



## REVIEW

**CALIFORNIA CONTENT  
STANDARD 10.2.4**

## The French Revolution

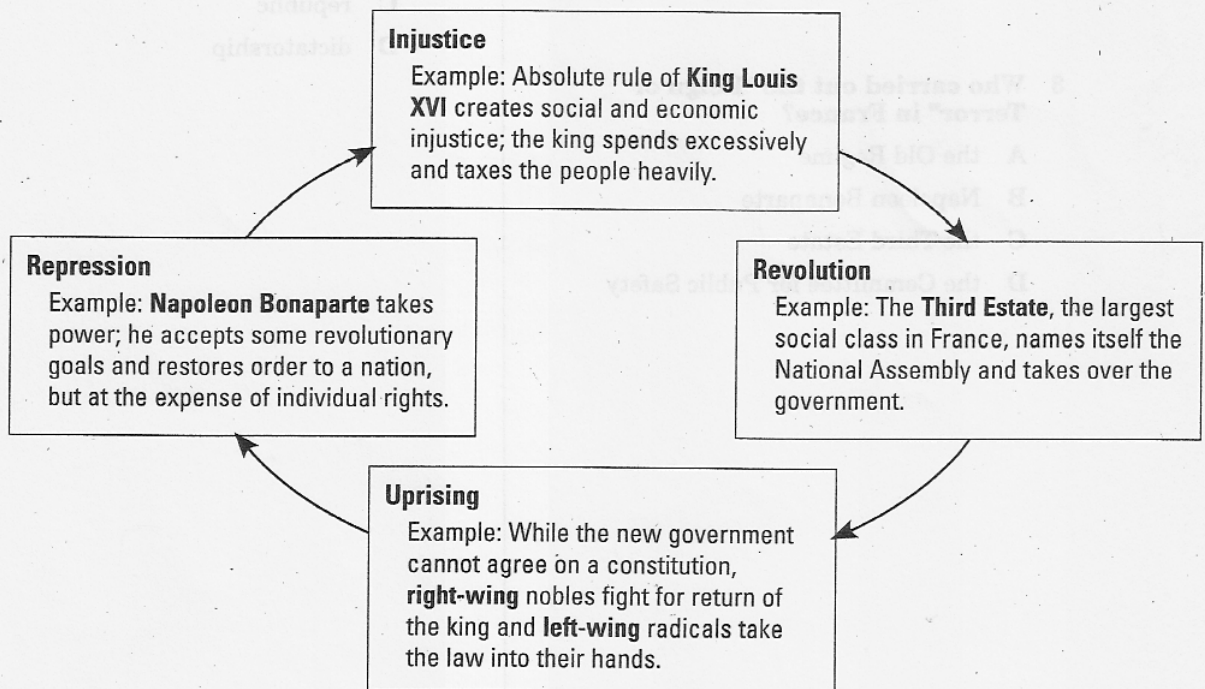
**Specific Objective:** Explain how the ideology of the French Revolution led France to develop from a constitutional monarchy to democratic despotism to the Napoleonic empire.

Read the summary and cause-effect graphic to answer questions on the next page.

Like the American Revolution, the French Revolution of 1789 erupted after years of yearning for freedom and justice. Unlike the American Revolution, the revolutionary movement in France ended not in democracy but in dictatorship. Revolutionaries succeeded in overthrowing the French **Old Regime** that had divided the people into three unequal social classes, or **estates**. But old problems of poverty and injustice remained.

Revolutionaries could not agree on solutions and fought to keep control of the country. A period in the early 1790s was known as the **Reign of Terror** for the mass executions carried out by the revolutionary government's **Committee for Public Safety**. Meanwhile, poverty and chaos wearied the nation. Stability came only after the military leader **Napoleon Bonaparte** seized control as dictator in 1799. His powers as dictator led again to instability, however, continuing for generations. France did not adopt a constitution that guaranteed representative government until 1875.

### Cause and Effect in the French Revolution





## PRACTICE

CALIFORNIA CONTENT  
STANDARD 10.2.4*The French Revolution*

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

- 1 Among the causes of the French Revolution was the
  - A excessive spending of King Louis XVI.
  - B rise of the National Assembly.
  - C Reign of Terror.
  - D loss of the Old Regime.
  
- 2 In pre-Revolutionary France, estates were
  - A homes of noblemen.
  - B social classes.
  - C systems of taxation.
  - D clubs for radicals.
  
- 3 Who carried out the "Reign of Terror" in France?
  - A the Old Regime
  - B Napoleon Bonaparte
  - C the Third Estate
  - D the Committee for Public Safety
  
- 4 Which statement *best* describes the circumstances in which Napoleon Bonaparte took power?
  - A France was economically and politically secure.
  - B The Revolution was new and chaotic.
  - C There had been ten years of instability.
  - D The king had finally agreed to let Napoleon take power.
  
- 5 What form of government did Napoleon Bonaparte lead?
  - A democracy
  - B monarchy
  - C republic
  - D dictatorship