# Holiday Homework

## History: Revolutions 2015

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|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| **Holiday Homework Required**        | • Read Chapter 1 of your textbook – ‘Liberating France’  
• Read Week 1 ‘Readings’ – handed out in the transition class  
• Complete Facebook group task (see attached sheet)  
• Complete ‘Causes of the French Revolution’ homework task sheet |
| **Recommended Work**                 | • Choose and read the work of an historian on the French Revolution (see attached sheet for list of recommended books)  
• Watch “Marie Antoinette” – film featuring Kirsten Dunst |
| **Resources Required for Subject**   | • Textbooks  
• Reader (handed out in first class Term 1)  
• Notebook to take notes |
| **Key Links**                        | • [http://alphahistory.com/frenchrevolution/](http://alphahistory.com/frenchrevolution/)  
VCAA Study Design for History  
| **Additional Resources**             | • Historian texts on the French Revolution – see attached sheet |
Welcome to Revolutions 2015 one of the most challenging but also rewarding Humanities subjects in the curriculum. Over the next year you will learn about how great Empires and Nations can fall overnight; how the tide of public opinion can destroy hundred-year old dynasties; how power corrupts and finally struggle with the question of whether things really change or simply remain the same.

To ensure you are ready for the momentous task of becoming familiar with both the French and Russian Revolutions you will need to complete **ALL** the following holiday homework.

The VCAA requires that as part of your course, you are able to demonstrate 50 hours of coursework per Semester. This holiday homework will contribute to your coursework requirements. For further information please refer to the VCE History: Revolutions study design:


You **MUST** complete the following:

- Watch the DVD – “Marie Antoinette” (director Sofia Coppola with Kirsten Dunst)
- Join the Facebook group - SSSC History Revolutions
- Check out the French and Russian Revolutions section of the “Alpha History website” - [http://alphahistory.com/](http://alphahistory.com/) (Click on the icons for the French/Russian Revolutions)
  - **Task:** Familiarise yourself with the site and post on the Facebook group something that interested you from the French Revolution and why.
- Read Chapter 1 (p 10 – 28) from your textbook (Liberating France. A Study in Revolution by Fenwick and Anderson) and Week 1 in your “Reader” and complete the following task sheet.

Finally for those of you who really want to get a head start:

(Please note the following is optional but HIGHLY recommended for those of you who want to do well).

- Read the entire textbook – it doesn’t actually take that long and will pay off later.
- Read one or more of the following books:
  - The French Revolution. A very short introduction by William Doyle. (very short pocketbook – easy to take on your holidays and finish reading)
  - “The Days of the French Revolution” by Christopher Hibbert (written in a great narrative style with lots of description)
- “The French Revolution 1789 – 1799” by Peter McPhee (clear headings and not too long)
- “Citizens” by Simon Schama – (this one is pretty long but very good historical perspective particularly on the use of violence)

- For good prices, these books are all available on www.fishpond.com.au or the www.bookdepository.co.uk or your local bookshop – just a bit more expensive

**On a final note:**

- If you have any problems accessing the Alpha History website or joining the Facebook group OR you are having difficulties with your homework, please don’t hesitate to contact me on reardon.elizabeth.e@edumail.vic.gov.au or contact my mobile (but please be sensible as to when you ring/text – calls after 10 pm are not advisable.) If you didn’t come to transition and don’t have my mobile number, please email me.

- **ALSO PLEASE** make sure you turn up with your French Revolution (Fenwick and Anderson) textbook for the first class and a notebook to start taking notes. I would advise a separate notebook for France and Russia.

*Holiday homework task sheet to follow......*
**Causes of the French Revolution – the Downfall of the Old Regime.**

**Homework Task:** DUE First class back in 2015

**Name:** __________________________________________________________

Historians have long searched for ‘causes’ of revolutions. Your job over the next year will be to identify the causes or contributing factors of the French revolution, to analyse differing historical opinions on those causes and finally develop your own opinion on those factors that played the most significant role resulting in the downfall of the old order.

Your task is to use the information in Chapter 1 of the Textbook (p 10 – 28) and Week 1 of the Reader and complete the following table in detail. You are required to identify at least three (3) long-term factors and three (3) short-term factors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause/Contributing Factor</th>
<th>Why Significant?</th>
<th>What Historians say about this factor?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Describe the factor in detail ie - “Inequitable social structure” – based on system of estates etc….</td>
<td>Describe the result ie – this resulted in growing anger over lack of access to positions of power etc…..</td>
<td>Reference an historian ie - Peter McPhee argues that ‘it was the rural population above all which underwrote the costs of the three pillars of authority and privilege in France’.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example:** You can either develop this example for your first cause or find other ones.

1.  

2.  

3.  

4.