**Chapter 17 Section 2**

* A time period called the Enlightenment began in Paris, France and spread throughout Europe.
* During this time, thinkers examined traditional beliefs and customs in the light of reason and found them flawed.
* Enlightenment ideas spread quickly through printed pamphlets. More and more people saw that reform was necessary in order to achieve a just society.
* During the Middle Ages, most Europeans had accepted without question a society based on divine-right rule, a strict class system and a belief in heavenly reward for earthly suffering.
* Enlightenment thinkers taught a just society should ensure social justice and happiness in this world.
* Not everyone agreed with this idea of replacing the values that existed. Most, but not all, government and church authorities felt they had a sacred duty to defend the old order. WHY? They believed that God had set up the old order.
* To protect against the attacks of the Enlightenment, government and church leaders waged a war of censorship, or restricting access to ideas and information. HOW did they do this? They banned and burned books and imprisoned writers.
* To avoid censorship, philosophes (philosophers of the Enlightenment) and writers sometimes disguised their ideas in works of fiction.
  + For example, in the *Persian Letters*, Montesquieu used two fictional Persian travelers to mock French society. The hero of Voltaire’s novel *Candide* travels across Europe and even to the Americas and Middle East in search of “the best of all possible worlds.” Voltaire slyly uses the tale to expose the corruption and hypocrisy of European society.
* New literature, the arts, science and philosophy were regular topics of discussion in salons, or informal social gatherings at which writers, artists, philosophes and others exchanged ideas. WHY were salons important?
  + Salons allowed middle-class citizens to meet with the nobility on an equal footing to discuss Enlightenment ideas.
  + Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart played music for guests at one of the most respected salons led by Madame Geoffrin (zhoh FRAN).
* During the reign of Louis XIV, art and architecture were either in the Greek or Roman tradition or in a grand, ornate (elaborate, lavish) style known as baroque.
  + Baroque paintings were huge, colorful, and full of excitement. They glorified historic battles or the lives of saints.
* When Louis XV became king of France, he led a much less formal lifestyle. Architects and designers reflected this change by developing the rococo style.
  + Rococo art moved away from religion and was lighter, elegant, and charming.
  + Rococo art in salons was believed to encourage the imagination.
  + This style was criticized by the philosophes for its superficiality.
* The new Enlightenment ideals led composers and musicians to develop new forms of music.
  + The transition from baroque to rococo took place in music just as it did in art. An elegant style of music followed called “classical.”
  + Among the towering musical figures of this era was Johann Sebastian Bach. He was a devout German Lutheran and he wrote beautiful religious works for organ and choirs.
  + Another German-born composer, George Frideric Handel, spent much time in England and wrote music for King George I.
  + Wolfgang Amedeus Mozart was a child prodigy who gained instant celebrity status as a composer and performer. His works helped define the new style of composition. Although he died in poverty at age 35, he produced an enormous amount of music during his lifetime. Mozart’s musical legacy thrives today.
* Literature also developed new forms and a wider audience during the Enlightenment.
  + Middle-class readers liked stories about their own times told in straightforward prose.
  + One result was an outpouring of novels.
  + English novelists wrote many popular stories:
    - Daniel Defoe wrote *Robinson Crusoe*, an excited tale about a sailor shipwrecked on a tropical island.
* During the Enlightenment, philosophes tried to persuade rulers to adopt their ideas. They hoped to convince the ruling classes that reform was necessary.
  + Some monarchs accepted Enlightenment ideas. These were called enlightened despots, or absolute rulers who used their power to bring about political and social change.
  + Others practiced absolutism, a political doctrine in which a monarch had seemingly unlimited power.
* Enlightened Rulers:
  + Frederick II, known as Frederick the Great, exerted extremely tight control over his subjects during his rule as King of Prussia from 1740 to 1768.
    - He saw himself as the “servant of the state,” with a duty to work for the common good.
    - Frederick’s reforms were directed at making the Prussian government more efficient. To do this, he reorganized the government’s civil service and simplified laws.
      * This included things like freedom of press, reducing the use of torture, religious toleration and welcoming victims of religious persecution.
    - These changes showed Frederick’s genuine belief in enlightened reform.
    - In the end, however, Frederick desired a stronger monarchy and more power for himself.
  + Catherine II, or Catherine the Great, was the empress of Russia. She read the works of the philosophes and exchanged letters with Voltaire. Catherine believed in the Enlightenment ideas of equality and liberty.
    - Like Frederick, Catherine abolished torture and established religious tolerance. She also criticized the institution of serfdom.
    - Let’s be clear, Catherine, like Frederick, never intended to give up her power. In the end, her main political contribution to Russia proved to be an expanded empire.
  + In Austria, empress Maria Theresa ruled as an absolute monarch. However, she is considered an enlightened despot because she worked to improve peasants’ way of life.
  + The most radical of the enlightened despots was Maria’s son, Joseph II.
    - He was an eager enlightenment student and he traveled in disguise among his subjects to learn of their problems.
    - He supported religious equality of Protestants and Jews in his Catholic empire.
    - He ended censorship by establishing free press.
    - He abolished serfdom.

