French Revolution 1789-1799

Causes of Revolution

1. French Social Structure
   - King/Queen
   - 1st Estate: Catholic Clergy (1/3)
   - 2nd Estate: Nobility (1/3)
   - 3rd Estate: Commoners (% undergraduate)

2. Financial Crisis
   - Debt: too much money
   - Spent + borrowed for foreign wars
     - American rev., French + Indian war
   - Exorbitant expenses for lavish court life (Versailles)
   - 1787: tried to tax 2nd Estate (they refused)

3. Enlightenment ideas
   - Separation of powers
     - Many want a constitutional monarchy
     - Montesquieu
   - Natural born equality
     - Locke
   - Rousseau: common good, people have a say in laws

Louis XVI + Marie Antoinette
- Reign from 1774-1792
- Louis executed in 1793
- King + Queen of France
- Louis XVI: intelligent, wanted to be loved, but lacked strength + decisiveness
- Marie Antoinette: originally liked, but then seen as lavish, promiscuous, and an enemy-Sympathizer

Note: All that is wrong with France