

Secondly, the American Revolution seemed to have a better chance for success from the get-go, due to the fact that Americans already saw themselves as something other than British subjects. Thus, there was already a uniquely American character, so, there was not as loud a cry to preserve the British way of life. In France, several thousands of people still supported the king, largely because the king was seen as an essential part of French life. And when the king was first ousted and then killed, some believed that character itself was corrupted. Remember, the Americans did not oust a king or kill him—they merely separated from him.

Finally, there is a general agreement that the French were not as unified as the Americans, who, for the most part, put aside their political differences until after they had already formed a new nation. The French, despite their Tennis Court Oath, could not do so. Infighting led to inner turmoil, civil war, and eventually the Reign of Terror, in which political dissidents were executed in large numbers. Additionally, the French people themselves were not unified. The nation had so much stratification that it was impossible to unite all of them—the workers, the peasants, the middle-class, the nobles, the clergy—into one cause. And the attempts to do so under a new religion, the Divine Cult of Reason, certainly did not help. The Americans, remember, never attempted to change the society at large; rather, they merely attempted to change the government.

- (1) Why and how did the Reign of Terror happen?
- (2) In what ways does the author suggest that the American Revolution was easier to complete than the French Revolution?
- (3) Of the challenges mentioned facing the French revolutionaries, which do you think had the greatest impact on their inability to complete a successful revolution? Why?
- (4) Of the strengths mentioned aiding the American revolutionaries, which do you think had the greatest impact on their ability to complete a successful revolution? Why?

Q.4. Write a comprehensive note (250 – 300 words) on any ONE of the following:

(20)



1. The Reign of Terror happened because French were not unite. They didn't put their differences aside as a result dissidents were killed by the government.

2. The American Revolution was easier to complete than the french Revolution because they were already aware of their uniqueness and individuality.

3. The challenge that had the greatest impact on the french revolution and contributed on their inability to complete a successful revolution was stratification. They all were dispersed and divided, it was difficult to unite them as a nation.

4. The greatest strength of American revolutionaries was that they never tried to change the society rather they tried to make necessary changes in the government.