

EUROPEAN HISTORY

LO3 cdefg

The Rise and Fall of Napoleon

Year 9

Third Edition – 2022

For History SEC 2025



Curriculum Centre Annex



LO3c - Background to Napoleon's rise to power in France

What was the French Directory?

The Directory was the name of the government that ruled France during the final stage of the French Revolution. The government was based on a new constitution called the 'Constitution of Year III.' It ruled France for four years (1795–1799). It came into power after the Reign of Terror when the country was ruled by the Committee of Public Safety.

The Directory consisted of an executive council called the Five Directors and a Legislative Assembly. The Assembly was divided into two houses: the Council of Five Hundred and the Council of Ancients.

- **The Five Directors** were five men selected by the Council of Ancients. They were responsible for the day-to-day running of the country. The Directors had limited powers because they had no say in the laws or the taxes and this made it difficult for them to fund projects;
- **The Council of Five Hundred** proposed new laws. Men had to be at least 30 years old to be members of the Five Hundred;
- **The Council of Ancients** accepted or rejected the laws proposed by the Council of Five Hundred. They had to be at least 40 years of age to be on the Council of Ancients.

Rule of the Directory

When the Directory came to power, it was faced with many problems: widespread famine; civil war; internal corruption; and war with neighbouring countries. There was also a struggle for power within the Directory between royalists and radical revolutionaries.

As the Directory moved from crisis to crisis, the people became unhappy with this new government. As a result, the Directory started using the army to put down uprisings. They also annulled elections when they did not like their result. Despite these struggles, the Directory did help France to recover from the Terror.

End of the Directory and the Rise of Napoleon

					
<i>Paul Barras gave Napoleon command of the garrison of Paris in 1795.</i>	<i>Lazare Carnot made Napoleon General of the Army in Italy in 1796.</i>	<i>Abbé Sieyès first proposed the coup but was then left out of the new government.</i>	<i>Lucien Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon and President of the Council of 500.</i>	<i>Joseph Fouché, Interior Minister, stopped the police from interfering during the coup.</i>	<i>Napoleon Bonaparte as First Consul in 1802</i>

These are the leading men in the Directory who opened the way for the young Napoleon Bonaparte to first attain military fame and then political power in France between 1796 and 1799.

After some time the Directory became more and more corrupt and inefficient. As a result, military leaders grew in power. One particular general, Napoleon Bonaparte, won many victories on the battlefield and came to be considered national hero, saving the Directory from defeat by the foreign powers. Finally, on 9 November 1799, he staged a *coup d'état* which overthrew the Directory and established a new government called 'The Consulate'. He established himself as the 'First Consul'. Many historians consider the end of the French Revolution to be when Napoleon established the Consulate in 1799.

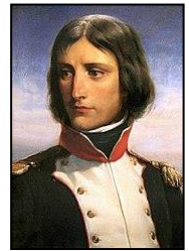


General Bonaparte's coup d'état of 18 Brumaire (10 November 1799) was staged in the Council of Five Hundred with the support of the army.

LO3c - Napoleon's early career and rise to power

Early background

Napoleon was born in Corsica in 1769 to an Italian middle-class family of eight children; one year after that island was sold to France by the Republic of Genoa. At the age of 9 (in 1778), he was sent to a French military boarding school. At the age of 16 (in 1785), he joined the royal army as an artillery officer. His first career opportunity came in 1793, when he was promoted to brigadier-general for the decisive part he played in relieving Toulon and ousting the British from mainland France. After the fall of Robespierre in 1794, Napoleon fell out of favour and was imprisoned.



Napoleon as a young artillery officer

The Whiff of Grapeshot, 1795



In October 1795, the Convention was assailed by a royalist Parisian uprising. Barras persuaded the Convention to place Bonaparte in command of the troops in Paris. Napoleon dispersed the mob with what he called 'a whiff of grapeshot' which killed about 100 insurgents. Napoleon's ruthless decision to use cannon fire dispersed the rebels and saved the Directory from a royalist takeover.

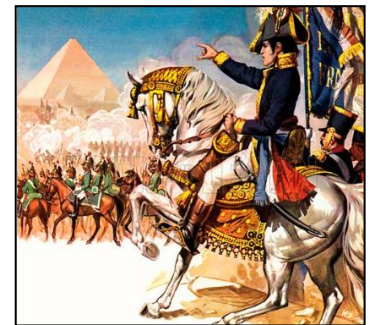
Napoleon orders the firing of the 'the Whiff of Grapeshot'.

The Italian Campaign, 1796-1797

The Directory continued the war against France's foreign enemies. French armies had conquered Belgium and Holland. General Napoleon was made in charge of the Army in Italy where he won a series of victories against the Austrians. By 1797 he had already become France's most famous general.



Left: Napoleon leading the troops at the Battle of Arcoli in Italy.



Right: Napoleon at the Battle of the Nile in Egypt.

The Egyptian Campaign, 1798-1799

The Directors then appointed him commander of the 'Army in the East'. His orders were to attack Britain's trade in the Middle East. On his way to Egypt with his fleet he took control of Malta from the Knights of St John. Napoleon defeated the Egyptians at the Battle of the Nile but then he lost the entire fleet against Horatio Nelson at the Battle of Aboukir. The French army was left stranded in Egypt.

