



IYC 2025 Group of Eight Study Guide

Points Of Contact:

IYC Core Team:

presidentsiyc@jnis.ac.in

Committee-Specific Contacts for Group of Eight:

Diya Hosangady, Chair: Diya.hosangady@jnis.ac.in

Deetya K, Vice Chair: Deetya.k@jnis.ac.in

Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the IYC's historical crisis committee, Group of 8. On behalf of the executive board, it is with great excitement that we welcome you to one of the most gripping chapters in European history. Get ready to step into a world of revolution, reform, and radical change.

The French Revolution stands as one of the most defining moments in world history. It is a symbol of how the voice of the people can reshape a nation. In this committee, you will not simply observe history; you will rewrite it. You will debate the future of France, the fate of its monarchy, and the spread of revolutionary ideals across Europe.

This year's G8 committee will challenge you to understand the delicate tensions between reform and power, liberty and control, fear and freedom. The agenda calls for a deep dive into the social, political, and economic turmoil of late 18th-century France. Your objective is not just to navigate these volatile times but to create a vision for a new world order — or defend the old one.

As delegates, your role is to embody your nation's or faction's stance with nuance and conviction. Every motion you raise, every bloc you form, and every speech you deliver will shape the course of our committee's revolution.

This study guide serves as your foundation, but it is by no means your limit. Dive deeper. Explore the philosophies, tensions, and ambitions that defined the Revolution. We are thrilled to witness the passion, diplomacy, and leadership each of you will bring to this chamber. Let the storming of ideas begin and may you find not just power in debate, but purpose in history.

Vive la révolution!

Warm regards,

Diya Hosangady, Chair of G8

Deetya K, Vice Chair of G8

Agenda

Preserving the Revolution: The Fall of the Monarchy or the Rise of Terror?

Timeline & Freeze Date

July 14 1789 – immediately after the Storming of the Bastille. No information after this point exists for delegates.

1. Introduction

In the summer of 1789, France was a nation swept by turmoil and uncertainty. Years of fiscal distress, a climbing population, agricultural catastrophe, and the provocative ideas of Enlightenment thinkers had sapped public faith in the Bourbon monarchy. The desperate recall of the Estates-General—an institution dormant since 1614—offered only a flashpoint for conflict. In a dramatic departure from established tradition, the Third Estate refused the old voting procedure and declared itself the National Assembly, solemnly swearing the Tennis Court Oath to draft a new constitution. Fear ran rampant when word spread that the king might use force to dissolve this bold new body. On July 14, Parisians erupted in violence, storming the Bastille in pursuit of gunpowder, and, in doing so, tore apart the long-cherished aura of royal inviolability. With revolutionary sentiment surging, French representatives now faced a fateful choice: to channel popular passion into ordered reform, or to let it spiral unchecked, paving the way for suspicion and violence that would later become infamous as the Terror.

2. Historical Background (Pre-July 1789)

2.1 Economic Crisis

By the eve of the Revolution, France's economy was wracked by deep structural problems and acute short-term shocks. The kingdom's financial health had been sapped

by nearly a century of costly wars. Embracing the American cause in the fight for independence had cost France dearly—amassing a staggering national debt estimated near 4 billion livres, but yielding little economic benefit for France itself. These international adventures left no room for fiscal maneuver, leaving the state constantly scrambling for funds merely to service its enormous debt.

Layered atop the fiscal morass was a tax system notorious for its inequity. The First Estate (the clergy) and the Second Estate (the nobility) enjoyed sweeping exemptions, their privilege virtually untouched by the tax collector. The vast bulk of direct taxes, most notably the *taille*, fell on the Third Estate—that is, the peasantry, urban artisans, and rising bourgeois professionals. This deeply regressive system bred resentment: those who bore the nation's burdens were those least able to pay, while the privileged few contributed little or nothing.

Disaster struck in rural France with consecutive crop failures in 1787 and 1788. Grain was the linchpin of the French diet, and as harvests withered, bread scarcity became a national crisis. In urban centers like Paris, bread costs soared to consume as much as 80% of a worker's income. The poorest bore the brunt, facing hunger and malnutrition. Desperate for relief, people rioted, attacked grain convoys, and clamored for government action. The monarchy, already tarnished by its inability to address larger fiscal problems, now looked incapable of relieving the most basic distress. The convergence of economic hardship, hunger, and social resentment eroded royal legitimacy. It was a potent mix, primed to ignite revolutionary change.

