

**Q1. Circumstances leading to French Revolution:**

1. Autocratic rule - Louis XVI lived lavishly, lacked vision.
2. Empty treasury - Wars and court expenses drained finances.
3. Debt from American war - France helped US; loans added huge debt with 10% interest.
4. Increased taxes - To maintain army, offices, universities.
5. Unfair tax system - 1st & 2nd Estates (clergy & nobility) paid no taxes; 3rd Estate bore the burden.
6. Rise of educated middle class - Influenced by Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu; demanded equality.
7. Corruption - Government ignored common people.

**Q2. Who gained/lost from the revolution?**

1. Benefited - Middle class (traders, lawyers, doctors, teachers); gained equality and status.
2. Lost power - Nobility & clergy; lost privileges and executive powers.
3. Disappointed - Poor peasants, workers, women; no real economic or political equality.

**Q3. Legacy of the French Revolution:**

1. Spread of liberty & rights - Inspired revolutions across 19th-20th centuries.
2. End of feudalism - Across Europe.
3. Freedom movements - Inspired colonies to fight for independence.
4. Rise of nationalism - People questioned monarchy.
5. Influence in India - Tipu Sultan, Raja Ram Mohan Roy inspired by it.
6. Awareness of rights - Worldwide effect on people's thinking.

**Q4. Democratic rights we enjoy today (from French Rev):**

1. Right to equality.
2. Right to freedom (speech, profession).
3. Right against exploitation.
4. Right to life.
5. Right to vote.

**Q5. Contradictions in universal rights:**

1. Rights weren't clear or equal for all.
2. Economic inequality remained.
3. Women had no political rights.
4. France still kept colonies.

5. Slavery continued till 19th century.

**Q6. Rise of Napoleon:**

1. Weak Directory rule - People wanted strong leadership.

2. Military success - Napoleon was seen as a hero.

3. Became Emperor (1804) - Conquered parts of Europe; placed family as rulers.

4. Reforms - Introduced laws like property protection, decimal system.

5. Fall - Defeated in 1815 at Waterloo.