise

1. **Who composed the *Marseillaise* ?**

**Ans:** Roget de L’Isle.

1. **When was Monarchy abolished and France was declared a republic ?**

**Ans:** On 21 September, 1792.

1. **What is meant by Treason ?**

**Ans:** Treason means betrayal of one’s country or government.

1. **When was Louis XVI beheaded ?**

**Ans:** On 21 January 1793.

1. **Who were “Sans – Culottes” ?**

**Ans:** Those Jacobins were called Sans – Culottes who were without knee breeches and who wore red caps to symbolize liberty.

1. **Which new Assembly was abolished by Jacobins ?**

**Ans:** The newly elected assembly was called convention. This assembly abolished the monarchy and declared France a republic.

1. **Which period in France was referred to the Reign of Terror ?**

**Ans:** The period of 1793 to 1794 was referred to the Reign of Terror.

**SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Who was Napoleon Bonaparte ? What reforms did he introduce in France ?**

**Ans:** He was a military dictator of France.

**Reforms:**

1. He passed laws for the protection of private property.
2. He established uniform system of weights and measures.
3. He codified French laws.
4. Many saw him as a liberator.
5. **How was guillotine used ?**

**Ans: (i)** Guillotine is a device consisting of two poles and a blade with which a person is beheaded. This device was named after Dr. Guillotine who invented it.

**(ii)** It was used by Robespierre, who followed a policy of ‘Reign of Terror’ of severe control and punishment.

**(iii)** Those who did not agree with his methods were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary tribunal. If the court found them guilty, they were guillotined.

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Describe any five efforts made by Maximilian Robespierre to bring equality in French Society.**

**OR**

**Who was Robespierre ? Describe any four steps taken by him to bring equality ?**

**Ans:** Maximilian Robespierre was the leader of Jacobin Club.

Following steps/measures were taken by him to bring equality:

1. Robespierre’s government issued laws placing a maximum ceiling on wages and prices. Meat and bread were rationed.
2. Peasants were forced to transport their grain to the cities and sell it at prices fixed by the government.
3. The use of more expensive white flour was forbidden. All citizens were required to eat the *pain d’egalite* (equality bread), a loaf made of whole wheat.
4. Equality was also sought to be practiced through forms of speech and address.
5. Instead of the traditional *Monsieur* (Sir) and *Madame* (Madam) all French men and women were henceforth Citoyen and Citoyenne (Citizen).
6. Churches were shut down and their buildings converted into barracks or offices.
7. **DID WOMEN HAVE A REVOLUTION ?**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **What is famous political club formed by women in France ?**

**Ans:** The Society of Revolutionary and Republican Women of France.

1. **When did French women get the political right to vote in France ?**

**Ans:** In 1946.

1. **Who wrote the Declaration of the Rights of Women and Citizen and when ?**

**Ans:** Olympe de Gouges wrote it in 1791.

**SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **How did women suffer in France ?**

**OR**

**How did the women suffer in France during the Old Regime ?**

**Ans: (i)** Most of the women had to work for a living. They worked as laundresses or seamstresses, sold flowers, fruits and vegetables or were employed as domestic servants.

**(ii)** They could not get education or job training.

**(iii)** Only the daughters of rich people could study.

**(iv)** Working women had also to take care of their families, i.e., cook, fetch water, queue up for bread and look after children.

**(v)** Their wages were also lower than men.

Hence, it is true that women suffered a lot during the old regime.

1. **Which laws were made to improve the status of women in the French society ?**

**Ans:** Following laws were made to improve the status of women in the French society:

1. Schooling was made compulsory for all girls.
2. Their fathers could no longer force them into marriage against their will.
3. Divorce was made legal and could be applied for, by both men and women.
4. Women could be trained for jobs, could become artists or run small business.

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Describe the condition of women during the period of the French Revolution.**

**Ans:** The revolutionary government introduced various laws to improve the lives of women:

1. Women were active participants in the events.
2. Most of the women of Third Estate had to work for a living.
3. They worked as seamstresses or laundresses, sold flowers, fruits and vegetables at the market.
4. They were employed as domestic servants in the house of prosperous people.
5. They could not get education or job training.
6. Working women had also to take care of their families, i.e., cook, fetch water, queue up for bread and look after children.
7. Their wages were also lower than men.
8. **THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Between which three continents triangular slave trade was carried on ?**

**Ans:** Europe, Africa and America.

1. **Name the French ports through which slave trade was done.**

**Ans:** Bordeaux and Nantes.

1. **When was slavery finally abolished in France ?**

**Ans:** In 1848.

**SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Describe the condition of slave trade in the 17th Century.**

**Ans: The condition of slave trade in the 17th Century:**

1. As the slave trade began in 17th century, the slaves were bought from local chieftains.
2. After branding and shackling, the slaves were packed into ships for the 3-month-long voyage across the Atlantic to the Caribbean.
3. They were sold to plantation owners in the African coast.

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Explain triangular slave trade. What steps were taken to end slavery in French colonies ?**

**Ans:** Reluctance of Europeans to go and work in new and distant lands meant a shortage of labour on the plantations. So this was met by a triangular slave trade between Europe, Africa and America. Port cities like Bordeaux and Nantes owed their economic prosperity to the flourishing slave trade.

The exploitation of slave labour made it possible to meet the growing demand in European markets for sugar, coffee and indigo.

**Steps taken to abolish slave trade:**

1. In the 18th century, there was little criticism of slavery in France.
2. 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.
3. It was finally the convention which in 1794 legislated to free all slaves in the French overseas possessions.
4. However, this turned out to be a short-term measure. Ten years later, Napoleon reintroduced slavery.
5. Plantation owners understood their freedom as including the right to enslave African Negroes in pursuit of their economic interests.
6. In 1848, Slavery was finally abolished in French colonies.
7. **THE REVOLUTION AND EVERYDAY LIFE**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **When did Napoleon Bonaparte crown himself as emperor of France ?**

**Ans:** In 1804.

1. **Name the two Indian individuals who responded to the ideas coming from revolutionary France.**

**Ans:** Raja Rammohan Roy and Tipu Sultan.

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

1. **Describe the role of Napoleon Bonaparte in the history of France.**

**Ans:**

1. In 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte declared himself the ruler of Francereintroduced monarchy in France.
2. He conquered his neighbouring countries and made kingdoms, where he kept his own family members.
3. He saw his role as a moderniser of Europe, and introduced a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.
4. His ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French Revolution.
5. Inspired from these, colonized people reworked the idea of freedom bondage into their movements to create a sovereign nation-state.