



Document 4

The French Revolution

Date	Ruling Government	Changes
1789–1791	National Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional monarchy established • Feudalism abolished • <i>Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen</i> adopted
1791–1792	Legislative Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional monarchy undermined • Mob forced king to flee to the safety of the Legislative Assembly • War declared against Austria and Prussia
1792–1795	The First Republic and The Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France declared a Republic (Sept. 1792) • France ruled by Committee of Public Safety • Radicals (Jacobins) overcame moderates (Girondins) • Terror used to execute “enemies of the regime” • Robespierre executed
1795–1799	The Directory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five directors ruled as executive • Coups d’état attempted by radical and conservative forces • Napoleon overthrew the government in a coup d’état (Nov. 1799)

4 Based on this chart, identify **two** political changes that occurred during the French Revolution. [2]

(1) _____

Score

(2) _____

Score

Document 5

The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen

Article 1 – Men are born and remain free and equal in rights. Social distinctions may be based only on considerations of the common good. . . .

Article 4 – Liberty consists in being able to do anything that does not harm others: thus, the exercise of the natural rights of every man has no bounds other than those that ensure to the other members of society the enjoyment of these same rights. These bounds may be determined only by Law. . . .

Article 6 – The Law is the expression of the general will. All citizens have the right to take part, personally or through their representatives, in its making. It must be the same for all, whether it protects or punishes. All citizens, being equal in its eyes, shall be equally eligible to all high offices, public positions and employments, according to their ability, and without other distinction than that of their virtues and talents. . . .

Article 11 – The free communication of ideas and of opinions is one of the most precious rights of man. Any citizen may therefore speak, write and publish freely, except what is tantamount [equivalent] to the abuse of this liberty in the cases determined by Law. . . .

Source: *The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen*

5 Based on this excerpt from *The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen*, state **two** ways the National Assembly attempted to redefine the relationship between the individual and the government. [2]

(1) _____

Score

(2) _____

Score

Document 6

Helen Williams was a foreigner living in Paris in 1793. She sympathized with those who wanted France to form a republic. She was arrested because her views differed from the views of those in power.

. . . After two months in our new prison, we were released. A young Frenchman, who has since married my sister, managed to get us released by haunting all the officials he could find and finally by begging the release from Chaumette, the procurer of the Paris Commune, and a tyrant. So we were free but were watched. We could see very few people and went out little, and yet it was a sort of liberty. We feared to go out, in case, without realizing it, we committed some transgression [offense] that would lead to being arrested again. We hardly spoke to anyone, for there were spies everywhere, and we jumped at each knock at the door, fearing arrest. For the prisons were growing more crowded daily, and more and more were going to the scaffold as the Reign of Terror tightened its hold. "Suspicion" was now a warrant for imprisonment, and conspiracy and murder were in the air. One man was arrested because he "looked" noble, another because a total stranger swore that he supported monarchy. Some were arrested for having been rich, others for being clever. Many who were arrested asked for the reason in vain. And the numbers of executions rose, and the horrors increased, and the stories of both courage and cowardice were passed from home to home. Yet it seemed to me that there was more courage than cowardice to be found, which gave us hope for humanity even in these dark days.

Soon after our release from prison, we decided to move from the center of the town to a house in the most remote part of the faubourg [suburb], Saint Germain. Our new home was but a few moments walk from the countryside. But although we were close, we did not dare to walk there. The parks and woods that surrounded us and had once belonged to royalty were now haunted by revolutionaries, despots, police spies, even the conspirators themselves on occasion. So we walked in the common fields near our house, where people put their animals to graze. I have no words to describe how reluctantly we returned from our walks to Paris, that den of carnage, that slaughterhouse of man. The guillotine was claiming both the innocent and the guilty alike, and at such a rate that the gutters seemed to stream with blood. And just when it seemed that things could get no worse, when you thought it was not possible to increase the stream of people flowing to the scaffold, you were proved wrong, and the pace of the flow quickened even more. . . .

Source: Jane Shuter, ed., *Helen Williams and the French Revolution*, Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers (adapted)

6 According to Helen Williams, what is **one** impact the Reign of Terror had on the people of Paris in 1793? [1]

Score