The War of the Second Coalition, 1799-1801

During Napoleon's absence in Egypt, France's enemies joined together to force the French out of Belgium and Italy. There were also revolts in France against the Directory and the government was nearly bankrupt. Napoleon left his army in Egypt and travelled in disguise to France. He intended to save his country from defeat and possibly invasion and occupation by foreign armies.

The coup d'état 18 Brumaire (10 November), 1799

On his return to Paris, Napoleon made plans to take over control of the government. Two of the Directors secretly plotted with Napoleon to get rid of the other Directory and set up a stronger government with the support of the army. On 10 November 1799, Napoleon was invited by his brother Lucien Bonaparte, who held the position of President of the Council of Five Hundred. He entered the Council Hall backed by some army officers and forced the members to change the constitution. Napoleon was declared supreme commander of the army. The soldiers then forced the other three Directors who opposed Napoleon to resign.



Napoleon appointed First Council after the coup d'état of 18 Brumaire.

LO3c - Napoleon as administrator and reformer in France

The Consulate, 1799-1804

During the Consulate France was governed by three Consuls, but only the First Consul (Napoleon) had the power to take important decisions. The other two Consuls were merely his advisers. Napoleon's government included a Council of State, a Senate and a Legislative Assembly. In the provinces, officials called *prefects* were personally chosen by Napoleon to put his decrees into effect. Napoleon put his new government to a plebiscite (referendum), receiving 3 million votes in favour with only 1,500 votes against, even though 6 million people did not vote. Napoleon then declared that he had the support of the people.

The Concordat (Agreement) with the Catholic Church, 1801

Napoleon dealt with an urgent problem. Since the Reign of Terror, many churches had been closed down. Millions of French Catholics hated this. Napoleon wanted to end this religious division. He dropped the revolutionary calendar and made Sunday a holiday again. He signed an agreement with Pope Pius VII to allow Catholics to worship freely again. The Pope allowed Napoleon to appoint all the bishops and priests to take an oath of loyalty to Napoleon. Priests came out of hiding and churches were re-opened. The agreement made Napoleon more popular with the Catholics in France and Europe. In most of France this concordat which included 17 articles, lasted for just over a century.



The Concordat was signed in Paris on 15 July 1801 between the French Government and Pope Pius VII.

The Code Napoleon

The Napoleonic Code was one of Napoleon's many achievements that remained in use for many years after his downfall. It was first published in 1804 and compiled by four prominent lawyers chosen by Napoleon himself. The Code simplified the laws that existed in France for centuries and added the laws made by the Revolution and by Napoleon himself, namely laws about individual rights, freedom of conscience, career open to talent and equality before the law. The Code took away many rights of women and made them controlled by their husbands or father. The wife was to be obedient to the husband and in return, the husband provided the wife protection. The husband was made the ruler of the family (*pater familias*).



The Codes's official name was 'The Civil Code of the French' became legal in March 1804.

Other reforms

Napoleon set up chambers of commerce, created the Bank of France, undertook great schemes of public works (canals, roads, bridges, seaports) and commissioned the building of the famous Louvre Museum and the *Arch de Triomphe*). He created a new kind of secondary school the *lycée* (technical school) with more emphasis on the teaching of science, mathematics and technology. He personally chose prefects in the *departements* to have control over what was going on in the provinces.

Napoleon crowned Emperor 'Napoleon I'



In December 1804 Napoleon increased his power further by making himself 'Emperor of the French'. Voters again showed their support through another plebiscite with a huge majority in his favour. Now he brought back some of the things that were removed during the Republic: a coronation ceremony by the Pope and noble titles for his family and supporters. Many thought that the Revolution was over and that France had become a hereditary monarchy again – this time under a Bonaparte Emperor instead of under a Bourbon King.

Napoleon crowned himself 'Emperor of the French' in the presence of Pope Pius VII on 2nd December 1804.