2.2 Political Gridlock

Confronted with bankruptcy and mounting unrest, King Louis XVI called the Estates-General to meet in May 1789, aiming to secure approval for new tax policies. This was no mere administrative formality: the last such gathering had occurred 175 years prior, underscoring the magnitude of the crisis. However, its structure doomed it to

an impasse. The three Estates—clergy, nobility, and commoners—each held a single collective vote, ensuring that the privileged orders could always outvote the much larger, but singular, voice of the Third Estate.

This gaping disconnect between population and political power turned what might have been a moment of consensus into a forum for frustration. The Third Estate, representing roughly 97% of the population, demanded voting “by head,” where each delegate would have an individual vote. Their demand was simple—fair representation in proportion to their numbers—but the king and privileged orders flatly refused. Negotiations stalled, and tempers frayed. In a decisive and radical move, on June 17, representatives of the Third Estate broke from the established order, proclaiming themselves the National Assembly—the sole legitimate representative of the French nation. Three days later, locked out of their meeting hall, the deputies took the Tennis Court Oath, pledging not to disperse until they had given France a new constitution.

This sequence of events shattered the foundations of the Ancien Régime. The king’s refusal to reform, and the Third Estate’s bold assertion of popular legitimacy, left no room for compromise. The nation was set on a trajectory toward direct confrontation and fundamental change.

2.3 Royal Missteps

While the monarchy was undoubtedly embattled, it was its mismanagement and hesitation that most directly catalyzed the revolutionary crisis. Jacques Necker, the popular finance minister associated with reform and relative government transparency, was abruptly dismissed by Louis XVI on July 11, 1789. This action was widely perceived as a rejection of reformist policies and an ominous signal that the monarchy was preparing to quash both public resistance and the burgeoning National Assembly.

Compounding the sense of threat was the sudden concentration of royal troops around Paris and Versailles. The king had at his disposal nearly 25,000 soldiers—including foreign mercenaries—whose presence, in an already unstable capital, convinced many that decisive military action was imminent. These moves sparked a wildfire of rumor and fear—many believed a full-blown crackdown was only days away.

The reaction was both swift and decisive. News of Necker's dismissal, paired with the intimidating troop movements, propelled Parisians into the streets. On July 14, fearing for their safety and the fate of the Revolution, armed crowds stormed the Bastille prison—long a symbol of royal despotism—in search of weapons and gunpowder. The fall of the Bastille marked a point of no return: the monarchy's vacillation and missteps had transformed protest into outright insurrection. From this moment, the revolutionary momentum became unstoppable, setting France on a tumultuous path toward radical social and political transformation.

3 July 1789: The Immediate Situation

Freeze here. The monarchy survives in name, foreign courts watch warily, and Paris is armed.

11 July 1789: Necker Dismissed

The abrupt dismissal of Jacques Necker, the popular and reform-minded finance minister, acted as a catalyst for revolutionary fervor in Paris. Widely respected by the Third Estate and the general populace for his calls for fiscal transparency and accountability, Necker's removal was seen as a betrayal by King Louis XVI, signaling the monarchy's intent to suppress growing demands for reform. This event radicalized Parisians, fueling widespread anger and suspicion toward the crown. In response, many citizens began

arming themselves in preparation for potential conflict, reflecting a rapid escalation from political protest to armed readiness.

12–13 July 1789: Barricades and Seizure of the Hôtel des Invalides

Over these two days, Parisians actively took to the streets, erecting barricades to defend against anticipated royal military action. In a significant and strategic move, revolutionary crowds seized the Hôtel des Invalides, a military complex, and acquired approximately 30,000 muskets. However, they still lacked sufficient gunpowder to arm these weapons effectively. This spurred a desperate search for powder and ammunition, heightening tensions and the sense of imminent confrontation between the people and royal forces.

14 July 1789: Fall of the Bastille

The storming of the Bastille fortress-prison on this day marked a turning point in the French Revolution. After a tense four-hour siege, the fortress fell to the revolutionary mob. The Bastille, a powerful symbol of royal despotism and arbitrary authority, was dismantled both physically and symbolically. The release of seven prisoners held within the fortress underscored the victory of popular sovereignty over the old regime. While the insurgents suffered casualties—around 98 attackers were killed—the event dramatically shattered the aura of absolute monarchy and became an enduring emblem of revolutionary defiance and the fight for liberty.

