The French Revolution



Name _____ Date _____

1 Recall, then make a connection.

Start from memory. Write a meaning or quick example for each term.

Sovereignty	Representation	Revolution

Distinguish sovereignty from representation. Explain how a revolution could change the source of governing authority without immediately making political participation equal for everyone.

Context for the task

The French Revolution began amid fiscal problems, social and political inequalities, and disputes about representation and authority. No single cause explains every decision or phase. The 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen articulated principles about liberty, law, and sovereignty, but announcing rights did not automatically establish equal participation for every person.

2 Build the sequence.

Trace change, not inevitability

A historian is studying a particular revolutionary reform.

Arrange the inquiry.

A. Read the reform's stated principle and legal wording.

B. Examine how officials and communities implemented or resisted it.

C. Explain its effects and limits without assuming later events were inevitable.

D. Identify the earlier rule and the pressure for change.

Sequence: _____ -> _____ -> _____ -> _____

Explain one connection between two neighboring steps.

Evidence, application & transfer.



3 Read the evidence closely.

Investigate the petition

A petition argues that a group is excluded despite the declaration's principles.

Select all records that directly establish whether this group could exercise the stated right.

A. The actual participation rule applying to that group.

B. Records of the group's attempts to claim or exercise the stated right.

C. The declaration repeats a general promise of equality without explaining implementation.

D. Participation rules describe a different group in an unrelated later period.

Selections: _____ Explain your reasoning:

4 Apply the idea.

Choose the headline

The newsroom has evidence of fiscal pressure, rights claims, and restricted participation.

Which headline is most accurate?

A. Revolutionary change combined several pressures and opened contested claims to rights.

B. One financial problem explains every revolutionary action.

C. Every French person wanted exactly the same outcome.

My choice: _____ Explain why it fits:

5 Carry the idea forward.

Write a newsroom analysis explaining two kinds of pressure behind revolutionary change and a gap between rights language and implementation. Identify a source that could reveal a group's response.