

Section I: The Question:

What are the political, economic, and/or social causes of the French Revolution?

Discuss how the French Revolution affected the people of France
~~Discuss~~ one impact the French Revolution had on the world outside of France

1. What is the question asking you to do? (What's the verb in the question? Restate the verb in your own words.)

2. O.K., now what is the object of the verb? (Analyze *what?* *where?* *when?*) Make sure you focus your essay so that it answers ALL of these key characteristics.

What

Where

When

- Class
- Occupation
- Religion
- Nationality
- Political Affiliation
- Ethnicity
- Gender

Section II: Examining the Evidence

The French Revolution of 1789 had many long-range causes. Political, social, and economic conditions in France contributed to the discontent felt by many French people—especially those of the third estate. The ideas of the intellectuals of the Enlightenment brought new views of government and society. The American Revolution also influenced the coming of the French Revolution. The French Revolution (1789–1814).

3. Try to summarize the Historical Background (HB) paragraph above. *What* does it say?

40 — FINISH AND RE-SUBMIT TO IMPROVE GRADE

Document 1: This excerpt is adapted from *Travels in France* by Arthur Young, who traveled through France from 1787 to 1789.

In the south of France there is a *taille* [tax on the land and its produce]. There is an injustice in levying the amount each person must pay. Lands held by the nobility are taxed very little. Lands held by commoners are taxed heavily...

September 5, 1788: The poor people seem very poor indeed. The children are terribly ragged. June 10, 1789: The lack of bread is terrible. Stories arrive every moment from the provinces of riots and disturbances, and calling in the military, to preserve the peace of the markets.... The price of bread has risen above people's ability to pay. This causes great misery.

July 1789:I was joined by a poor woman who complained of the hard times. "The *tailles* and feudal dues [rents owed the lords] are crushing us," she said.

Source: Miss Betham-Edwards, ed., *Arthur Young's Travels in France During the Years 1787, 1788, 1789*. G. Bell and Sons (adapted)

4. Based on this document of Arthur Young's travels, state three reasons the French peasants were dissatisfied with their life during this period of French history.

5. WHO produced this document? Discuss the author's gender, age, ethnicity, social status, religion, intellectual or political philosophy, etc. (You won't know ALL this information, but give as much detail as possible.)

6. WHEN was it produced? Can it be connected with a significant historical event? (Think back to the Historical Background information.)

7. Who was the intended AUDIENCE? Was the document written privately, written to be read or heard by others (who?), an official document for a ruler to read, commissioned painting, etc.

8. WHY was this document produced? What was the purpose or motivation of the writer/producer of the document, based on what you can surmise about them? What effect did the author hope this document would have?