

5.4 The French Revolution

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS french revolution 法国大革命 • constitutional monarchy 君主立宪
• hereditary privileges 世袭特权 • de-christianisation 去基督教化 • mass conscription 大规模征兵

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **French Revolution** 法国大革命.

You must be able to:

- separate long-term causes, ideas and short-term crisis
- describe the measures of the liberal phase
- describe the measures of the radical phase and their stated cause
- state what happened to women's political status

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Three kinds of cause

Long-term: social and political grievance. **Ideas:** Enlightenment arguments about consent and privilege. **Short-term:** fiscal and economic crisis, which **exacerbated** the others rather than creating them.

■ Liberal phase

A constitutional monarchy, increased popular participation, nationalisation of the church, and abolition of hereditary privileges.

■ Radical phase

After the king's execution, and in response to opposition at home and war abroad, the republic instituted the Terror, fixed prices and wages, and pursued de-Christianisation.

■ Women

Women participated enthusiastically in the early phases; there were brief improvements in legal status; and citizenship was soon restricted to men.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the three kinds of cause and state which exacerbated the others. [3]

2.2 State two measures of the liberal phase. [2]

2.3 The radical phase begins.

(a) State the two circumstances the CED gives as its cause. [2]

(b) Name one measure that followed. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Mass conscription became possible because the state could now claim [1]

- **A** divine sanction
- **B** the nation as its own
- **C** noble privilege
- **D** foreign support

3.2 Citizenship in the republic was soon restricted to [1]

- **A** all adults
- **B** men
- **C** property owners only
- **D** clergy

3.3 A student writes that the deficit caused the Revolution.

(a) State the error. [1]

(b) Explain the accurate formulation. [2]

Solutions

2.1 long-term social and political causes; Enlightenment ideas; short-term fiscal and economic crisis, which exacerbated the others.

2.2 any two of: constitutional monarchy; increased popular participation; nationalisation of the church; abolition of hereditary privileges.

2.3 (a) opposition at home and war abroad. (b) any one of: the Terror; fixing prices and wages; de-Christianisation.

3.1 B. a state that speaks for the nation can conscript it.

3.2 B. citizenship was restricted to men.

3.3 (a) it takes the trigger for the whole cause. (b) the crisis exacerbated long-term grievances and Enlightenment ideas already present, and an answer must name all three.