

**Question 1:**What were the main social, economic and cultural inequalities in Ancien Régime France, and how did they contribute to the outbreak of the revolution?

**Question 2:**Explain how events unfolded between the convocation of the Estates General and the proclamation of the constitutional monarchy, focusing on the role of the Third Estate and the symbolic impact of the storming of the Bastille.

**Question 3:**It analyses the transition from monarchy to Republic, describing the reasons for the establishment of the Reign of Terror and the role played by Robespierre in this phase.

**Question 4:**How did the Directory attempt to re-establish order after the Terror, and what internal and external factors led to its weakening?

**Question 5:**How did Napoleon Bonaparte emerge after the coup d'état of 18 Brumaire, and in what sense did his rise mark the end of the French Revolution?

**Answer 1:**In the France of the Ancien Régime, the main social inequalities were linked to the division into two orders: the clergy and the nobility. The Third Estate, which included only the peasants, was excluded from any privileges. Economically, France was prosperous thanks to the colonies, but the clergy and the nobility refused to pay taxes, leaving all the fiscal burden to the bourgeoisie. Culturally, the Enlightenment was widespread only among the nobles, who used it to criticize the king. These injustices pushed the people to rebel to obtain more privileges, not to abolish them.

**Answer 2:**The convocation of the Estates General in 1789 was initially welcomed with hope by the Third Estate, which however clashed with the unequal voting system (one vote per order). On 17 June, the Third Estate proclaimed itself the National Assembly, and with the Tennis Court Oath (20 June) swore not to dissolve without a constitution. The storming of the Bastille on 14 July became a symbol of the fall of monarchical power and the beginning of the popular revolution. These events led to the abolition of feudal privileges (4 August) and the Declaration of the Rights of Man (26 August), culminating in the constitutional monarchy of 1791.

**Answer 3:**The transition to the Republic in 1792 was marked by the fall of Louis XVI, accused of treason after his attempted escape. The war against Austria and fears of counter-revolution pushed the Jacobins, led by Robespierre, to establish the Reign of Terror (1793-1794). This period was characterized by the elimination of opponents by guillotine, justified by the need to save the revolution. Robespierre, promoting a "Republic of virtue", centralized power in the Committee of Public Safety, but his authoritarianism led to his execution in July 1794, closing the most violent phase.

**Answer 4:** The Directory (1795-1799) attempted to restore order by abolishing all revolutionary reforms and restoring the privileges of the nobility. Internally, it repressed both the monarchists and the sans-culottes, but was weakened by the economic crisis and inflation. Externally, the wars against Europe were a failure, and the army refused to obey the generals. The only success was the victory in Italy, but Napoleon was exiled for threatening the Directory. These factors led to its collapse without resistance.

**Answer 5:** After the coup d'état of 18 Brumaire (1799), Napoleon established the Consulate, concentrating power as First Consul. He reformed the administration, introduced the Civil Code and reconciled France with the Church (Concordat of 1801). In 1804 he proclaimed himself emperor, marking the end of the revolution: while maintaining some revolutionary principles (juridical equality), he restored an authoritarian regime, closing the phase of instability and opening the Napoleonic era.