Unit 4—The 18th Century: the Old Order and the French Revolution
Review Guide—Chs. 18, 19
AP European History

This is a list of key terms, people, artistic and literary works and other important issues relevant to the political, economic, and social developments of the 18th century. As you prepare for both the unit exam and for the AP test in May, use this list to guide you toward an understanding of the important information and issues of the period. Work to understand the who, what, when, where, why, and how of each particular item. Also, try to recognize relationships between these events, developments and people. In other words, try to connect these terms to the larger questions and issues posed in the syllabus (which you should consider as integral to your preparations). And remember: this is something of a transitional period between the so-called “Old Order” (or the ancient regime) and what we would recognize as the “modern period” so look for elements of both the “old” and the “new.”

Key Terms and People

Ch. 18—“The 18th Century: the European States, International Wars, and, Social Change”:

Enlightened Absolutism:
  What was it? How did it reflect the Age of the Enlightenment?

Enlightened Absolutism in practice: how did “enlightened absolutism” in each of these states reflect both the new way of governing (i.e. the “Enlightened” part) and/or reflect the old way (i.e. more traditional, “old school” ideas and practices)? Be sure to name names!
  France
  Great Britain
  the Netherlands
  Prussia
  Austria
  Russia
  Spain
  Italy
  Sacandinavia

State of war in the 18th century
  Composition of armies
  Nature of warfare

How did European states conduct relations with one another?

How did each of these wars reflect these military and diplomatic conditions? (be sure to also know causes, states involved and why, and outcomes and treaties)
  War of Spanish Succession (ch.15)
  War of Austrian Succession
  Seven Years’ War

Population changes in 18th century

Causes of growth of Euro. population

Family, Marriage, birthrate patterns:
  Child care
  Marriage and birthrates
  Families and work

Nature and causes of “agricultural revolution”
  Where and why?

Contributions of science and technology
  enclosure
  new methods of finance
  Bank of England
  National debt, public credit
  Financial developments in Britain, France

Euro industry
  Domestic system
  Textiles
  New technologies

Mercantile empires
  Colonial empires
  Britain
  France
  Rivalry

The “global trade”
  Triangular trade
  Slave trade
  Role in new economy
  Voices in opposition

Social order:
  Peasant life
  Eastern and Western Europe
  The village
  Diet

The Nobility
  Privileges
  Diet
  Political roles
  Differences in noble classes

“Aristocratic way of life: the country house”
  how did it reflect the condition of nobility?

“Aristocratic way of life: the Grand Tour”
  how did it reflect the condition of nobility?

Urban life
  Demographics
  poverty

Ch. 19—“A Revolution in Politics: the Era of the French Revolution and the Napoleon”:

American Revolution:
  Causes
  Reaction
  Key events
  Reasons for American victory
  Articles of Confederation
Constitution
American Revolution: was it the “enlightenment in reality?”
France on the eve of revolution:
The ancient regime
The 3 estates: composition, grievances, goals
Other problems:
Structure of monarchy, French gov’t
Those *%$ philosophes
Efforts at reform
Financial crisis
Meeting of Estates general: May, 1789
Abbé Sieyès
Tennis Court Oath
National Assembly
  Peasant rebellions
  The “Great Fear”
Destruction of Old Regime:
  Dec. of Rights of Man & of the Citizen
  Abolition of feudal order
  Women’s march to Versailles
  Civil Constitution of the Clergy
  New constitution—Legislative Assembly
  Administrative reorganization
  Assignats
  Jacobins
  Problems of new Legislative Assembly
Opposition of the king; flight of same
  Reaction?
Opposition from abroad
  Who?  Why?  Declaration of Pillnitz
Leg. Assembly dec. of war:
  Why?  Results?
  National Convention
  Paris Commune
  Sans-cullotes
Georges Danton
Girondins, the Mountain
Vendée
Foreign crisis
Committee of Public Safety
Maximilien Robespierre
Universal mobilization
  Revolutionary army
  And modern nationalism
Reign of Terror
  Why?
  Effects?
  Justifications?
Republic of Virtue
Dechristianization
End of Reign of Terror (“thermidoran reaction”)
  Why?
Constitution of 1795
  The Directory
  Successes and failures
Napoleon’s early career
Coup d’etat-1799
  First Consul
Domestic policies of Napoleon
  Concordat with Catholic Church
  Civil Code
Bureaucratic reforms
Meritocracy
Preservation or destruction of
  Revolutionary ideas?

Napoleonic Empire:
  Key battles, results
  Governance of empire
  Key effects of empire
  Continental system
  Invasion of Russia
  Defeat of Napoleon-1813, 1814, 1815
  Exile to Elba, St. Helena

Napoleon: champion of Revolution, Enlightened Absolutist, or traditional tyrant?

**Important dates/events:** identify what happened on the given date and why it was important in the age; they are, in fairness, listed in the order in which they appear in the text; or identify when these events occurred and why they are representative of the age:

  **Ch. 18:** 1715, 1740, 1762, Partitions of Poland, 1740-1748, Aix la Chapelle, 1756-1763, Peace of Paris,
  **Ch. 19:** 1763, 1776, 1783, 1788, 1791, 1789 (what were several of the key events of the French Revolution in this year?), know the time period, key events and trends of these phases of the French Revolution: the National Assembly, the Legislative Assembly,
The National Convention, the Directory, the Napoleonic Age