15 July 1789: Lafayette Appointed Commander of the National Guard

In the aftermath of the Bastille's fall, moderate forces sought to stabilize the volatile situation. The Marquis de Lafayette, a respected nobleman and military hero of the American Revolution, was appointed commander of the newly established National Guard, a citizen militia aimed at maintaining order. Lafayette's leadership embodied the hope that revolutionary change could be managed through a constitutional and orderly

process, balancing revolutionary ideals with social stability. His appointment also reflected attempts to institutionalize popular power while preventing descent into chaos.

17 July 1789: Louis XVI Dons the Tricolour Cockade at Hôtel de Ville

In a public gesture intended to demonstrate solidarity with the revolutionary cause and pacify unrest, King Louis XVI appeared at the Hôtel de Ville wearing the tricolour cockade, a symbol of the revolution. This act represented the crown's nominal acceptance of the new political reality and a conciliatory stance toward the National Assembly and Parisian citizens. However, despite this outward show of unity, deep mistrust persisted between the monarchy and the revolutionaries. The king's hesitant acceptance failed to restore full confidence, signaling that the fundamental conflict between crown and people was far from resolved.

These events from mid-July 1789 collectively mark the transition from political tension and reform demands to open revolutionary upheaval. The dismissal of Necker and the storming of the Bastille galvanized popular action, while the formation of the National Guard and symbolic gestures from Louis XVI reflected early attempts at compromise and order—though the alliance between the monarchy and revolutionaries remained fragile and tentative.

4 Committee Objective

Delegates must decide whether to:

1. **Stabilize the French economy** — address food shortages, inflation, and debt while restoring public trust in the government's ability to provide.
2. **Determine the monarchy's fate** — debate whether France will remain a constitutional monarchy, transition to a republic, or explore alternative governance systems.
3. **Protect revolutionary gains** — curb violent uprisings, manage radical factions, and prevent the Revolution from collapsing into chaos.
4. **Abolish feudal privileges** — create a new social order where merit, not birth, determines opportunity.
5. **Defend France's sovereignty** — respond to threats from Austria, Britain etc seeking to restore the monarchy.
6. **Shape foreign policy** — decide whether France will spread revolutionary ideals abroad, form defensive alliances, or prioritize domestic stability.
7. **Counter foreign-backed plots** — identify and neutralize royalist movements supported by outside powers.
8. **Build France's new identity** — promote revolutionary values through education, culture, and diplomacy to inspire both citizens and foreign allies.

5 Key Terms & Concepts

Term	Definition
Ancien Régime	The social-political order of pre-revolutionary France.
Estates-General	Tricameral assembly of clergy, nobility, and commons; last met 1614–1789.
National Assembly	Body formed 17 June 1789 claiming to represent the nation.
Tennis Court Oath	Pledge not to disband until a constitution is drafted.
Sans-culottes	Radical urban workers favouring direct democracy and price controls.
Popular Sovereignty	Doctrine that authority emanates from the people, not divine right.
Declaration of Pillnitz	August 1791 statement by Austria & Prussia threatening intervention; <i>unknown to delegates</i> but feared in principle.

6 Key People (July 14 1789)

1. King Louis XVI

King Louis XVI ruled France during one of the most pivotal moments in European history. Inheriting the throne in 1774, Louis faced a nation on the brink of collapse—crippled by debt, food shortages, and growing unrest among the Third Estate. Although not malicious by nature, he was indecisive, politically inexperienced, and often paralyzed by the magnitude of the crises confronting him. His inability to implement meaningful reforms alienated both reformers and conservatives, while his perceived aloofness from the plight of the common people fueled revolutionary fervor.

As monarch, Louis represents the embodiment of the Ancien Régime, tasked with maintaining order and royal legitimacy in a rapidly fracturing society. In this committee, his role is one of high stakes and delicate diplomacy. Will he resist the revolution with force, seek compromise with the Estates-General, or abdicate responsibility altogether? His decisions will influence the pace and direction of the revolution—whether it descends into radical violence or shifts toward constitutional monarchy. Delegates representing him must weigh loyalty to tradition against the mounting pressure for change, balancing foreign alliances, internal court factions, and the growing demands of the populace.