LO3c - Napoleon as conqueror and tyrant in Europe

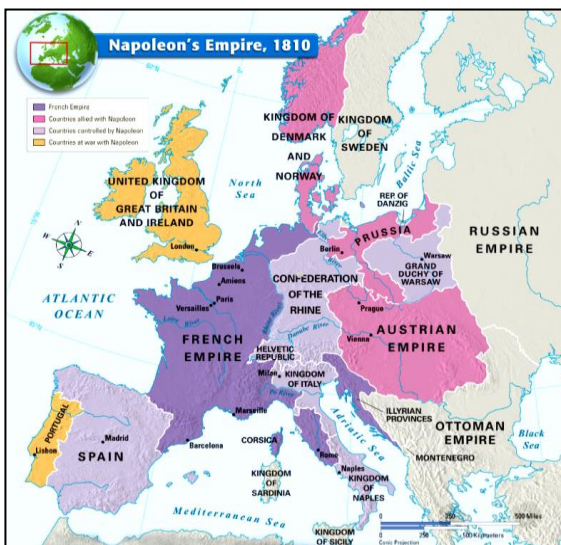
Napoleon's great victories

Napoleon's campaigns against the Austrian and Prussian armies were more successful. In December 1805, he won the decisive Battle of Austerlitz against Austria and proceeded to occupy Vienna. From Vienna he then advanced towards Berlin, defeated the Prussian army at the Battle of Jena and occupied Berlin. From Berlin, he issued the Berlin Decrees of 1806 which replaced the Holy Roman Empire with the German Confederation of the Rhine with himself as its head. He reduced the German states from 300 to 30. From Berlin, he proclaimed the Continental System (or Blockade) which was intended to boycott British commerce in Europe. In 1807 he defeated the Russians and concluded the Treaty of Tilsit with Czar Alexander I. Russia, then joined the Continental System against Britain. In 1810 Napoleon reached the peak of his power. He added Tuscany, Parma, the Papal States, the Dalmatian coast, the Netherlands and the Rhineland to the French Empire, termed by historians as the 'Napoleonic Empire' because its very existence was tied to Napoleon's fortune.



Above: Napoleon entering victorious in Berlin in 1806.

Below: The Peace Treaty of Tilsit (1807) between Napoleon and Czar Alexander I



The Napoleonic Empire

Napoleon's Empire and influence included most of Western Europe. The French introduced many changes in the lands they conquered. These lands had to provide Napoleon with soldiers and money for his armies. Napoleon could not rule all these lands himself. So, he shared it with close members of his family. He made his brothers Kings of Holland, Westphalia and Spain. His brother-in-law Joachim Murat was made Viceroy of Italy and King of Naples. His sisters were given smaller states in Italy to rule. The Bonaparte family made many changes to the states they ruled. They reformed outdated laws, got rid of feudal rights, took away lands from the Church and modernized the way their states were governed. In this way, French institutions, ideas and fashion spread to other parts of Europe.

The cost of French rule

Every state under the French had to provide soldiers, horses and money for Napoleon's armies. Thousands of young men lost their lives fighting in the Napoleonic Wars (1800-1815). Napoleon paid for his wars by taxing people more and more. His marching armies took the food they needed from the villages and farms that they passed through. After some time, the people who at first welcomed the French as liberators came to hate French rule when the French became arrogant and oppressive. They waited for the right moment to turn against their foreign masters.

Napoleon, his second wife Marie Louise of Austria and his only son Napoleon II, born in 1811.



LO3ef - Napoleon's decline and fall

The failed invasion of Britain, 1804-1805

Britain was the only power which Napoleon failed to defeat. In 1804 he planned the invasion of Britain by crossing the Channel from Calais. However, Admiral Nelson defeated the French fleet at the Battle of Trafalgar (1805) off the coast of Spain. Without a strong fleet, Napoleon had to postpone the invasion.

Horatio Nelson was fatally wounded by a cannon ball during the Battle of Trafalgar (Oct. 1805) which ended in a British victory.



The Continental System, 1806-1812

While in Berlin, Napoleon abolished the Holy Roman Empire and issued the 'Berlin Decrees'. These decrees put into force the blockade of British goods in Continental Europe. It aimed to defeat Britain by destroying its foreign trade and forcing it to come to terms with France. The blockade resulted in an immediate fall in the number of goods imported into and exported out of Continental Europe. Portugal, whose commerce was very much tied with Britain, refused to join it. Napoleon thus decided to force it to join. In 1808 he invaded Spain and Portugal and occupied Madrid and Lisbon.

The Peninsular War, 1808-1814

But the invasion of Portugal soon led to unexpected problems for Napoleon. The Portuguese and the Spaniards hated French rule over their country. Most Spaniards felt offended when Napoleon occupied Madrid, removed their King Charles IV and replaced him with his brother Joseph. The Spaniards rebelled against the French and began a guerrilla war against them. The French went to great lengths to crush the Spanish rebellion. Meanwhile, Britain quickly joined in the fighting to help the Portuguese. Britain sent troops under General Wellesley (later Duke of Wellington) to fight in the Peninsular War. For Napoleon, this war became known as the 'Spanish Ulcer' for he was forced to keep a French army of 30,000 soldiers tied down in Spain.



Francisco Goya's painting in 1814 showing Spanish patriots executed by the French.

The Moscow or Russian Campaign, 1812

The Continental System created another problem for Napoleon with Russia. In 1811 Czar Alexander I left the system for it was damaging Russia's trade. The Czar reopened his ports to British ships. Napoleon had no other choice but to force the Czar back into the system. In the summer of 1812, he invaded Russia from Poland with a Grand Army of 600,000 men. Instead of fighting against the French, the Russians destroyed everything that could be used by the invading army (adopted a scorched earth policy). However, Napoleon won the Battle of Borodino and entered Moscow in September. It looked like another triumph for Napoleon, but this time it was not meant to be.



Napoleon's retreat from Moscow to Poland during the winter of 1812.

When the French entered Moscow, they found a deserted city. The Czar had ordered the city to be burnt so that the French would not use it as shelter for the winter. For weeks Napoleon waiting for the Czar to ask for an armistice, but no response came. Alexander was playing for time for winter to set in. With the cold weather approaching Napoleon had no other option but to order the army to return to Poland. During the retreat journey, more than half the French army died of the freezing winter weather. A further 200,000 were taken prisoner by the Russians, half of which died while in captivity and around 30,000 managed to make it to Poland.

