

WORDBOX REVOLUTION

- **Bourgeoisie** – The middle class, including merchants, industrialists, and professional people, often wealthy but without noble status.
- **Third Estate** – The common people of France, including peasants, artisans, and the bourgeoisie, who were not part of the clergy or nobility⁴
- **Nobility** – The aristocratic class with inherited titles, privileges, and land, usually exempt from many taxes.
- **Clergy** – The religious officials of the Catholic Church, holding considerable influence and wealth, also often exempt from taxes.
- **Peasantry** – The rural working class, often farming the land and living in poverty, making up the largest part of the population.
- **Bastille** – A fortress and prison in Paris, symbolizing royal tyranny, famously stormed at the Revolution's outset.
- **Monarchy** – The system of government where a king or queen holds supreme power, embodied by Louis XVI at the time.*
- **Louis XVI** – The King of France during the Revolution, eventually executed for his perceived tyranny and betrayal of the nation.
- **Estates-General** – The assembly representing the three social classes (clergy, nobility, and commoners) convened in 1789 for tax reform.
- **Revolutionary** – Someone advocating for or engaged in political revolution, seeking radical changes in society and government.
- **Sans-culottes** – The radical working-class revolutionaries of Paris, recognizable by their simple attire and fervent support for change.
- **Grievance Books** – Notebooks in which the Third Estate recorded complaints and demands for reform before the Revolution.
- **Taxes** – The financial charges imposed on the populace by the government, burdensome especially on the Third Estate.
- **Taille** – A direct land tax on the Third Estate, with nobility and clergy often exempt from it.
- **Gabelle** – A tax on salt, which disproportionately affected the poor and was deeply resented by common people.
- **Corvée** – The unpaid labor required from peasants, often for road maintenance or other public works.
- **Privilege** – The special rights and exemptions granted to the nobility and clergy, leading to resentment among the commoners.
- **Misery** – Extreme poverty and suffering, widespread among the lower classes leading up to the Revolution
- **Famine** – Severe food shortages that exacerbated discontent, particularly during the harsh winters of the late 1780s.

- **National Assembly** – The revolutionary body formed by the Third Estate, claiming to represent the people of France.
 - **Human Rights** – The inherent rights believed to belong to all individuals, a central concept in the Revolution's rhetoric.
 - **Guillotine** – A device for beheading, symbolizing both justice and terror during the Revolution's radical phase.
 - **Reign of Terror** – A period of the Revolution characterized by mass executions of perceived enemies, led by radical factions.
 - **Privileged** – The classes (nobility and clergy) enjoying special rights, particularly exemption from taxes and forced labor.
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- **Peasant** – A rural laborer, usually working on the land, often living in poverty and burdened by taxes and corvée.
 - **Winemaker** – Someone involved in the production of wine, a common occupation in rural France.
 - **Miller** – A person who operates a mill, grinding grain into flour, essential in rural communities.
 - **Blacksmith** – A craftsman who forges and shapes metal, creating tools, horseshoes, and other essential items.
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- **Weaver** – A textile worker who produces cloth, a common occupation among artisans.
 - **Carpenter** – A skilled worker who constructs and repairs wooden structures, vital in both urban and rural areas.
 - **Farrier** – A specialist in shoeing horses, combining blacksmithing and veterinary skills, essential in agrarian society.
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 - **Roofer** – A tradesperson who installs and repairs roofs, ensuring shelter and protection for buildings.
 - **Shoemaker** – A craftsperson who makes and repairs shoes, crucial for everyday life and comfort.
 - **Baker** : making bread