2. Marie Antoinette

Marie Antoinette, Queen of France and daughter of Austrian Empress Maria Theresa, remains one of the most polarizing figures of the French Revolution. To many, she epitomized royal extravagance and disregard for the suffering of the common people. Her foreign origins and lavish spending at Versailles made her an easy target for revolutionary propaganda. Yet beyond the symbolism, Marie Antoinette was also a politically savvy figure who wielded considerable influence over court decisions and foreign policy.

In this agenda, she is far more than a consort—she is a strategic actor. Her role centers around survival, both personal and political. Should she attempt to negotiate behind the scenes with Austria and other European monarchies? Should she encourage Louis to flee, resist, or compromise? Her decisions may shape international intervention, the fate of the monarchy, and the nature of the revolution itself. Representing Marie Antoinette involves high-level diplomacy, emotional manipulation, and strategic foresight. Delegates must balance public perception with private influence—deciding whether to preserve her family’s legacy or adapt to the revolution for survival.

3. Jacques Necker

Jacques Necker, a Swiss-born banker, served as France’s finance minister during critical years leading up to the Revolution. He became immensely popular with the Third Estate for advocating greater fiscal transparency and opposing new taxes on the lower classes. Necker was among the first to push for summoning the Estates-General, believing that national representation could help resolve France’s financial woes without resorting to oppressive taxation. However, his progressive ideas earned him the ire of the nobility and Queen Marie Antoinette, leading to his dismissal in 1789—an event that triggered public outrage and indirectly sparked the storming of the Bastille.

In the G8 committee, Necker represents the rational reformist voice within a chaotic regime. His role demands a deep understanding of economics, politics, and compromise. Delegates playing Necker must walk a tightrope—advocating for reform while retaining the king’s confidence and avoiding alienating the aristocracy. Should Necker push for a constitutional monarchy, support the growing revolutionary movement, or try to pull France back from the brink using fiscal policy? His influence could prevent civil war—or hasten the monarchy’s fall. In the committee, he is uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between revolution and reform, making him a revolution from descending into violence or chaos. Duport’s efforts highlight the diversity of views within the revolutionary leadership on how best to transform French society.

4. Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès

Abbé Sieyès was a clergyman, political theorist, and revolutionary intellectual whose famous pamphlet “*What is the Third Estate?*” became a cornerstone of revolutionary ideology. In it, he argued that the Third Estate—the common people—*was* the nation, and that the privileged classes were simply parasitic. His bold rhetoric helped catalyze the formation of the National Assembly, making him one of the early architects of political transformation in France.

In the G8, Sieyès is a radical thinker turned statesman, advocating for sweeping institutional reforms. Delegates representing him must navigate between revolutionary passion and the need for stable governance. He is often torn between supporting popular sovereignty and managing revolutionary chaos. Should he push for a republic, constitutional monarchy, or some hybrid form? His strategic brilliance and ideological clarity make him a key influence over the direction of the revolution—and possibly its constitution.

5. Marquis de Lafayette

A decorated general and hero of both the American and French Revolutions, the Marquis de Lafayette was a symbol of moderation and constitutionalism. Deeply committed to liberty, he sought to apply Enlightenment principles to France while preserving the monarchy. He helped draft the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen and commanded the National Guard.

In this committee, Lafayette represents moderate reform and military leadership. Delegates must balance revolutionary demands with loyalty to the king, navigating threats from both radical Jacobins and hardline royalists. Should he lead a constitutional order, suppress radical uprisings, or abandon the monarchy altogether? Lafayette’s position is politically precarious—but with military power and popular support, he could shape the future French state.

6. Maximilien Robespierre

Robespierre, known as “*The Incorruptible*,” was a brilliant orator, lawyer, and eventual leader of the radical Jacobins. Initially a voice for the common people, his pursuit of moral purity and absolute equality led him to support the Reign of Terror, in which thousands were executed as enemies of the revolution. He believed that virtue must be enforced through terror if necessary.

In this agenda, Robespierre is a radical idealist with growing political power. Delegates must decide how far to take revolutionary justice. Should he continue purging corrupt elites, establish a republic of virtue, or risk civil war through extremism? Robespierre’s character allows for bold action, ideological purity, and authoritarian control under the guise of liberty and equality.

