Name: _____ Date: _____

The French Revolution

Q1. Mention the political symbols and their significance which came up during the French Revolution.

Ans. _____

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Q2. Explain the role played by women in France during the revolutionary years.

Ans. _____

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The French Revolution

Q1. Mention the political symbols and their significance which came up during the French Revolution.

Ans. <u>The broken chain</u>: Chains were used to fetter slaves. A broken chain stands for the act of becoming free.

<u>The bundle of rods or fasces</u>: One rod can be easily broken, but not an entire bundle. Strength lies in unity.

<u>The eye within a triangle radiating light</u>: The all seeing eye stands for knowledge. The rays of the sun will drive away the clouds of ignorance.

<u>Sceptre</u>: Symbol of royal power.

<u>Snake biting its tail to form a ring</u>: Symbol of Eternity. A ring has neither beginning nor end.

<u>Red Phrygian cap</u>: Cap worn by a slave upon becoming free.

<u>Blue-white-red</u>: The national colours of France.

<u>The winged woman</u>: Personification of the law.

<u>The Law Tablet</u>: The law is the same for all, and all are equal before it.

Q2. Explain the role played by women in France during the revolutionary years.

Ans. Role played by women in France during the revolutionary years

i.   From the very beginning women were active participants in the events which brought about so many important changes in French society.

ii.   In order to discuss and voice their interests women started their own political clubs and newspapers.

iii.   The Society of Revolutionary and Republican Women was the most famous of them.

iv.   One of their main demands was that women enjoy the same political rights as men. Women's struggle for equal political rights, however, continued.

v.   During the Reign of Terror, the new government issued laws ordering closure of women's clubs and banning their political activities.

vi.   Many prominent women were arrested and a number of them executed. It was finally in 1946 that women in France won the right to vote.