LO3ef - Napoleon's final defeat and exile

The War of Liberation, 1813-1814

Napoleon's defeat in Russia led to more disasters. Russia, Sweden, Prussia, Britain, Austria and the German states joined together as allies and drove the French out of central Europe. In 1814 the allies crossed into France and went on to occupy Paris. The allied army marched through Paris and proclaimed Louis XVIII (Louis XVI's brother) as the new King of France.

Exile at Elba, 1814-1815

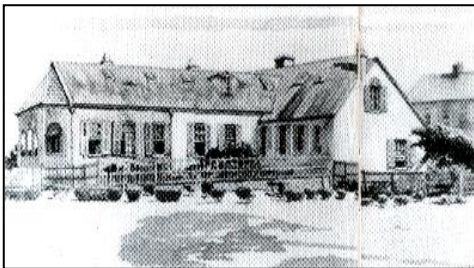
Napoleon surrendered in April. He was exiled to the island of Elba but kept the title of Emperor. There he soon became restless and unhappy. When he heard that Louis XVIII was becoming unpopular, he decided to return to France. In March 1815 he secretly sailed from Elba and landed in France. King Louis fled before Napoleon entered Paris, welcomed by cheering crowds shouting 'Vive l'Empereur'.

The Hundred Days, 1815

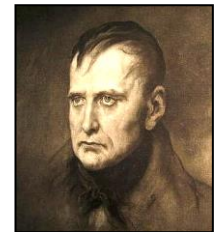
Napoleon's second empire lasted only 95 days. The allies put together six armies to crush him. Napoleon marched with 120,000 men to meet them in Belgium. There he beat the Prussians and attacked the British army at the Battle of Waterloo, near Brussels. The British, led by the Duke of Wellington resisted his attacks until the Prussians returned and joined in the fighting. Napoleon left the battlefield and returned to Paris. There he abdicated for the second time.



Napoleon defeated and waiting for his exile on the British island of St Elena in the Atlantic Ocean.



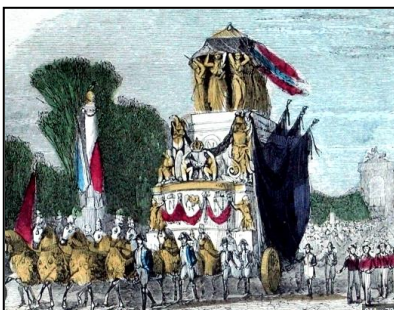
*Above: Napoleon's mansion at St Elena.
Centre: Napoleon's last moments before he died in May 1821.*



Napoleon's last portrait when he was already suffering from cancer.

Exile at St Elena, 1815-1821

Napoleon hoped that the British would allow him to live in England. But the British had other plans for him. They took him to the British island of St Helena in the South Atlantic, from where he could never escape. There he spent the rest of his life in captivity writing his memoirs. He died there of stomach cancer in May 1821.



Left: In 1840, Napoleon's corpse was brought from St Elena and given a state funeral in Paris.

Napoleon's mausoleum (centre) in the Hotel des Invalides (right).

The Napoleonic Legend, 1840

In 1840 the government of King Louis Philippe, in order to gain popularity, obtained permission from Britain to bring Napoleon's corps to a ceremonious burial in France. Napoleon's body travelled in an open train across France. It was placed to rest in a mausoleum in the *Hotel des Invalides* in Paris.

LO3cef - The Career of Napoleon Bonaparte

Choose THREE events that you think contributed most for Napoleon's rise to power and another THREE events which you think contributed to his final defeat and downfall. In each case, explain the reason for your choice.

1 a. Top **three** reasons for Napoleon's rise to power before 1804:

1		
2		
3		

(9)

1 b. Top **three** reasons for Napoleon's final defeat and downfall in 1815:

1		
2		
3		

(9)

2. Describe **one** possible course of action taken by Napoleon by which he could have avoided total defeat and downfall in 1815.

(2)

(Total: 20 marks)

L03d - Napoleon in contemporary cartoons



A

A. The fight for world dominance. Back in 1805, it was the British versus the French, and this cartoon pokes fun at both. William Pitt and Napoleon are using a carving knife and fork to cut slices off the pudding. Pitt's fork is a trident, reminiscent of British sea power; Napoleon's knife resembles a sword, referring to French supremacy on land. Pitt is slicing off a big chunk of the ocean, while Napoleon is helping himself to Continental Europe.



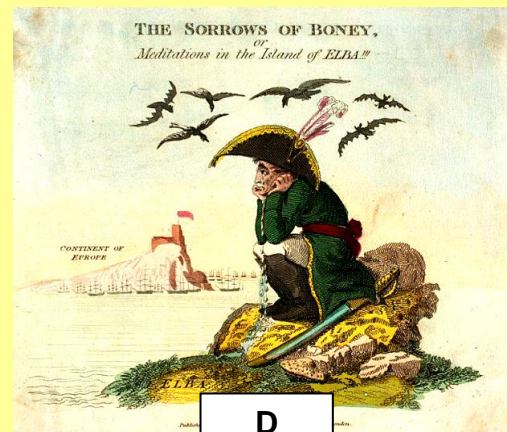
B

B. This caricature was published in London in April 1814 when Napoleon was about to be exiled by the Allies to the island of Elba. He stands locked in a cage on wheels, pulled by a mounted Cossack. At the top of the cage, there are his broken crown, sceptre and sword. Napoleon says: "Oh! D-n these Cossacks," referring to his disastrous Russian campaign.



