Jonathan Quang

Mr. Berman 3rd Period

I remember hearing about Napoleon before he visited my shop in part one of this whole French Revolution nonsense. It was when the Concordat of 1801 was passed. The agreement allowed Catholics to practice their religion, but also recognized the French government's authority to nominate bishops and pay priests on a state payroll. Church supporters were rejoicing in streets. I decided that it was a good day to begin selling my newly acquired surplus of low quality wine through heavy advertisement on the streets.   
 When Napoleon walked away from my store with two full stacks of guns, I wondered whether he was doing some illegal activities or giving them to his Napoleonic Empire. Yes, the Emperor of France really wanted to rustle up some discount guns for the army that is currently dominating Europe. Not for long if he ends up being far too ambitious, like the Jacobin club that messed with me in the last part.  
 In 1812, Napoleon decided to invade Russia, during the winter. Has he gone mad? One does not simply invade a country full of snow and freezing temperatures during the coldest time of the year. It really is like everyone who buys in bulk from me ends up failing. Napoleon went in with 600,000 men and only came back with 30,000.  
 I blame the War of the First Collation, for making Napoleon so full of hubris. When war was declared on Austria, several countries in Europe decided to help fight against the French as well. This did not go over too well. Britain surrendered to the French in the last battle and Austria ended up giving us more land. I do appreciate the business I get from the war though. There was always someone looking to buy my high quality guns in bulk.   
 In 1815, Britain, Russia, Austria, Prussia, and more met as the Congress of Vienna to attempt to reestablish political order in Europe. According to them, my country's revolution had ruined Europe's old order. Under the leadership of Metternich, the allies tried to reestablish the French monarchy and recognize some borders. Meanwhile, the Holly Alliance under Austria, Prussia, and Russia was established. They tried repressing republican and nationalist ideas. Those fools. My country loves revolutions. Sigh. In 1815, the British also passed the Corn Laws to favor the profits of the wealthy landowners, which would then force the poor to pay more, all just for fear of democracy. Have the British learned nothing from the French Revolution too? Radical reformers called Chartists, had their demands denied, but new labor and economic reforms addressing the grievances of workers were put in place. I guess the British narrowly avoided that one.  
 I received word of the Greek independence from Ottomans 1821 from one of my surplus suppliers. Greek patriots launched an independence movement. Conservatives tried to oppose Greek independence, but eventually, Russia, France, and Great Britain forced the Ottoman Empire to recognize Greece as an independent.  
 In the 1830s, Louis Philippe, inherited the crown from Charles X, who refused to follow constitutional monarchy, causing a massive uprising. Of course, not wanting another huge radical revolution, Louis Philippe resumed the constitutional monarchy.   
 Gosh darn it, yet another revolution in 1848 this time. Louis Philippe messed up it time. The second French Republic was created, and reformers gave adult men voting rights, abolished slavery in French colonies, ended the death penalty, and brought in the ten-hour workday. Guess who had to go back to making guns for the fearful? This man. Ah, the nostalgia of making guns during a revolution is back. Meanwhile the Parisian workers demanded less unemployment and reduced prices, which only caused conflicts with the middle class who wanted more rights for their property.   
 It was such a big surprise to have Emperor Napoleon III order guns in bulk from me. This guy was now the self declared emperor, who also used to be a dictator. Parisians who rose up against the government where crushed by French troops. Of course we need another emperor. Just what we need... Maybe this Napoleon will be different.