**Chapter 18 Section 1**

* In the late 1700s, small workers’ riots began to break out in France. Most nobles did not worry about these riots. WHY?
  + They knew that France faced a severe economic crisis but thought financial reforms would ease the problem.
* In 1789, like the rest of Europe, France still clung to an outdated social system that had emerged in the Middle Ages. Under this ancient regime, or old order, everyone was divided into one of three social classes, or estates.
  + The First Estate was made up of the clergy
    - During this time, the clergy enjoyed great wealth.
    - The philosophes of the Enlightenment targeted the Church for reform. The criticized the idleness of some clergy, the Church’s interference in politics and its intolerance of opposition.
    - In response, many clergy condemned the Enlightenment for undermining religion and moral order.
  + The Second Estate was made up of the nobility
    - The French nobles held the top jobs in the government, the army, the courts and the church.
    - Many nobles hated absolutism and resented the royal bureaucracy that employed middle-class men in positions that had once been reserved for them.
    - They feared losing their traditional privileges, especially their freedom from paying taxes.
  + The Third Estate was made up of the rest of the population
    - The Third Estate was the largest and most diverse.
    - At the top sat the bourgeoisie, or the middle class. This included bankers, merchants, manufacturers, lawyers, doctors, journalists and professors.
    - The bulk of the Third Estate consisted of rural peasants. Some were prosperous landowners who hired laborers to work for them and others were tenant farmers or day laborers.
    - Among the poorest members of the Third Estate were the urban workers. These included apprentices, journeymen, and others who worked in industries such as printing or cloth making.
      * A large number of the urban poor were unemployed and to survive they turned to begging or crime.
    - Rich or poor, members of the Third Estate resented the privilege enjoyed by their social “betters.”
* Because of traditional privileges, the First and Second Estates paid no taxes. Peasants were burdened by taxes on everything from land to soap and salt.
* In towns and cities, Enlightenment ideas led people to question the inequalities of the old regime.
  + Why should the first 2 estates have such great privilege at the expense of the majority?
* Economic problems in France added to the social unrest and heightened tensions.
  + One of the causes of the economic troubles was a financial crisis due in part to years of deficit spending, which occurs when a government spends more money than it takes in.
    - Rising princes in the 1700s
    - Lavish lifestyle of King Louis XIV
    - Seven Years’ War and aiding the American Revolution
    - Bad harvests of the late 1780s
* The heirs of Louis XIV attempted to solve the economic crisis but were not successful.
* As the crisis deepened, the pressure for reform mounted.
  + The wealthy and powerful classes demanded the king summon the Estates-General, the legislative body consisting of representatives of the three estates, before making any changes.
    - The wealthy classes hoped this would bring the absolute monarch under the control of the nobles and guarantee their own privileges.
* Louis XVI didn’t know what to do. France was on the verge of bankruptcy. Bread riots were spreading and the nobles were denouncing royal tyranny. So he called the Estates-General to meet at Versailles in 1789.
  + Louis had all three estates prepare cahiers, or notebooks, listing their grievances.
    - These contained things like fairer taxes, freedom of the press, regular meetings of the Estates-General.
    - These cahiers were important because they testified to the boiling resentment in France.
* The Estates-General was made up of middle-class men who were familiar with Enlightenment ideas and writings. They planned to solve the financial crisis and demand reform.
* The Estates-General remained deadlocked over how to solve these problems for over a month. Finally, in June of 1789, they declared themselves the National Assembly. They took the Tennis Court Oath where they swore to separate and to meet whenever the circumstances might require until they established a sound and just constitution. Louis XVI had no choice but to accept.
* Rumors spread in Paris that royal troops were going to occupy the city. So on July 14, 1789, more than 800 Parisians assembled outside the Bastille, a medieval fortress in Paris used as a prison for political and other prisoners.
  + The crowd demanded weapons and gun power that they believed were stored there.
  + The commander of the Bastille refused and opened fire on the crowd.
  + After the battle that followed, the crowd finally broke through. They killed the commander and 5 guards and released the prisoners. But they found no weapons.
  + The Bastille was a symbol to the people of France representing years of abuse by the monarchy. Unlike any other small, short-lived riot, the Bastille posed a challenge to the existence of the regime and was a wake-up call to Louis XVI.
    - The French still celebrate Bastille Day as their independence day.

