

2nd year history

Causes of the French Revolution

1. Use the words in the box to fill in the blanks:

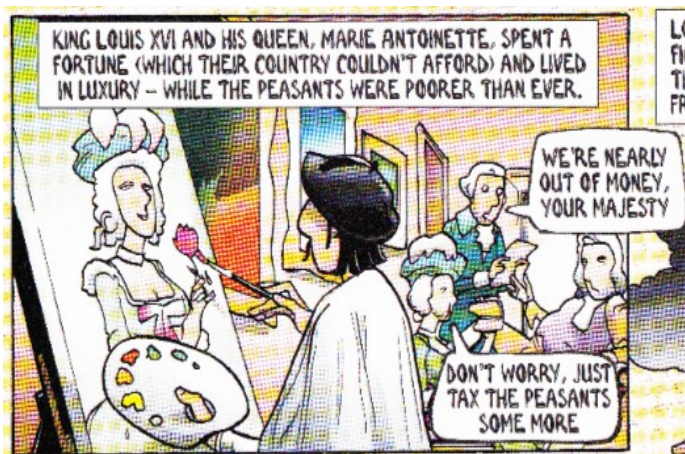
ancien régime	Estates-General	Louis XVI	Enlightenment
Voltaire	bankrupt	divine right of kings	taxes
Yorktown	luxurious	Rousseau	democracy

During the American Revolution, the French helped the Americans to defeat the British at the Battle of _____ . The French people saw how the American Revolution led to _____ and fairer _____ for the American people. They wanted to have these freedoms in France also.

This period of the 1700s was known as the Age of _____. This movement began in France, when writer such as _____ and _____ began to think differently about the world. They questioned the _____, where people believed that kings received their power to rule from God.

At this time France was ruled by King _____ who held absolute power to govern over the French people. This system of government was called the _____, which means the old way of governing people. French people began to dislike Louis XVI's _____ lifestyle and saw it as unfair that he had the right to rule over them.

In the 1700s, French kings had spent lots of money fighting wars, such as the French-Indian war in America. By the 1780s, the country was _____ as a result of the money spent on these wars. Louis XVI was forced to call a meeting of the French parliament, the _____ - _____ to find a way to raise money.



2. Study the cartoons and answer the questions below.

(a) According to the cartoon, how does King Louis think he can solve the problem of France having no money?

(b) Do you think Louis's proposal is fair? Why/why not?