





July 12, 1789

. . . The 12th. Walking up a long hill, to ease my mare, I was joined by a poor woman, who complained of the times, and that it was a sad country; demanding her reasons, she said her husband had but a morsel of land, one cow, and a poor little horse, yet they had a *franchar* (42 lb.) of wheat, and three chickens, to pay as a quit-rent to one Seigneur [noble]; and four *franchar* of oats, one chicken and 1 sou [small unit of money] to pay to another, besides very heavy *tailles* [taxes on the land and its produce] and other taxes. She had seven children, and the cow's milk helped to make the soup. But why, instead of a horse, do not you keep another cow? Oh, her husband could not carry his produce so well without a horse; and asses are little used in the country. It was said, at present, that *something was to be done by some great folks for such poor ones, but she did not know who nor how*, but God send us better, *car les tailles & les droits nous ecrasent* [because the taxes and laws are crushing us]. —This woman, at no great distance, might have been taken for sixty or seventy, her figure was so bent, and her face so furrowed [wrinkled] and hardened by labour, — but she said she was only twenty-eight. An Englishman who has not travelled, cannot imagine the figure made by infinitely the greater part of the countrywomen in France; it speaks, at the first sight, hard and severe labour: I am inclined to think, that they work harder than the men, and this, united with the more miserable labour of bringing a new race of slaves into the world, destroys absolutely all symmetry of person [balanced proportions] and every feminine appearance. To what are we to attribute this difference in the manners of the lower people in the two kingdoms? To Government . . . .

Source: \_\_\_\_\_, *Arthur Young's Travels in France During the Years 1787, 1788, 1789*, G. Bell and Sons (adapted)

3 Based on this document of Arthur Young's travels, state **one** reason the French peasants were dissatisfied with their life during this period of French history. [1]

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Complete S.O.A.P.S.T.one Analysis on this primary document

Score

Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

Audience: \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Tone: \_\_\_\_\_

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