

Name: _____ Date: _____

The French Revolution

Q1. Who were entitled to vote in France as per Constitution of 1791, framed by National Assembly? State any three rights given to the people by this constitution.

Ans. _____

Q2. How would you explain the rise of Napoleon?

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Q1. Who were entitled to vote in France as per Constitution of 1791, framed by National Assembly? State any three rights given to the people by this constitution.

Ans. Only men above 25 years of age who paid taxes equal to at least 3 days of a labourer's wage were given the status of active citizens, that is, they were entitled to vote. The remaining men and all women were classed as passive citizens. To qualify as an elector and then as a member of the Assembly, a man had to belong to the highest bracket of taxpayers.

The Constitution began with a Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen. Rights such as the right to life, freedom of speech, freedom of opinion, equality before law, were established as 'natural and inalienable rights, that is, they belonged to each human being by birth and could not be taken away. It was the duty of the state to protect each citizen's natural rights.

Q2. How would you explain the rise of Napoleon?

Ans. Rise of Napoleon

1. The political instability of the Directory paved the way for the rise of a military dictator, Napoleon Bonaparte.

2. In 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself Emperor of France. He set out to conquer neighbouring European countries, dispossessing dynasties and creating kingdoms where he placed members of his family. Napoleon saw his role as a moderniser of Europe.

3. He introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.

4. Initially, many saw Napoleon as a liberator who would bring freedom for the people. But soon the Napoleonic armies came to be viewed everywhere as an invading force.