*What was the significance of the storming of the Bastille?*

**Section 2**

* Historians divide the French Revolution era into different phases:
  + The moderate phase of the National Assembly (1789-1791) turned France into a constitutional monarchy
  + A radical phase (1792-1794) of escalating violence led to the end of the monarchy and brought a Reign of Terror
  + There followed a period of reaction against extremism, known as the Directory (1795-1799).
  + The Age of Napoleon (1799-1815) consolidated many revolutionary changes

**Moderate Phase of the Revolution 1789-1791**

* The political crisis of 1789 overlapped with one of the worst famines in history. Grain prices soared. Starving peasants roamed the countryside or flocked into cities. Even people with jobs were spending 80% of their income on bread.
* In such desperate times, rumors ran wild and set off the “Great Fear” where tales of attacks on villages and towns spread panic. Inflamed by panic and fear, peasants unleashed their fury on nobles and stole grain from storehouses. The attacks died down after a while, but clearly demonstrated peasant anger with an unjust regime.
* Paris, as the capital and chief city of France, was the revolutionary center. A variety of factions, or dissenting groups of people, competed to gain power.
  + Moderates looked to Marquis de Lafayette, the aristocratic “hero of two worlds.” Why was he called this? He fought alongside George Washington in the American Revolution. Lafayette headed the National Guard, a largely middle-class militia organized in response to the arrival of royal troops in Paris.
  + A more radical group, the Paris Commune, replaced the royalist government of the city. It had the power to mobilize whole neighborhoods for protests or violent action to further the revolution.
  + Some revolutionary newspapers began spreading scandalous stories about the royal family.
* On August 4, 1789, the nobles of the National Assembly met and voted to end their own privileges. Most historians note that through this decision the nobles weren’t giving up anything they hadn’t already lost. Nevertheless, the National Assembly put these decisions into law. Why is this important? A key enlightenment goal was met—the equality of all male citizens before the law.
* The same month, in an effort to write a constitution, the National Assembly issued the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen. The document was modeled partly after the American Declaration of Independence.
  + The document declared that all men were born and remain free and equal in rights.
  + They were entitled to natural rights of liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression.
  + Government existed to protect the natural rights of citizens. This is the idea of John Locke and was a main idea in the writing of the American Constitution.
  + The document further claimed that all male citizens were equal before the law.
    - This included holding public office, practicing whatever religion he chose, and taxes being levied according to ability to pay.
* Even though the Declaration of Men had been written, it was met with opposition.
  + Women in France were disappointed.
  + Louis XVI was hesitant and uncertain and didn’t want to accept the reforms of the nobles.
  + All the while, nobles continued to enjoy lavish parties while people were starving and anger again turned to action.
* On October 5, 1789, about 6,000 women marched 13 miles in the rain from Paris to Versailles. They demanded to see the king. Much of the crowd’s anger was directed toward Louis’ Austrian-born queen, Marie Antoinette. (She was the daughter of Maria Theresa and sister of Joseph II!)
  + The queen lived a life of great pleasure and extravagance, and this angered the starving French public.
  + The women refused to leave until Louis met their most important demand—to return to Paris. Reluctantly Louis agreed. The next morning the women escorted King Louis, Marie Antoinette and their son back to Paris. For the next three years, the royal family lived virtually as prisoners at Tuileries (TWEE luh reez) Palace in Paris.
* To solve the financial crisis, the National Assembly decided to take over and sell Church lands.
* The Constitution of 1791 ….
  + Set up a limited monarchy in place of the absolute monarchy that had ruled France for centuries.
  + A new Legislative Assembly had the power to make laws, collect taxes and decide on issues of war and peace.
  + Lawmakers would be elected by taw-paying male citizens over the age of 25.
* To moderate reformers, the new constitution seemed to complete the revolution. It reflected enlightenment ideals and ensured equality before the law for all male citizens.
* Meanwhile, Marie Antoinette convinced Louis to escape their humiliating situation. In June of 1791, a coach carrying the king disguised as a servant, the queen dressed as a governess and the royal children, traveled north from Paris toward the border. In a town along the way, someone held up a coin with Louis’ face on it and recognized him. Their attempted escape failed. They were escorted back to Paris with crowds hurling insults at them. This is important because to many, Louis’ attempted escape showed that he was a traitor to the revolution.
* There were several reasons many French people still felt war was inevitable:
  + European rulers increased border patrol to stop the spread of the “French plague.” Even enlightened rulers turned against France.
  + Marie Antoinette’s brother, Joseph II, issued the Declaration of Pilnitz, threatening to intervene to protect the French monarchy.
* In Paris and other cities, working-class men and women, called sans-culottes (sanz koo LAHTS), pushed the revolution into more radical action.
  + They were called sans-culottes, which means “without breeches” because they wore long trousers instead of the fancy knee breeches that upper-class men wore.
  + By 1791, many san-culottes demanded a republic, a government ruled by elected representatives instead of a monarchy.
  + The san-culottes found support among the radicals in the Legislative Assembly, especially the Jacobins who were a revolutionary political club made up of mostly middle-class lawyers and intellectuals.