7. Jean-Sylvain Bailly

Bailly was an astronomer and scholar who became the first President of the National Assembly and later the Mayor of Paris. He presided over the Tennis Court Oath, helping to galvanize the constitutional movement. However, as violence escalated, he struggled to maintain order and lost favor with radicals.

In the committee, Bailly is a symbol of early revolutionary leadership and civic moderation. Delegates representing him must navigate between revolutionary ideals and the harsh reality of maintaining peace. Should he crack down on mobs to preserve order, or sympathize with popular movements? Bailly’s position offers a chance to shape Paris as the nerve center of revolution or become a cautionary tale of failed leadership.

8. Adrien Duport

A leading member of the Constitutional Monarchist Club, Duport was a lawyer and influential moderate who helped craft early legal reforms, particularly in relation to judicial fairness and civil rights. He believed in preserving the monarchy under a liberal constitution, balancing change with continuity.

In this committee, Duport is a constitutional architect and moderate negotiator. Delegates representing him must fight to keep the revolution from descending into extremism, while resisting pressures from both royalists and radicals. Should Duport ally with Lafayette or Mirabeau to stabilize reform, or shift toward the National Assembly as tensions rise? His expertise in law makes him vital in drafting policy and guiding the revolution's early legal identity.

9. Honoré Gabriel Riqueti, Comte de Mirabeau

Mirabeau was a gifted orator, nobleman, and revolutionary leader known for his charisma and political flexibility. Though born into aristocracy, he became one of the most prominent voices of the Third Estate, advocating for civil liberties, constitutional monarchy, and reconciliation between the king and the revolution. Secretly, he also advised Louis XVI, attempting to preserve the monarchy through backdoor diplomacy.

Mirabeau's role in this committee is one of strategic influence and political duality. Delegates must decide whether to use his connections to negotiate peace or manipulate both sides to achieve power. Should Mirabeau remain loyal to reform, or exploit his insider role for personal and political gain? His character allows for deception, diplomacy, and persuasive leadership, making him a pivotal swing figure in the outcome of the revolution.

10. Camille Desmoulins

A fiery journalist and orator, Desmoulins was a key voice of the early revolutionary press. His impromptu speech at the Palais-Royal on July 12, 1789, helped spark the storming of the Bastille. A close ally of Robespierre, he initially supported radical reforms but later criticized the Reign of Terror, calling for clemency and moderation—a stance that ultimately led to his execution.

In the G8, Desmoulins is a volatile and impassioned revolutionary, with influence through media and public sentiment. Delegates playing him must choose between staying true to radical principles or advocating for mercy and justice. Should he use his voice to fuel the revolution's flames or try to tame its excesses? His role is central to public mobilization, political critique, and shaping revolutionary narrative.

7 Rough Timeline (May – 14 July 1789)

Week	Domestic Developments	Foreign Context
Early May	Estates-General opens at Versailles.	European monarchs monitor crises.
Late May–Early June	Voting dispute; Third Estate organized as Commons.	No overt intervention.
Mid-June	National Assembly proclaimed.	Minor émigré agitation in German states.

20 June	Tennis Court Oath.	Diplomatic cables express concern.
26 June–11 July	Troops mass near Paris; Necker's dismissal.	Austria reinforces Rhine garrisons.
12–14 July	Popular uprising; Bastille taken.	Rulers weigh collective response.

8 Moderated Caucus Topics

Stabilize the French economy

- *Topic:* Economic Measures to Combat Grain Shortages and Inflation
- *Alternate:* Debt Relief Strategies for Revolutionary France

Determine the monarchy's fate

- *Topic:* Future of the Monarchy in Revolutionary France
- *Alternate:* Republic vs. Constitutional Monarchy – Path Forward

Protect revolutionary gains

- *Topic:* Strategies to Prevent Revolutionary Chaos
- *Alternate:* Balancing Freedom with Security in Revolutionary France

Abolish feudal privileges

- *Topic:* Dismantling Feudal Structures for a Merit-Based Society
- *Alternate:* Integrating Former Nobility into the New Order

Defend France's sovereignty

- *Topic:* Military Preparedness Against Foreign Nations
- *Alternate:* Defensive vs. Offensive Foreign Policy Approaches

Shape foreign policy

- *Topic:* Should France Export Revolutionary Ideals Abroad?
- *Alternate:* Balancing Domestic Stability with International Engagement