C

C. Napoleon's escaped from Elba in March 1815, and his return to Paris as Emperor disrupted the work of the Allied Powers at the Congress of Vienna. They had to stop the meeting and resort to war against Napoleon.



D

D. In this caricature, published in London in April 1814, Napoleon sits crying on an island labelled 'Elba'. Heavily guarded in the background is the 'Continent of Europe.'



E

E. The caricature is entitled 'The Valley of the Shadow of Death'. It shows Napoleon fighting against the Coalition Powers who were attacking him from all sides, reminiscent of his troubles in Portugal and Spain, the disastrous invasion of Russia and his failure to defeat Britain.

LO3d - Napoleon in contemporary cartoons

Answer the following questions on the political cartoons on page 8.

1. (a) Which TWO cartoons on page 8 deal with Napoleon's exile to Elba? _____ (2)

(b) Briefly explain why Napoleon was exiled to this island.

(3)

2. (a) Which cartoon deals with the rivalry between Britain and Napoleonic France? _____ (1)

(b) How did this rivalry develop into an economic war between the two powers in 1806?

(4)

3. (a) Which cartoon deals with the Congress of Vienna? _____ (1)

(b) Describe the events by which Napoleon disrupted for a brief time the work of this Congress in 1815?

(4)

4. (a) Which cartoon deals with Napoleon's problems in Europe? _____ (1)

(b) Mention and describe ONE of Napoleon's problems that were to lead to his downfall.

(4)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO3g - The Congress of Vienna



Left: *The Allied armies entering Paris in March 1814.*
Right: *The European leaders at the Congress of Vienna*



The Two Treaties of Paris, May 1814, November 1815

The two treaties signed at Paris between France on the one side and the Allies (Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, Sweden, and Portugal) on the other, ended the Napoleonic Wars. The frontiers of France were to be those of 1790; France had to pay a war indemnity of 700,000,000 Francs to the Allied Powers; a Prussian army of occupation was to remain in France until this sum was paid.

The Congress of Vienna, 1814-1815

With Napoleon defeated, the Congress of Vienna met to redraw the map of Europe. The old politicians re-created many of the old states that Napoleon had destroyed. Old royal families took their thrones in Spain, Holland, Italy and Germany. Italy was divided into twelve states, the northern states under Austria. The German Confederation was made up of 39 states and included Austria and Prussia. The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxemburg were united into one kingdom (Kingdom of the Netherlands). Poland was given to Russia. Prussia received the Rhineland as a buffer against a French attack on Germany.

The principle of legitimacy



The leaders of the Congress of Vienna wanted the legitimacy of rulers. They redrew the map of Europe as set by Napoleon and attempted to restore the monarchies Napoleon had overthrown. This meant that many states in Italy and Germany went back to their previous rulers or their rightful heirs. To mention just three examples, the Bourbon family took back the Spanish throne, the Orange family was restored as rulers over the Netherlands and the Papal States went back to the Pope.

The principle of the balance of power

In 1815 the Great Powers learnt from the experience of the Napoleonic Wars. They agreed that if one European Power was to become strong enough to dominate all others, those threatened would unite in a defensive coalition against it. In 1815, this principle was mostly intended against France, but in later decades, it was frequently by Britain in its foreign policy seeking to prevent any European Power from dominating the Continent of Europe as Napoleon had tried to do.

The Concert of Europe

To bring about a balance of power in Europe and prevent further conflict, the Great Powers present at the Congress of Vienna developed what became known as the Concert of Europe. The Congress was the first occasion in history where on a continental scale, national representatives came together to formulate internationally agreed treaties. This Concert of Europe formed the basic framework for European international politics until the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.

					
Prince Metternich, Chancellor of Austria	Czar Alexander I of Russia	King Frederick William III of Prussia	Lord Castlereagh, British Foreign Secretary	The Duke of Wellington	Prince Talleyrand, French Foreign Minister

The main representatives of the Great Powers at the Congress of Vienna

Nationalism after 1815

During the Revolutionary Wars, the French set up new nations in lands they had conquered (Italy, Germany and Poland). Many Europeans found out what it was like to live in their own nations. This came to an end in 1815 with the Congress of Vienna. Millions of Italians came again under Austrian rule, Poles under Russian rule, Belgians under Dutch rule and so on. Napoleon and the French, however, had set an example that these people would not forget. In 1830 and 1848 people who were not happy with the way their country was governed, did what the French had done in 1789 – they rebelled against their foreign rulers.

