

The French Revolution and Napoleon

Long-Term Causes

- Enlightenment ideas—liberty and equality
- Example furnished by the American Revolution
- Social and economic injustices of the Old Regime

Immediate Causes

- Economic crisis—famine and government debt
- Weak leadership
- Discontent of the Third Estate

Revolution

- Fall of the Bastille
- National Assembly
- Declaration of the Rights of Man and a new constitution

Immediate Effects

- End of the Old Regime
- Execution of monarchs
- War with the First Coalition
- Reign of Terror
- Rise of Napoleon

Long-Term Effects

- Conservative reaction
- Decline in French power
- Spread of Enlightenment ideas
- Growth of nationalism
- Rise of international organizations (Congress of Vienna)
- Revolutions in Latin America

CT59 Chapter 23 Visual Summary

Use this transparency to review the French Revolution and the reign of Napoleon.

BACKGROUND

Toward the end of the 1700s, the reign of France's monarchs came to a violent end. Several forces—Enlightenment ideas, terrible economic conditions, and a bourgeoisie anxious for more power—combined to spark a momentous revolution in 1789 that swept out the old regime and ushered in a new government. However, the revolutionaries soon battled each other, and terror gripped France for several years. Into this chaos stepped a French army officer, Napoleon Bonaparte. Napoleon seized control of the country and then built an empire that dominated much of western Europe. The other European powers eventually defeated Napoleon and convened the Congress of Vienna in 1814. There, they reestablished order and balance among the nations of Europe.

Questions and Activities

1. **Clarifying** What two documents signaled the end of rule by monarchy? (the Declaration of the Rights of Man and a new constitution)
2. **Analyzing Causes** What examples do you think the American Revolution furnished to the revolutionaries in France? (Possible answers: It demonstrated that a people who felt they were being governed unfairly had the right to change the government; it also showed that with enough determination and cooperation, a group of citizens could overthrow a supposedly invincible establishment.)
3. **Analyzing Issues** In what way did the effect of the French Revolution reach far beyond France's borders? (Possible answer: It helped spark revolutions in Latin America.)

CT60 Chapter 24 Visual Summary

Use this transparency to review the political and artistic revolutions that swept Europe and Latin America in the 1800s.

BACKGROUND

Throughout the 1800s, revolutions swept the Western world, as people in numerous countries rose up and overthrew the old order. In Latin America, many nations gained freedom from their French and Spanish rulers. Revolutions—some successful, some not—also erupted throughout Europe. The driving force behind many of these revolutions was nationalism, the belief that a person should be loyal not to a king or an empire, but to a nation of people who share a common culture and history. This tumultuous period also saw a revolution in the arts, as intellectuals and artists expressed a variety of new views.

Questions and Activities

1. **Summarizing** What happened in the same year that Beethoven completed his Ninth Symphony? (Bolívar completed the liberation of Latin America.)
2. **Summarizing** What similar events happened in 1870 and 1871? (Italy and Germany were unified.)
3. **Clarifying** Identify the dates and descriptions of all Latin American events on the time line. (1804—Haiti gains independence; 1821—Bolívar wins Venezuela's independence; 1824—Bolívar completes the liberation of Latin America)