Counter foreign-backed plots

- *Topic:* Addressing Royalist Insurgencies Supported by Foreign Powers
- *Alternate:* Securing France Against Internal and External Subversion

Build France's new identity

- *Topic:* Revolutionary Culture as a Tool of Diplomacy
- *Alternate:* Education Reform to Strengthen Revolutionary Values

9 Crisis Mechanics (Simulation Rules)

- Private directives must be signed by at least two delegates to take effect.
- The Chair may introduce newsflashes (bread riots, émigré plots, troop movements) proportional to delegate actions.
- Assassination or execution orders require a super-majority vote and risk backlash events.
- Historical plausibility is enforced: no telegraphs, no knowledge post-14 July 1789.

10 Draft Resolution (Sample Framework)

Title: “Decree for the Preservation of Constitutional Liberty”

Sponsors: National Constituent Moderates

Preambulatory Clauses

- Recalling the sacred right of the nation to self-governance as affirmed in the Tennis Court Oath,
- Alarmed by reports of foreign troop concentrations along the Rhine frontier,
- Acknowledging the people’s demand for immediate subsistence relief,

Operative Clauses

1. Establishes a Committee of Twelve to draft a constitutional charter within 30 days;
2. Limits royal veto to suspensive power for one legislative session;
3. Creates a National Guard battalion in every département under Assembly authority;
4. Sets a provisional maximum price on wheat at 14 livres per setier pending harvest review;
5. Instructs the Foreign Affairs Commission to send circular letters seeking neutrality assurances from neighboring crowns.

11 Guided Unmoderated Caucus Prompts

1. Can a Bill of Rights satisfy both peasantry and bourgeoisie?
2. Is immediate land redistribution feasible without provoking noble revolt?
3. What safeguards prevent the National Guard from becoming a new Praetorian force?

12 Bibliography & Helpful Links

- Schama, Simon. *Citizens: A Chronicle of the French Revolution* (Vintage, 1990).
- Doyle, William. *The Oxford History of the French Revolution* (Oxford University Press, 2002).
- Lefebvre, Georges. *The Coming of the French Revolution* (Princeton University Press, 1947).
- Palmer, R.R. *The Age of the Democratic Revolution* (Princeton University Press, 1959).
- Popkin, Jeremy D. *A Short History of the French Revolution* (Routledge, 2019).
- Britannica. "French Revolution: Events of 1789" (2024).
- Britannica. "The French Revolution" (History, Timeline, Causes).
- World History Encyclopedia. "French Revolution".
- World History Encyclopedia. "The Tennis Court Oath".
- Library of Congress. "The French Revolution and Napoleon" (2023).

13. Research Links for Delegates – French Revolution, July 1789

Below are reputable, accessible online resources that delegates can use to deepen their knowledge, gather primary sources, and prepare position papers for this committee:

Authoritative Overviews & Timelines

- Encyclopaedia Britannica – French Revolution
 - <https://www.britannica.com/event/French-Revolution>
- World History Encyclopedia – French Revolution
 - https://www.worldhistory.org/French_Revolution/
- BBC History – French Revolution Timeline
 - https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/civil_war_revolution/french_revolution_01.shtml

Digital Primary Sources & Documents

- Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen (English Translation, Yale Avalon Project)
 - https://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rightsof.asp
- French Revolution Digital Archive (Stanford University/Bibliothèque nationale de France)
 - <https://frda.stanford.edu/>
- Gallica (Bibliothèque nationale de France) – Archives and Pamphlets
 - <https://gallica.bnf.fr/>

Key People and Concepts

- History Channel – French Revolution (Key Figures, Events, and Concepts)
 - <https://www.history.com/topics/france/french-revolution>

Additional Reading and Bibliography

- French Revolution – Primary Documents Collection
 - <https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/modsbook13.asp>
- National Archives (UK) – Key French Revolution Documents
 - <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/french-revolution/>

14 Appendix: Quick-Reference Glossary

Bastille Day: Annual commemoration of 14 July 1789.

Cahiers de Doléances: Grievance notebooks compiled for the Estates-General.

National Guard: Citizen militia created 15 July under Lafayette.

Phrygian Cap: Red liberty cap adopted by sans-culottes.

Venality of Office: Practice of selling public posts, a target for reformers.