Liberalism after 1815

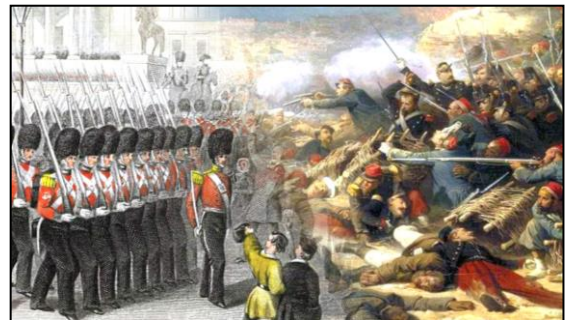
During the French Revolution, liberal constitutions were introduced into the states that came under French control. Therefore, the idea of liberty and equality spread across Europe. But in 1815 the old rulers of Europe took back their thrones and got rid of these constitutions and went back to ruling in the old 'absolute' way. But many European liberals, believing in the ideas of liberty and equality, wanted a constitution giving them liberal rights. The liberals were to take a leading part in the European revolutions of 1830 and 1848.

The Metternich System, 1815-1848

Prince Clemens von Metternich (1773–1859), the Austrian Chancellor, convinced the other European leaders to crush revolutions wherever these would break out in Europe in the future. Metternich set up a secret police system to hunt down liberals, nationalists and revolutionary secret societies and activists in Austria, Germany and Italy. These groups started plotting secretly to bring down conservative governments in Europe. Metternich's repressive system survived until his downfall and escape to Britain with the outbreak of the Revolutions of 1848.

The impact of the Congress of Vienna

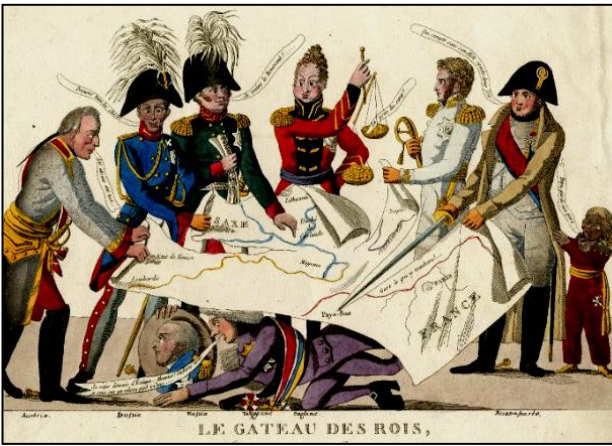
The Congress of Vienna and the Congress System constituted a turning point in European international history; the first genuine attempt to forge an 'international order', to bring long-term peace to a troubled Europe. In this respect, it was a success because the first time European Powers went to war with each other was during the Crimean War (1854–1856), when Britain and France declared war against Russia when the latter invaded the Ottoman Empire.



Moreover, a series of developments went contrary to the decisions agreed upon at the Congress of Vienna. In 1821 the Greeks revolted against the Turks and in 1830 the Belgians revolted against the Dutch. Both peoples wanted to attain national independence. Instead of suppressing these revolutions, the Great Powers were split between the 'liberal powers' in the West (Britain and France supported these revolutions) and the 'conservative powers' in the East (Austria, Prussia and Russia wanted to intervene to suppress these revolutions). This divergence between Great Powers ended the Concert of Europe. The rest of the 19th century then was marked by the liberal revolutions of 1830, the national revolutions of 1848, the wars of unification of Italy and Germany in the 1850s and 1860s respectively and renewed rivalry between the Great Powers after 1871.

LO3g - The Congress of Vienna

Study carefully the following sources and then answer all the questions.



Above: **Source A.** The Congress of Vienna, 1815
Right: **Source B.** Europe in 1815



1. What are the leaders of the Great Powers seen doing in Source A? (1)
2. What do you mean by these two guiding principles of the Congress of Vienna?
 - (a) the principle of legitimacy; (2)
 - (b) the principle of the balance of power; (2)
 - (c) the Concert of Europe. (2)
3. Mention the important decision taken by the Great Powers at the Congress of Vienna about the following countries:
 - (a) Italy; (2)
 - (b) Germany; (2)
 - (c) the Austrian Netherlands; (2)
 - (d) Poland. (2)
4. Underline TWO leaders of the Great Powers that did NOT take part in discussions of the Congress of Vienna.
Napoleon; Metternich; Alexander I; Castlereagh; Talleyrand; Frederick William III; Louis XVIII (1)
5. Briefly comment on these memories and legacies of the French Revolution:
 - (a) Liberty, Equality and Fraternity; (2)
 - (b) the *Declaration of Rights of Man*; (2)
 - (c) the French *tricolor*; (2)
 - (d) the 14th of July. (2)
6. Briefly comment on these memories and legacies of Napoleon:
 - (a) the *Code Napoleon*; (2)
 - (b) the Concordat with the Catholic Church; (2)
 - (c) the *Arc de Triomphe* and the Louvre Museum in Paris; (2)
 - (d) the Napoleonic Legend. (2)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO3cdef - The Rise and Fall of Napoleon

Source Question 2 – Napoleon’s Empire

Read carefully the following sources and then answer all the questions.

‘Your throne will never be firmly established except upon the trust and affection of the common people. What German opinion impatiently demands is that men of no rank, but of marked ability, shall have in equal claim upon your favour and upon your employment, and that every trace of serfdom, or of a feudal hierarchy...shall be done away with. The benefits of the Code Napoleon, public trial and the introduction of juries will be the leading features of your Government. And to tell you the truth, I count more upon their effects, for the extension and consolidation of your rule, than upon the most resounding victories.’

