**CHAPTER 7-SECTION 1**

The French Revolution Begins

I. **THE OLD ORDER**

* The Old Regime-The political system in France during the 1770’s in which the people were divided into three large social classes.
* The Privileged Estates
  + What rights were granted to the two classes in this group?

Did not have to pay taxes. Access to high offices, good jobs.

* + Who made up the first estate and what privileges did they have?

The Clergy, owned 10% of the land and contributed 2% of its income to the government.

* + Who made up the second estate and what privileges did they have?

Rich nobles who made up 2% of the population but owned 20% of the land. Paid little to no taxes.

* + Provide details about each group in the Third Estate(Taxes, jobs, how many, etc)
    - Bourgeoisie-Middle class bankers, merchants, skilled artisans. Many were educated. Paid high taxes and had very few privileges.
    - Workers-Poorest people of the Third Estate-Servants, tradesmen, laborers. Paid high taxes, and suffered a high unemployment rate. Had little food due to these circumstances.
    - Peasants-Largest group in the Third Estate-Made up 80% of France’s total population (3,250,000 people). Heavily taxed over half their income was given to the church, nobles or the king. Were very upset and looking for social change.

II. **The Forces of Change**

* What Were some of the Enlightenment Ideas that appealed to the Third Estate?
  + - The success of the American Revolution
    - They questioned the long standing ideas about society
    - Demanded Liberty, Equality, and Democracy.
* Louis XVI-King of France. Weak leader.
* Marie Antoinette-Queen of France. Unpopular, squandered large sums of money on jewels, gambling, clothes and gifts.
* Estates-General-An assembly of representatives from all three estates

III. **Dawn of the Revolution**

* What advantage did the Medieval rules provide for first two estates in the Estates General?
  + The Clergy and the Nobles could always out vote the Third Estate
* Who made up the National Assembly ?
  + Members of the Third Estate
* What purpose did the National Assembly serve?
  + It gave the Third Estate a voice and a means to pass laws
* What is the Significance of the Storming of the Bastille?
  + It became a symbol of the people’s anger and them bringing down the Old Regime.
* What was the Great Fear?
  + After the storming of the Bastille the peasants took to destroy the papers and laws that made them pay taxes to the nobles.
  + It turned into chaos as they started burning down houses and killing nobles.