5.1 & 5.9 Context, Continuity & Change

Big Picture (c. 1648–1815)

3 forces: commercial rivalry → wars & debt; **Enlightenment** ideas → challenge to divine-right rule; **Romanticism** & **nationalism** → emotional, mass politics.

Balance of power: no state may dominate; alliances shift to stop the strongest (Louis XIV, then Napoleon).

Old Regime: absolute monarchs, privileged clergy & nobles, peasants carry taxes; legal inequality by birth = norm.

Enlightened absolutism: Frederick II, Catherine II, Joseph II reform from above but keep full power.

Rising powers: Prussia & Russia join Br, Fr, Austria as great powers; Spain, Sweden, Dutch & Ottomans decline.

Key Wars Before 1789

War	Dates	Outcome
Spanish Succ.	1701–14	Utrecht: Br gets Gibraltar
Austrian Succ.	1740–48	Prussia takes Silesia
Seven Years'	1756–63	Br gains Canada, India
Am. Revolution	1775–83	Fr wins, goes deep in debt

Partitions of Poland (1772, 1793, 1795): Russia, Prussia, Austria erase Poland → balance of power as land grab.

Diplomatic Revolution (1756): Austria flips to France; Britain backs Prussia → old rivals become allies.

5.9 Continuity vs. Change by 1815

Changed: popular sovereignty, legal equality (Code), feudal dues gone in Fr, citizen armies, nationalism, HRE dissolved.

Continued: Bourbons restored, nobles & Church keep land & status, women shut out of politics, peasants still poor & rural, great powers still settle borders at congresses.

✓ CCOT essays: name what changed AND what persisted, then explain WHY (e.g., Congress of Vienna restored kings, but Louis XVIII kept the Napoleonic Code).

⚠ Contextualization = broader conditions BEFORE the prompt's era, not a retelling of the event itself.

5.2–5.3 Global Markets & Britain's Ascendancy

5.2 Rise of Global Markets

Mercantilism: wealth = bullion; colonies send raw goods, buy home mfg; e.g., Br **Navigation Acts** (1651+).

Atlantic system: Euro mfg → Africa; enslaved Africans → Americas; sugar, tobacco, cotton → Europe (triangular trade).

Slave trade peaks in 18th c.; Fr **Saint-Domingue** = richest sugar colony; Br wins **asiento** slave contract (1713).

Consumer revolution: sugar, tea, coffee, calico cotton → new mass demand; joint-stock cos. (**EIC**, **VOC**) fund trade.

Commercial wars: Fr–Br rivalry fought in Caribbean, N. America & India → wars become global & costly.

Seven Years' War (1756–63): 1st global war (Europe, N. America, India); Treaty of **Paris** 1763 → Fr loses Canada.

5.3 Why Britain Beat Rivals

Factor	Britain	France
Finance	Bank of Eng. 1694	No central bank
Taxes	Parl. approves	Nobles exempt
Credit	Low interest	High interest
Military	Royal Navy	Big land army

Fiscal-military state: Parliament-backed **national debt** lets Br borrow cheaply & fund long wars w/o revolt.

Dutch decline: Anglo-Dutch Wars + costly land wars w/ Fr; Amsterdam stays a finance hub, but Br takes trade lead.

India: Clive wins **Plassey** (1757) → EIC rule in Bengal; Fr confined to small trading posts by 1763.

Sea power: Royal Navy guards convoys & blockades rivals; colonial profits fund more ships → self-reinforcing cycle.

✓ Causation chain: commercial rivalry → Seven Years' War → Br empire, Fr debt → French Revolution.

⚠ Britain's edge was mainly FINANCE & NAVY, not a larger population (France had ~3× more people).

5.4 French Revolution I: Causes & Liberal Phase

Long-Term Causes

Estate	Who	Status
1st	Clergy	Tax-exempt, ~10% land
2nd	Nobles	Exempt, top offices
3rd	~97% (bourg.+peas.)	Pays taxes, no power

Debt: wars (esp. Am. Rev.) → ~½ of budget on interest; nobles block tax reform (**Assembly of Notables**, 1787).

Necker's 1781 *Compte rendu* hid the deficit; **Calonne** proposes land tax on all → Notables refuse (1787).

Enlightenment: Rousseau's general will, Montesquieu's separation of powers, Locke's rights → attack on privilege.

Bread crisis: bad 1788 harvest → bread costs most of a worker's daily wage → riots in Paris & countryside.

