

Name _____

The French Revolution: A Journey Through Time and Struggle

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The convening of the Estates-General in 1789 was triggered by France's financial crisis and the need to address the growing discontent among the people. This event led to the formation of the National Assembly, where representatives of the common people asserted their authority and began the process of drafting a new constitution.
2. Napoleon Bonaparte played a significant role in ending the French Revolution by staging a coup d'état in 1799, becoming First Consul, and later declaring himself Emperor of France. He brought stability and consolidated power, ending the radical phase of the revolution.
3. The Reign of Terror was a period marked by extreme violence, political purges, and the rise of the radical Jacobins. It saw the execution of King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette, as well as many others deemed enemies of the revolution. The Reign of Terror had a profound impact on the revolution's course, leading to political instability and public disillusionment.
4. The ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity inspired by the French Revolution had a significant influence on later historical events. These ideals played a role in shaping democratic movements, inspiring revolutions in other countries, and promoting the idea of human rights and social justice. The French Revolution's impact extended beyond France, leaving a lasting legacy on the world stage.

