

Name _____

The Tennis Court Oath: A Pivotal Moment in the French Revolution

Short Answer Key

1. Tensions arose over voting procedures during the Estates-General's deliberations because the Third Estate demanded voting by headcount to have greater influence, while the First and Second Estates insisted on voting by estate, where each estate had one vote.
2. The representatives of the Third Estate pledged not to disband until a new constitution was established, limiting the power of the monarchy and granting rights and representation to all citizens. This pledge was significant as it marked the birth of the National Assembly.
3. The Tennis Court Oath symbolized unity and determination among the common people as they defied the traditional structure of the Estates-General and demanded political change and equality.
4. The National Assembly, formed after the Tennis Court Oath, played a crucial role in drafting the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen and the new constitution, which aimed to establish a more equitable and representative government.
5. Initially, King Louis XVI resisted the demands of the representatives of the Third Estate after the Tennis Court Oath. However, he eventually allowed voting by headcount and yielded to some of their demands due to mounting pressure and the threat of rebellion.