1789: Year of Revolution

Estates-General (May): vote by order vs. by head; Sieyès, *What Is the Third Estate?* → 3rd = the nation.

National Assembly (June 17) → **Tennis Court Oath** (June 20): no disbanding until a constitution exists.

Bastille (July 14) → **Great Fear**: peasants burn manor records → **Aug. 4**: feudal privileges abolished.

Declaration of the Rights of Man (Aug. 26): liberty, property, equality before law, popular sovereignty.

Women's March on Versailles (Oct.): market women force royal family to Paris → crowd power grows.

1790–91 Reforms

Civil Constitution of the Clergy (1790): church lands sold, priests elected & swear oath → Catholic split, revolt.

Constitution of 1791: constitutional monarchy; **active** vs. **passive** citizens by property → limited vote.

⚠ The liberal phase was led by the BOURGEOISIE: it ended privilege, not property; most people still couldn't vote.

5.4 French Revolution II: Radical Phase to Directory

Turn to Radicalism (1791–92)

Flight to Varennes (June 1791): king caught fleeing toward Austrian border → trust in monarchy collapses.

Declaration of Pillnitz (1791): Austria & Prussia threaten to aid king → Fr declares war on Austria (Apr. 1792).

Aug. 10, 1792: sans-culottes storm Tuileries → **National Convention** by male suffrage → **Republic** (Sept.).

Phase	Dates	Key Trait
Nat'l Assembly	1789–91	Const. monarchy
Legislative	1791–92	War, king falls
Convention	1792–95	Republic, Terror
Directory	1795–99	Weak, corrupt
Consulate	1799–1804	Napoleon

Reign of Terror (1793–94)

Louis XVI guillotined for treason (Jan. 1793); **Jacobins** (Mountain) purge rival **Girondins** (June 1793).

Committee of Public Safety (Robespierre): Law of Suspects, ~17,000 official executions; Vendée revolt crushed.

Levée en masse (1793): mass draft → nation in arms; **Maximum** caps bread prices for sans-culottes.

Dechristianization: revolutionary calendar, Cult of Reason → Robespierre's Cult of the **Supreme Being**.

Reaction (1794–99)

Thermidor (July 1794): Robespierre executed; **Directory** (1795) = 5 directors, propertied vote, war, inflation.

18 Brumaire (Nov. 1799): Napoleon's coup ends the Directory; new constitution OK'd by plebiscite → Consulate.

✓ Explain the Terror's CAUSES: foreign war + civil war + food crisis → leaders justify emergency rule.

⚠ Girondins ≠ royalists: they were republicans, just more provincial & less radical than the Mountain.

5.5 Effects of the French Revolution

Women & the Revolution

Olympe de Gouges, *Declaration of the Rights of Woman* (1791): demands equal rights; guillotined 1793.

Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792): women need education to be rational citizens.

Gains & limits: divorce legalized (1792), inheritance rights; but women's clubs banned (1793), no vote.

Haitian Revolution (1791–1804)

Saint-Domingue: enslaved people revolt (1791), citing Rights of Man; ex-slave **Toussaint Louverture** leads.

Convention abolishes slavery (1794); Napoleon restores it elsewhere (1802), fails in Haiti → independence 1804.

Spread & Reaction

Thinker	Work	View
Burke	Reflections, 1790	Tradition, slow change
Paine	Rights of Man, 1791	Natural rights
de Maistre	Considerations, 1797	Throne & altar

Burke = father of modern **conservatism**: abstract rights + sudden change → chaos (predicted Terror).

Export of revolution: sister republics (Batavian, Cisalpine) abolish feudalism; elites across Europe fear contagion.

Rational state: metric system (1795), guilds & internal tolls abolished, uniform departments → model copied abroad.

Émigrés: nobles & clergy flee abroad, lobby foreign kings for war → revolution seen as Europe-wide threat.

Nationalism: citizen armies & la patrie → loyalty to nation, not king; spreads by imitation & resistance.

✓ SAQ move: name the effect, cite a specific example (de Gouges, Haiti, Burke), then tie it to revolutionary ideals.

⚠ Revolution's rights were NOT universal: women, the poor, and the enslaved had to fight to claim them.

5.6 Napoleon's Rise, Dominance & Defeat

Rise & Domestic Rule

Rise: Italian campaign fame → **Brumaire** coup (1799) → First Consul → crowns himself emperor (1804); plebiscites.

Napoleonic Code (1804): legal equality, property rights, careers open to talent; BUT wives & kids under fathers.

