

Name _____

Revolutionary Leaders: Architects of Change

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Maximilien Robespierre's leadership during the Reign of Terror had a significant impact on the course of the French Revolution. While he aimed to protect the revolutionary government and ideals, his policies led to widespread violence and political purges. The Reign of Terror resulted in the execution of many, including King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette, and had long-lasting consequences on France.
2. Olympe de Gouges made important contributions to the revolutionary movement by advocating for women's rights and gender equality. Her "Declaration of the Rights of Woman and of the Female Citizen" challenged the exclusion of women from political rights and called for equal treatment. She played a crucial role in raising awareness of gender issues during the revolution.
3. Marquis de Lafayette's contributions spanned both the American and French Revolutions. In the American Revolution, he fought alongside the American colonists and was a key figure in securing French support for the American cause. In the French Revolution, he supported moderate ideals and envisioned a constitutional monarchy with political compromise, which reflected a more moderate stance compared to radical revolutionary leaders.
4. The Thermidorian Reaction marked a turning point in the French Revolution by ending the Reign of Terror and the dominance of radical Jacobins. During this period, the revolutionary government faced challenges in restoring stability and finding a more moderate path. Jean-Lambert Tallien played a role in overthrowing Robespierre and advocating for less repressive policies, contributing to the changing political landscape.

