

11 Modern History 1 The French Revolution and Terror

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1.	ancient regime	the social and political order in France before the revolution
2.	assignat	paper money issued by governments of the revolution
3.	bourgeois, bourgeoisie	the urban middle classes, for example merchants, professionals
4.	committee of general security	government committee of Year II, responsible for police and internal security
5.	committee of public safety	the most important and powerful of the committees of Year II, responsible for internal and external affairs
6.	cordeliers club	the more radical of the two major clubs of the revolution; leaders include Danton, Marat, Hebert
7.	cult of the supreme being	religious cult founded by Robespierre in 1794; it was a deist cult, based on the belief in some form of creator; Robespierre regarded it as an alternative to Christianity and to the more extreme Cult of Reason
8.	emigres	nobles and others who fled France during the revolution
9.	enrages	the most extreme revolutionary party, which had much influence among the Parisian sansculottes
10.	feuillants	constitutional monarchists who wanted to keep the monarchy but limit its powers
11.	girondins	the main group of deputies opposed to the Jacobins in the national convention
12.	guillotine	the new and official instrument of execution in France during and after the revolution; its heavy, sharp blade mounted on a strong frame caused death by decapitation (cutting off the head); compared with methods of execution used in France before the revolution, and in other countries long afterwards, it was considered a human device as it caused instant death
13.	hebertists, exaggeres	followers of Jacques-Rene Hebert
14.	indulgents	group around Danton who called for an end to the Terror from late 1793
15.	jacobobins, jacobin club	name assumed by the middle-class radical group that met at the former Jacobin Convent in Paris from October 1789; Robespierre became its president in 1790; at first the club included the Feuillants (constitutional monarchists) who left it in June 1791. and the Girondians; after several purges, it consisted mainly of the loyal supporters of Robespierre

16. levee en masse	conscription, following the law of 23 August 1793, which mobilised the French nation of war
17. maximum	the laws of May and September 1793, limiting prices of necessities
18. mountain	the main group of Jacobin deputies in the national convention
19. noblesse	French aristocracy or nobility
20. Paris commune	the Paris local government during revolution
21. plain	the large, non-committed group of deputies in the national convention
22. revolutionary tribunal	the law court set up in March 1793 to try and sentence suspected enemies of the revolution
23. sans-culottes	literally, those who wore trousers instead of knee-breaches; the term was used to refer to urban workers, small shopkeepers and the city poor; between 1792-95 it also became a political term for more extreme revolutionaries
24. sections	the local government wards of Paris, 1790-95
25. states-general	the assembly of the three estates convened in May 1789
26. the terror	the period of Jacobin power, September 1793-July 1794
27. year ll	under the revolutionary calendar adopted by the French republic, the second year of the republic and the period of Jacobin power and the Terror