Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The French Revolution Begins Worksheet

Read pages 651 through 653, and answering the questions below:

**The Old Order**

1. What was the social and political system of France in the 1700s?
2. A. Which of the two estates had privileges not granted to the third estate?

B. What did those privileges include?

1. What group of people formed the First Estate?
2. What group of people formed the Second Estate?
3. What did the majority of the First and Second Estates think about Enlightenment ideas?
4. What three groups of people formed the Third Estate? Describe each of them.
5. What is a tithe?

**The Forces of Change**

1. What are the three forces that helped to generate a desire for change?
2. What successful revolution inspired the Third Estate?
3. What did the Third Estate demand, quoting Rousseau and Voltaire?
4. How did Comte D’Antraigues sum up the people’s views on government?
5. What was happening to France’s economy by the 1780’s?
6. How did the heavy burden of taxes affect business?
7. How did bad weather affect the economy?
8. What two people greatly contributed to France’s debt through their extravagant spending?

**A Weak Leader**

1. Was Louis XVI a strong leader?
2. Did Marie Antoinette help or hurt Louis XVI? How?
3. Was Marie Antoinette popular?
4. What was Marie Antoinette’s nickname?
5. What was Louis XVI’s solution to dealing with the debt emergency?
6. What was the Estates-General?
7. When was the Estates-General held? Where was it?

**History Makers**

1. Was Louis XVI prepared to be king? Why or why not?
2. Why couldn’t he help the people?
3. Why was Marie Antoinette unpopular with the French?
4. What style of clothing did Marie Antoinette introduce?
5. Did Marie Antoinette make smart money decisions? How do you know?