Source A. R.C.Bridges, P. Dukes, J.D. Hargreaves, W.Scott (eds.), *Nations and Empires*,(1968), p.88.

‘Afterwards when his armies became so numerous and his battles so deadly, he disdained to exercise this kind of fascination. Besides, death had extinguished so many remembrances that in a few years it became difficult for him to find any great number of the companies of his early exploits; and when he addressed his soldiers before leading them into battle; it was perpetually renewed posterity to which the preceding and destroyed army had bequeathed its glory. But even this sombre style of encouragement availed for a long time with a nation which believed itself to be fulfilling its destiny while sending its sons year after year to die for Bonaparte.’

Source B. James Harvey Robinson (ed.), *Readings in European History*, 2 Vols. (1904-1906), Vol II: ‘The opening of the Protestant Revolt to the Present Day’, p. 487–488.

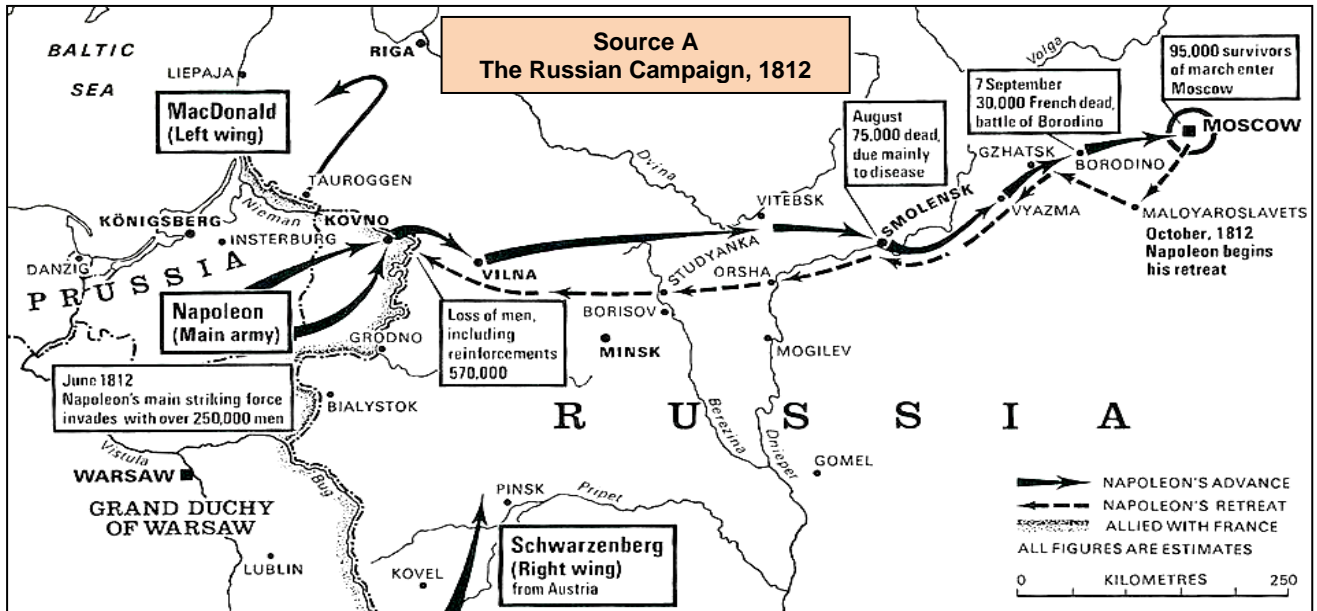
1. What does source 1 speak about? (1)
2. Is Source A primary or secondary? State why? (2)
3. Who wrote Source A and for whom was it intended? (2)
4. Is Source A reliable to the historian doing research on Napoleon? Give a reason for your answer. (1, 2)
5. Mention **two** progressive laws found in the *Code Napoleon*. (2)
6. In what way did Napoleon go contrary to the principles of the French Revolution when he crowned himself Emperor in 1804? (2)
7. Is Source B primary or secondary? Give a reason for your answer. (2)
8. Which evidence in Source B shows that Napoleon’s rule over time became very unpopular? (2)
9. After having read these two sources, state how you would assess (evaluate) Napoleon’s rule both in France and in Europe? (4)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO3cde - The Rise and Fall of Napoleon

Source Question 2 – Decline and Fall

Carefully study the following sources and then answer all the questions.



'My Brother, the magnificent town of Moscow no longer exist...The fires seem to have stopped at last. Three quarters of the houses have been burned...This is an atrocious and meaningless act. Was it done with the intention of depriving us of supplies? But these supplies were in the cellars, where the fire could not reach them. In any case, how could anyone destroy one of the loveliest cities in the world – the work of centuries – for such a wretched purpose? If I had supposed that such things had been done by your Majesty's orders, I should not write to you this letter: but with your principles, your heart, the soundness of your ideas, it is, I think, impossible that you should have authorised such excesses, unworthy as they are of a great sovereign and a great nation.

