

The

French
4th Lesson:
Reign of Terror,
Return to
Monarchy

*Revolutio
n*

Bell Ringer:

Let's watch this video and think to ourselves, how might this machine have actually been used? Hint: it wasn't for making sandwiches.

For execution

Recap from Yesterday:

- **King Louis and Marie Antoinette try to escape France, but fail. Many label him a traitor.**
- **The radical political party, the Jacobins, take control of the National Convention.**
- **Louis is put on trial as a traitor, convicted, and sentenced to death.**
- **The guillotine chops Louis' head off, thus ending the monarchy for good...at least for about 20 years...more on that later.**

Back to the story, Summer of 1793:

- **The main support for the revolution remained in Paris, the capital city.**
- **After the execution of Louis and a draft to get more soldiers for the war with Prussia and Austria, many French people outside of Paris began to dislike the new government.**
 - Execution seemed harsh to some
 - Most peasants still wanted to be Christian
 - Being forced to fight in a war is always unpopular
- **Resistance in the French countryside was growing and open rebellion against the National Convention became common**
- **The Radicals in the National Convention feared that the revolution might turn against them**

The Radicals Take Over!

- A famous radical journalist, Marat, called for the execution of any one who was not a radical
- Robespierre, the leader of the Jacobins, called for the people of Paris to arm themselves and take over the National Convention
- On May 29th, armed Radical Parisians surrounded the National Convention and arrested 28 moderate members of the National Convention
- Fearing being arrested, the moderates stopped being a political force in the government and the Radicals took over.

If you are not with the Radicals you are against France!
People of Paris!
Take up arms and kill the enemies of France!



The Reign of Terror

- With the National Convention firmly under his control, Robespierre instituted a new phase of the revolution: **THE REIGN OF TERROR!**
- He created 2 new agencies which had the goals of finding and ridding France of all enemies:
 - The Committee for Public Safety: a 12 member agency that was tasked with rooting out any French person that did not agree with the radicals
 - The Revolutionary Tribunal: a special court that would put on trial the people arrested by the Committee for Public Safety and sentence them to death by guillotine if found guilty
- The goal was simple: **FEAR**



Now, imagine that's a head detaching from a body! Yeesh!

The Reign of Terror

- For the next 2 years, an estimated 40,000 people were charged with being enemies of France and murdered, several thousand of those by guillotine.
- In Paris, during a 9 month period, over 2,000 people lost their heads by guillotine in public, including the former queen, Marie Antoinette.

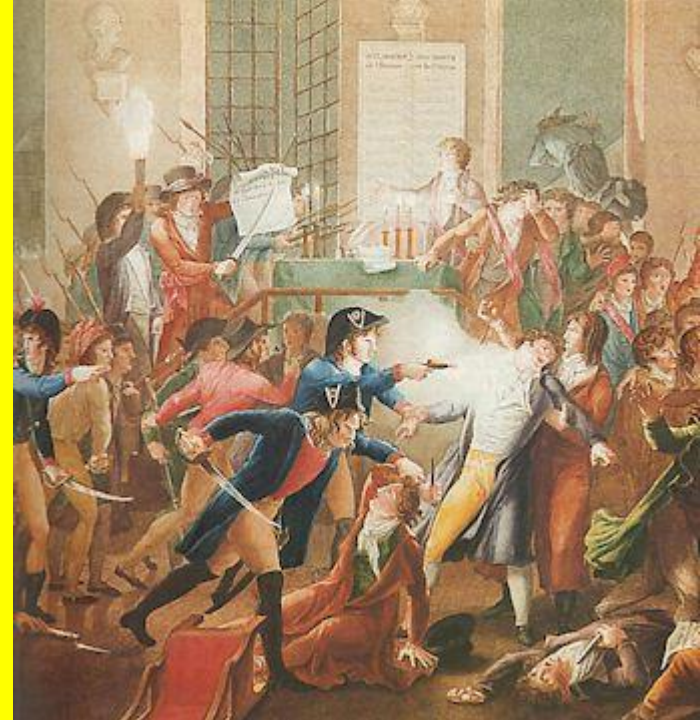
Imagine this chopping off 7 peoples' heads per day! Again, yeesh!



Robespierre Loses His Mind

- **By 1794, Robespierre had clearly lost his mind. Gone crazy. Mental.**
- **He saw enemies everywhere. He began having good friends sent to death.**
- **Robespierre even created his own religion with him as a god.**
- **Many in the National Convention began to plan to remove Robespierre.**
- **One day, Robespierre stood in front of the National Convention with a list of members who he was going to send to their deaths.**
 - **Quickly, the National Convention voted to have Robespierre executed before he could send any more people to their death.**
- **2 days later, Robespierre was executed by guillotine. The Reign of Terror was over...**

Robespierre is shot in the jaw while being arrested, ironic because he used his words to have so many people put to death.



The Directory (1794-1799)

- **After the death of Robespierre, a much more moderate group of people took over the government.**
- **They rounded up all of Robespierre's allies and executed them, thus relieving France of the radical elements of the revolution.**
- **In 1795, a new constitution was created and the new government was called the Directory.**

**We are the
Directory!**



The Directory

- **The Directory's number one goal was to make sure a Reign of Terror type event did not happen again. That was about the only thing they achieved.**
- **The time of the Directory was full of corruption and a terrible economy, but there was one other bright spot...**

Napoleon!!!



But Seriously

- **Napoleon was a young officer in the army who rose to the rank of general by the time he was 28.**
- **He was one of the only bright spots in France's war with Prussia and Austria.**
- **In fact, in 1797, Napoleon ended the war with Austria by forcing the king to sign a peace treaty.**
- **Napoleon became a hero to the people of France, and Napoleon loved it.**
- **In 1799, Napoleon invaded the Directory and ended the French Revolution.**
- **He named himself Consul of France, which meant he was a dictator who could act like an absolute monarch. SO...**

1789-1799

In 10 years, France went from an absolute monarchy to a republic to a military dictatorship.



Homework:

- **Write a short story about the French Revolution.**
- **The story should be written for children. Here's an example.**

Once upon a time in France, there lived a king. His name was Louis and he was bad at his job. He lived in a palace far away from his subjects, with a wife that was more concerned with her hair than she was about starving peasants.

One day, Louis looked in his wallet and found no money. He checked all the pockets of all his fancy clothes. No money.

“How am I going to pay for all of these war?!?” Louis asked out loud.

“I know! I will ask all those rich nobles. They always have money,” Louis thought.

“Hey noble! Can I have some money?!?”

“Haha! No,” replied the noble.

What was Louis to do?

French Revolution

- **So, basically, you're summarizing the French Revolution so an 8 year old could understand.**
- **Use the PowerPoints to help you remember the key events.**
- **It should be about a page long.**
- **Due Sunday.**