**Section 3**

**The Radical Phase of the French Revolution 1792-1794**

* The revolution turned radical during the “September Massacres” where Parisians stormed the Tuileries and slaughtered the king’s guards. (The king and his family escaped just in time.) Then citizens attacked prisons that held nobles and priests accused of political offenses. About 1,200 prisoners were killed.
  + Most of these mob-members were ordinary citizens fired to fury by real and imagined grievances.
* Radicals then took charge of the Legislative Assembly and called for the election of a new legislative body called the National Convention. They wanted suffrage, the right to vote, to be extended to all male citizens, not just property owners.
* The National Convention was a more radical body than earlier assemblies:
  + It voted to abolish the monarchy and establish a republic.
  + It drew up a new constitution
  + It was controlled by the Jacobins who set out to erase all traces of the old order.
* During the early months of the Republic, the Convention tried Louis XVI as a traitor to France. He was convicted by a single vote and executed. The same year, Marie Antoinette was also beheaded and her execution was celebrated by the popular press.
* By early 1793, France was in danger:
  + They were at war with much of Europe.
  + In the Vendee region of France, royalists and priests led peasants in rebellion against the government.
  + In Paris, the sans-culottes demanded relief from food shortages and inflation.
  + The Convention was bitterly divided between Jacobins and a rival group, the Girondins.
* To deal with all of this, the Convention created the Committee of Public Safety:
  + This 12-member committee had almost absolute power
  + They prepared France for full-on war by levying a heavy tax that required all citizens to contribute to the war effort.
  + Also, the committee was in charge of trials and executions.
    - This effort proved successful and the French army soon spread “freedom fever” into conquered lands.
* A man named Maximilien Robespierre soon rose to leadership of the Committee of Public Safety. His selfless dedication to the revolution earned him the nickname “the incorruptible.” He believed France could only achieve a “republic of virtue” through terror. He said, “Liberty cannot be secured unless criminals lose their heads.”
* Robespierre was one of the chief architects of the Reign of Terror, which was a one-year period where Revolutionary courts conducted hasty trials for suspects who resisted the revolution.
  + About 300,000 were arrested during the Reign of Terror and about 17,000 of those were executed. Many were victims of mistaken identity or were falsely accused by their neighbors.
  + The engine of the Reign of Terror was the guillotine, a special contraption with a fast-falling blade designed to behead more accurately than the axe.
  + Within a year, many on the Committee were weary of bloodshed and feared for their own lives. In July of 1794, Robespierre was arrested and beheaded the next day. After his death, executions slowed tremendously.

**The Third Phase of the Revolution: The Directory 1795-1799**

* In reaction to the Reign of Terror, moderates drafted a new constitution. The Constitution of 1795:
  + Set up a five-man Directory and a two-house legislature elected by male citizens of property.
* The middle-class and professional people of the bourgeoisie were the dominant force during this stage of the French Revolution.
* The Directory was weak, but dictatorial and it faced several threats:
  + Corrupt leaders lined their pockets but failed to solve pressing problems.
  + The revival of royalist feeling.
* As chaos threatened, politicians turned to Napoleon Bonaparte, a popular military hero who had won a series of brilliant victories against the Austrians in Italy.

