

## Aspects in breadth: the changing role of government in preparing the nation for war, c1790–1918

Themes	Content
<b>1 Changes in organising the military</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The military and reasons for changes 1790-1918: improvements to army organisation, ordnance and supplies (key developments: McNeill-Tulloch Report 1855, Cardwell's army reforms 1868-74, Haldane's army reforms 1905-12). The navy and changes in organisation: decommissioning ships and reduction in the size of the navy after 1815; the significance of the shift from sail to steam; government reforms (key developments: Graham's reforms 1832, Fisher's reforms at the Admiralty 1904-10).</li><li>• The recruitment of the fighting forces 1790-1918: impressment, volunteers and conscripts (key development: conscription 1916).</li></ul>
<b>2 Changes in the role of the people</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Changing weaponry 1790-1918: the role of science and technology in improving weaponry (key developments: carronades and the navy in the 1790s, Congreve's rockets 1806, William Armstrong's new artillery 1859-60, the Vickers machine gun 1914-18, development of the tank 1915-18).</li><li>• The populace and the war effort 1790-1918: providing finance – taxation, bonds, consols and war loans; changing civilian roles, from camp followers to an organised home front.</li></ul>

**1 Britain and the French Wars, 1793–1815**

- Facing the French threat on land: the role of Wellington in the defeat of the French.
- Facing the French threat at sea: the role of Nelson in the defeat of the French.
- The impact on the British economy, industry, commerce and agriculture of the length of the conflict.

**2 The Crimean War, 1854–56**

- Facing the Russian threat in the Crimea: the impact of the battles of Alma and Balaclava and the siege of Sebastopol; the role of Lord Raglan.
- The effectiveness of the work of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole in the Crimea.
- Changing attitudes of the public in Britain to the conduct of the war, including the impact of the photography of Roger Fenton and the reportage of William Russell.

**3 The second Boer War, 1899–1902**

- Facing the Boers in southern Africa: the nature of British army; the significance of the sieges of Mafeking, Kimberley and Ladysmith; and the impact of Black Week.
- The importance of the roles of Field Marshalls Roberts and Kitchener, and General Sir Redvers Buller in achieving victory.
- Changing attitudes of the public in Britain to the conflict, including the impact of the reportage of Winston Churchill and the work of Emily Hobhouse.

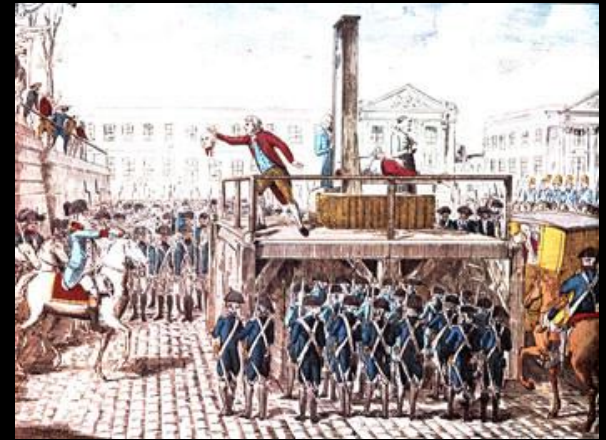
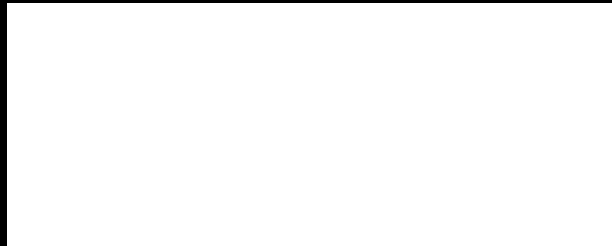
**4 Trench warfare on the Western Front, 1914–18**

- Reasons for change from a war of movement to attrition; entrenchment and the building of defensive systems; the need for military adjustment; the use of new fighting techniques and new technology – machine guns, chlorine gas, tanks, fuse 106 and the creeping barrage.
- British public perception of, and changing attitudes to, war on the Western Front; government attempts to restrict, direct reportage by journalists from the Western Front.
- The significance of Haig's major offensives for the conduct of the war and attitudes to it: the Somme in 1916, Passchendaele in 1917, the Hundred Days' Offensive in 1918.

# Causes of the French Revolution

LO1: To examine the factors that led to Revolution in France in 1789

LO2: To consider why the event was seen as a threat by Great Britain



# The Ancien Regime

- Like most of Europe, until 1789 France was a monarchy ruled by an absolute monarch.
- The social, political, and economic order that characterised France was known historically as the Ancien Regime (“Old Regime”)



“Any system tending under the guise of humanity and benevolence to establish an equality of duties between men, and to destroy those distinctions between men necessary in a well-ordered monarchy, would soon lead to disorder. The result would be the overthrow of civil society, the harmony of which is only maintained by the harmony of government, institutions, governments and distinctions which keeps each man in his place and keeps all classes from confusion. This social order is not only essential to the prosperity of every sound government, it has its origin in divine law. The just and reasonable wisdom in the plan of the law was established on an equal distribution of strength and talents, necessarily resulting in inequality in the conditions of men within the civil order. These distinctions were not formed by chance, and time cannot change them. To abolish them, the whole French constitution would have to be overturned!”

• From a letter sent to the King by the Duke de Choiseux (a body made up mostly by the land nobility) in 1776. The letter was in response to a plan to replace forced labour with a tax to maintain the roads.

Read the source carefully.

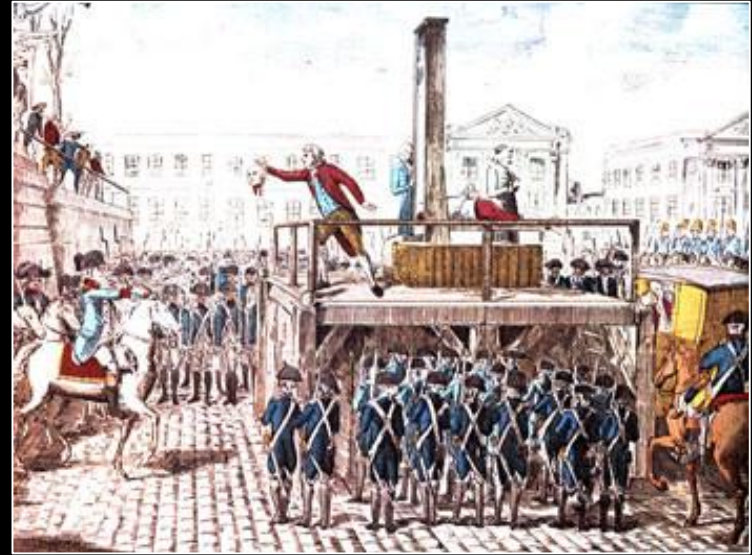
- What can we learn about the nature of Ancien Regime France?
- Can you identify any potential weaknesses?





# The revolution across the channel

- Following the revolution, France went through considerable turmoil.
- Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were eventually executed in 1793
- Britain was not an absolute monarchy but the Royal family and aristocracy dominated economically and politically



Based on the information under 'The revolution turns radical explain the following:

1. What aims did the French revolutionaries have for the rest of Europe?
2. How did the domestic aims of the revolution become more radical?
3. What was 'The Terror'?
4. Why do you think the revolution would have been seen as a threat in Great Britain?