

French Revolution: Enlightenment in Practice or Terror or Total War/Nationalism

- a. the problem: What caused the French Revolution?
- b. causes
 - (1) the Enlightenment
 - (2) example of Great Britain
 - (3) American Revolution
 - (4) A social crisis
 - (5) an absolutist king?
- c. the trigger
 - (1) fiscal crisis
- d. Stages of the French Revolution
 - i. Aristocratic Rebellion, 1787
 - ii. Revolution of the Third Estate, Liberal Phase, 1789
 - (1) fall of old regime
 - (2) end of feudalism
 - (3) Edmund Burke and Birth of Modern Conservatism
 - iii. *Sans Culottes* Revolution, Radical Phase, 1792
 - (1) Flight to Varennes, July 1791 and Massacre
 - (2) the Terror
 - (a) Maximilien Robespierre, the Jacobins, and the Committee of Public Safety
 - (b) *levée en masse*
 - (3) West Indians and the Friends of the Blacks
 - (a) slave revolt in Saint-Domingue (Haiti), Aug. 1791, from Voodoo service
 - (b) Toussaint Breda (later called Toussaint L'Ouverture, and sometimes the "black Napoleon")
 - (c) Crisis for the French Colonial economy, 1801-1804
 - (4) execution of Louis XVI, 21 Jan. 1793
 - (a) Make terror the order of the day.
 - (b) Jacobins (the Mountain) and the Revolutionary Tribunal
 - iv. Thermidorian Reaction, 1794
 - (1) Fall of the Committee of Public Safety, 9 Thermidor, Year II (27 July 1794)
 - (2) the White Terror
 - (3) the Directory
 - v. Napoleon, 1799
 - vi. Restoration of the Bourbons, 1815
- e. Significance of the Rev. (beginning of the Modern World)
 - i. Enlightenment success or horror?
 - ii. total war/nationalism
 - iii. French Rev. and the World