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The French Revolution

Q1. Why were the representatives of third estate disappointed with the pattern of voting in the Estate General? Ans. Describe the social conditions that led to the outbreak of French Q2. Revolution. Ans. Explain the policy of severe control and punishment followed by Q3. Robespierre in France. Ans.

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The French Revolution

- Q1. Why were the representatives of third estate disappointed with the pattern of voting in the Estate General?
- Ans. Voting in the Estates General in the past had been conducted according to the principle that each estate had one vote. This time too Louis XVI was determined to continue the same practice. But members of the third estate demanded that voting now be conducted by the assembly as a whole, where each member would have one vote.
- Q2. Describe the social conditions that led to the outbreak of French Revolution.
- Ans. <u>Social causes</u>

i. French society in the eighteenth century was divided into three estates, and only members of the third estate paid taxes.

ii. About 60 per cent of the land was owned by nobles, the Church and other richer members of the third estate.

iii. The nobles further enjoyed feudal privileges. These included feudal dues, which they extracted from the peasants.

- Q3. Explain the policy of severe control and punishment followed by Robespierre in France.
- Ans. The period from 1793 to 1794 is referred to as the Reign of Terror. Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment. 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. If the court found them guilty they were guillotined.