Concordat (1801): Catholicism = religion of most French; state names bishops; Church lands NOT returned.

Centralization: prefects, Bank of France, lycées, Legion of Honor; censorship & secret police (Fouché).

Family rule: brothers made kings (Joseph–Spain, Louis–Holland, Jérôme–Westphalia); weds Marie-Louise (1810).

Empire at Its Height

Event	Year	Result
Trafalgar	1805	Br navy rules seas
Austerlitz	1805	Beats Austria, Russia
End of HRE	1806	Conf. of the Rhine
Jena	1806	Prussia crushed
Tilsit	1807	Peace w/ Russia

Continental System (1806): ban on Br trade → smuggling, hurts Euro allies; Russia quits (1810) → invasion.

Decline & Fall

Peninsular War (1808–14): brother Joseph made king; Spanish guerrillas + Br army bleed Fr (Goya's art).

Russia (1812): ~600,000 invade, scorched earth & winter → most lost; **Leipzig** (1813) → Elba (1814).

Hundred Days (1815) → **Waterloo**: Wellington & Blücher win → final exile to remote St. Helena (d. 1821).

✓ Napoleon = continuity AND change: kept revolutionary equality & merit, ended liberty & elected rule.

⚠ Conquest spread nationalism that turned AGAINST France (Spain, Prussia's reforms, Fichte's Addresses).

5.7 The Congress of Vienna (1814–15)

Who & Why

Key players: Metternich (Austria, host), Castlereagh (Br), Alexander I (Rus), Hardenberg (Prus), Talleyrand (Fr).

Goals: contain France, restore order & monarchs, stop revolution, prevent any one power dominating Europe.

3 Principles

Legitimacy: restore 'rightful' dynasties, e.g., Bourbon **Louis XVIII** in Fr, Bourbons in Spain & Naples.

Balance of power: ring France w/ stronger buffers (Netherlands, Piedmont, Prussia on Rhine); no hegemon.

Compensation: winners gain land for losses, e.g., Austria loses Belgium, gains Lombardy-Venetia.

Territorial Settlement

Power	Gains
Russia	Most of Poland (Congress Pol.)
Prussia	Rhineland, ~40% of Saxony
Austria	Lombardy-Venetia, Illyria
Britain	Cape Colony, Ceylon, Malta
Netherlands	Belgium (buffer vs. Fr)
Sweden	Norway (from Denmark)

German Confederation: 39 states, Austria presides; replaces HRE but stays loose → blocks unification.

France: mild terms at first (1792 borders), harsher after Hundred Days: indemnity & occupation.

Concert of Europe

Quadruple Alliance (Br, Aus, Prus, Rus; Fr joins 1818) + **Holy Alliance** → congresses crush revolts.

✓ Assess success: no general European war until 1914, BUT ignored nationalism & liberalism → revolts of 1820s–1848.

⚠ Vienna did NOT punish France harshly; it reintegrated France as a great power to keep the balance stable.

5.8 Romanticism

Core Ideas

Romanticism (c. 1790s–1840s): reaction vs. Enlightenment reason; values emotion, intuition, imagination.

Themes: nature & the sublime, the individual genius, medieval & folk past, mystery, the supernatural.

Rousseau = forerunner: feeling over reason, natural education (*Émile*), praise of simple rural life.

Enlightenment	Romanticism
Reason, science	Emotion, intuition
Universal laws	Unique individual
Classical order	Nature, the sublime
Cosmopolitan	Nation, folk culture
Progress, order	Past, Middle Ages

Key Figures

Writers: Goethe (*Werther*, *Faust*), Wordsworth & Coleridge (*Lyrical Ballads*, 1798), Byron, Victor Hugo.

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (1818): warns of cold science & ambition w/o feeling, ethics, or any limits.

Artists: Friedrich (*Wanderer above the Sea of Fog*), Turner's storms, Delacroix's color & raw passion.

Beethoven: *Eroica* (1804) meant for Napoleon; he struck out the dedication when N. crowned himself.

Links: Nation & Faith

Herder: each people has a **Volksgeist** (national spirit); Brothers **Grimm** collect folk tales → cultural nationalism.

Religious revival: Methodism (Wesley), Pietism, Chateaubriand's *Genius of Christianity* → faith as feeling.

✓ Tie Romanticism to nationalism: language, folklore, and history become the basis for national identity after 1815.

⚠ Romantics were not all conservative: Byron died fighting for Greek independence; Hugo backed liberal causes.