I made war on your Majesty without rancour; a note from you, before or after the last battle, would have cut short by expedition, and I should have given up the advantage of entering Moscow. If your Majesty still feels any of the *old friendliness* towards me, you will take this letter in good part.'

Source B. Extract from a letter sent by Napoleon to Czar Alexander I of Russia.

Answer the following questions using evidence provided in the map of Source A.

1. a. List the towns through which Napoleon's Grand Army passed on its way to Moscow. (2)
- b. List the towns through which Napoleon's army passed on its retreat to Poland. (2)
- c. What caused the death of 75,000 French soldiers by August 1812? (1)
- d. Why victory of the French at the Battle of Borodino was in reality a 'hollow victory'? (2)
2. a. Give the year and the place where this letter was written. (2)
- b. Who was the sender and who was the receiver? (2)
- c. Which city was mentioned in it and why? (3)
- d. For which reason was it sent? (2)
- e. Why does the sender seem to be frustrated while writing this letter? (2)
3. Why does the author of Source B speak of the 'old friendliness' (shown in italics in line 11)? (2)

(Total: 20 marks)

Miscellaneous Primary Source

Convention between the French Government and His Holiness Pius VII

[Translation of most of the original text in French]

The Government of the Republic recognises that the Catholic, Apostolic and Roman religion is the religion of the great majority of the French citizens. His Holiness also recognises that this same religion has derived and now awaits once more the greatest benefit and lustre from the establishment of the Catholic worship in France and from the personal profession of it which the Consuls of the Republic are making. Therefore, after this mutual recognition, as much for the benefit of religion as for maintaining internal peace, they have agreed upon the following:

Article 1

The Catholic, Apostolic and Roman religion will be freely exercised in France. Its worship will be public, and in conformity with such police regulations as the Government shall consider necessary to public peace.

Article 4

Within three months of publication of the bull of His Holiness the First Consul of the Republic will make appointments for the archbishoprics and bishoprics....

Article 5

The nominations for bishoprics which will be vacated in the future, will also be made by the First Consul; and the investiture will be given by the Holy See, in conformity with the preceding article.

Article 6

Before assuming their functions, the bishops will take directly at the hands of the First Consul, the oath of loyalty used before the change of government, expressed in the following terms:

'I swear and promise before God, on the Holy Scriptures, to observe obedience and loyalty to the Government established by the Constitution of the French Republic. I also promise to have no dealings, to attend no council, to converse with no group, whether within or without, which would be contrary to the public peace; and if, in my diocese or elsewhere, I learn that something is being plotted to the detriment of the State, I will make it known to the Government.'

Article 7

Ecclesiastics of the second rank will take the same oath at the hands of the civil authorities designated by the Government.

Article 8

A prayer in the following form will be repeated at the end of divine office in all Catholic churches in France: 'God save the Republic. God save the Consuls.'

Article 9

The bishops will make a new circumscription of the parishes of their dioceses, which will only be valid after the consent of the Government.

Article 10

The bishops will make nominations for the parish. Their choice will be limited to those persons agreeable to the Government.

Article 13

His Holiness, in the interest of peace and the happy re-establishment of the Catholic religion, declares that neither he nor his successors will disturb in any manner those who have acquired alienated ecclesiastical possessions, and that as a result the ownership of these possessions, the rights and the revenues that attach to them will remain incommutably in their possession or in that of their legal successors.

Article 14

The Government will assure a fitting maintenance for the bishops and the curates...

Article 15

The Government will also take measures so that French Catholics, if they wish, can act in favour of churches and foundations.

The instruments of ratification will be exchanged in Paris within forty days.

Concluded at Paris, the 26th of Messidor in the Year 9 of the French Republic [15 July 1801].

The rise, decline and fall of Napoleon Bonaparte

Read carefully these essay titles and answer ONE using the following word count guide (350–400 words for MQF 2-3 and 200–250 for MQF 1-2).

PAPER MQF 2-3

1. Outline and explain, Napoleon's military decline after 1808. (20)
2. It is often said that Napoleon Bonaparte was initially a success but ultimately a failure. Discuss. (20)
3. How did Napoleon Bonaparte rise to power to become Emperor of the French in 1804? (20)
4. Outline and explain the political arrangements made at the Congress of Vienna in 1815. (20)
5. Why and how did the European Great Powers seek to restore peace in Europe in 1815? (20)

PAPER MQF 1-2

1. Napoleon Bonaparte embarked on two campaigns which contributed to his final downfall.
 - (a) How did the Spanish campaign affect Napoleon's security on his western front? (10)
 - (b) What was the contribution of the Russian campaign to Napoleon's future? (10)
2. Write briefly on the following headings about Napoleon Bonaparte:
 - (a) His initial successes up to 1804: (5)
 - (b) Administrative reforms he carried out in France between 1800–1804; (5)
 - (c) The Continental System against Britain: (5)
 - (d) Napoleon's legacy in France after 1815 (5)
3.
 - (a) Mention and briefly explain **two** reasons for Napoleon's rise to power before 1800; (8)
 - (b) Mention and briefly describe **two** events that contributed to Napoleon's decline and fall from 1808 onwards; (8)
 - (c) Describe what happened to Napoleon after 1815? (4)