**Section 4**

**The Age of Napoleon 1799-1815**

* When the Revolution began, Napoleon was a 20-year-old lieutenant eager to make a name for himself. He moved quickly through the military ranks.
* In 1799, he moved from victorious general to political leader. He helped overthrow the weak Directory and set up a three-man governing board known as the Consulate. Another constitution was drawn up, but Napoleon soon took the title of First Consul. In 1802, he named himself consul for life.
* Soon Napoleon had enough power to assume the title of Emperor of the French.
* At each step to power, Napoleon held a plebiscite (PLEB uh syt), meaning he held a popular vote by ballot. Each time, the French strongly supported him. Even though the people theoretically had a say in their government, Napoleon still held absolute power. This is sometimes called democratic despotism.
* Why did people support Napoleon? Look at his policies:
  + He consolidated power by strengthening the central government. Order, security, and efficiency replaced liberty, equality and fraternity as the slogans of the new regime.
  + To restore economic prosperity, Napoleon controlled prices, encouraged new industry and built roads and canals. He also set up a new system of public schools.
  + He returned church lands to the church.
  + He opened up jobs to all based on talent.
  + Perhaps his most lasting reform was a new code of laws called the Napoleonic Code, which embodied Enlightenment principles such as the equality of all citizens before the law, religious tolerance and the abolition of feudalism.
    - This code undid some of the reforms of the Revolution such as women lost their newly gained rights. Again, Napoleon valued order and authority over individual rights.
* While ruling France, Napoleon continued his victories on the battlefield. By 1812, his “Grand Empire” reached its greatest extent.
  + Napoleon was a brilliant military leader. He always had the element of surprise and he valued rapid movements and made effective use of his large armies.
* As Napoleon created a vast French empire, he redrew the map of Europe. He annexed, or incorporated into his empire, the Netherlands, Belgium, and parts of Italy and Germany.
* Napoleon controlled much of Europe through forceful diplomacy. HOW?
  + One tactic was placing friends and relatives on the thrones of Europe.
  + Another was he forced alliances on European powers.
* In France, Napoleon’s successes boosted the spirit of nationalism, a strong feeling of pride and devotion to one’s country.
* Britain was the only empire Napoleon had not yet taken control of in Europe. In 1805, Napoleon tried to invade but he was crushed by the British navy at the Battle of Trafalgar.
* Next Napoleon waged economic warfare on Britain through the Continental System, which closed European ports to British goods. Britain responded with its own blockade, which involves shutting off ports to keep people or supplies from moving in or out.
* In the end, Napoleon’s Continental System failed to bring Britain to its knees, but it did manage to create a scarcity of goods in Europe, send prices soaring and intensify resentment against French power. Feelings of nationalism caused people to dislike the Continental System and eventually Napoleon’s rule.
* In 1812, Napoleon continued his pursuit of world domination and invaded Russia. To avoid battle with Napoleon, Tsar Alexander I and his army retreated eastward into Russia, burning crops and villages as they went. This scorched-earth policy left Napoleon and his massive army hungry and cold as winter came. In October, Napoleon turned back for home. The 1,000 mile retreat turned into a battle for survival. Russian attacks and the brutal Russian winter took a terrible toll. Only 20,000 of the once 600,000 Grand Army survived.
* The disaster in Russia brought a new alliance of Russia, Britain, Austria and Prussia against a weakened France. In 1813, they defeated Napoleon in the Battle of the Nations at Leipzig.
* The next year, Napoleon abdicated, or stepped down from power. He was exiled to the island of Elba in the Mediterranean. They then recognized Louis XVIII, brother of Louis XVI, as the king of France.
* Napoleon escaped his island exile and entered Paris with soldiers and citizens cheering him. On Napoleon’s return, Louis XVIII fled.
* Napoleon held power for only 100 days. The allies reassembled their forces and met Napoleon in the Battle of Waterloo in Belgium. Once again, Napoleon was defeated and exiled to St. Helena, an island in the South Atlantic. This time he would not return.
* Heads of state and diplomats met at the Congress of Vienna to face the task of restoring stability and order in Europe after years of war.
  + The real work fell to Prince Clemens von Metternich of Austria, Tsar Alexander I of Russia and Lord Robert Castlereagh of Britain.
  + The chief goal of the Congress was to create a lasting peace by establishing a balance of power and protecting the system of monarchy.
  + The Congress promoted the principle of legitimacy, restoring hereditary monarchies that the Revolution had unseated.
  + To protect the new order, the allies formed the Quadruple Alliance where the 4 nations (Britain, Austria, Russia and Prussia) pledged to act together to maintain the balance of power and to suppress revolutionary uprisings, especially in France.
  + Another result of the Congress was a system known as the Concert of Europe, in which the powers met periodically to discuss any problems affecting the peace of Europe.