OBJECTIVES

1. List the Three Estates of the old Regime.

2. What percent of France’s population was from the Third Estate?

3. Why did the Estates General Meet after 175 years?

4. What was the Third Estate attempting to do when taking the tennis Court Oath?
Setting the Stage

Main Idea:
- Inequalities in the Old French Regime caused the French Revolution.
But:

- By the 1700s major internal French issues like:
- Bad harvests, high food prices, and high taxes brings murmuring to the masses
4. Economic Troubles

- High taxes = Govt. taking a lot of $ from Businesses
- Crop failures = starving poor
- Price of bread doubles = starving poor

French Bread Riots
Under The Old Regime

► French society divided into 3 classes, called *ESTATES*. 
1st Estate
Clergy = 1% of population

2nd Estate
The Nobility of France
2% of population

3rd Estate
Everyone Else
97% of population
1st Estate

Roman Catholic Clergy

- Owned 10% of land
- Paid 2% in taxes
- Educated and helped poor
- NO Enlightenment ideas
  - They threatened their positions of power
2nd Estate

► Rich Nobles

- Owned 20% of land
- No taxes paid
- No way to Enlightenment ideas
3rd Estate
97% of Population

1. **Bourgeoisie** (middle class):
   - Educated
     - Enlightenment ideas! Yes!
   - Wealthy
     - Some even more than nobles

2. **Workers** (Urban)
   - Poorest of the 3

3. **Peasants** (Rural)
   - ** Had no govt. privileges, no power**
   - Paid most of taxes

[Population of France, 1787]
- 97% (Third Estate)
- Less than 1% (First Estate)
- 2% (Second Estate)

[Percent of Income Paid in Taxes]
- 2% (First Estate)
- 0% (Second Estate)
- 50% (Third Estate)
Problem: Taxes!

3rd Estate
- Bankers
- Doctors
- Lawyers
- Farmers
- Laborers
- Servants

Bourgeoisie (Middle Class)
- Peasants

3rd Estate
- Peasants
- Servants
- Laborers
- Lawyers
- Doctors
- Bankers
The French Want it America’s Way!

- French wanted a successful revolution like the Americans!
- They wanted:
  - A Declaration of Independence too
  - A Constitution w/ a Bill of Rights too
  - A Federal System too
  - Separation of Powers too
Why Revolution in France?

Unfair power spread—1st and 2nd Estates had all power. Bourgeoisie had none!

Enlightenment Ideas spread in France

American Revolution success

king was weak

king was weak
5. **A Weak Leader**

( *Louis XVI & wife Marie Antoinette*)

- Young 19 years old
- Austrian Wife/ bossy
  (did not like Louis)

* Spent $$$ helping Americans in Rev.
  - Huge palaces, elaborate dress
  - kings was Indecisive
  - France went broke with them

King Louis XVI
1754-1793

Marie Antoinette
1755-1793
Political Cartoon

Do the Cartoon Analysis Worksheet