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 **Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Unit 2 Vocabulary: The French Revolution**

**1. Old Regime:** The political and social system that existed in France before the French Revolution

**2. Estate:** One of the 3 social classes in France before the French Revolution- the first estate consisting of the clergy; the second estate, of the nobility; and the third estate, of the rest of the population.

**3. Estates-General:**  an assembly of representatives from all three of the estates, or social classes, in France.

**4. National Assembly:** a French congress established by representatives of the Third Estate on June 17, 1789, to enact laws and reforms in the name of the French people.

**5. Tennis Court Oath:** a pledge made by the members of France’s National Assembly in 1789, in which they vowed to continue meeting until they had drawn up a new constitution.

**6. Great Fear:** a wave of senseless panic that spread through the French countryside after the storming of the Bastille in 1789.

**7. Declaration of the Rights of Man:** a statement of revolutionary ideals adopted by France’s National Assembly in 1789.

**8. Guillotine:** a machine for beheading people, used as a means of execution during the French Revolution.

**9. Committee of Public Safety:** committee established during the French Revolution to identify “enemies of the republic.”

**10. Reign of Terror:** the period, from mid- 1793 to mid- 1794, when Maximilien Robespierre ruled France nearly as a dictator and thousands of political figures and ordinary citizens were executed.

**11. Coup d etat:** a sudden seizure of political power in nation. Done by force.

**12. Napoleonic Code:** a comprehensive and uniform system of laws established for France by Napoleon.

**13. Continental System:** Napoleon’s policy of preventing trade between Great Britain and continental Europe, intended to destroy Great Britain’s economy. A blockade (ships) was used to prevent commercial traffic from entering the country.

**14. Guerrilla:** a member of a loosely organized fighting force that makes surprise attacks on enemy troops occupying his or her country. This technique was used during the Peninsular Wars.

**15. Scorched-Earth Policy:** the practice of burning crops and killing livestock during wartime so that the enemy cannot live off the land.

**16. Congress of Vienna:** a series of meetings in 1814-1815, during which the European leaders sought to establish long-lasting peace and security after the defeat of Napoleon.

**17. Legitimacy:** the hereditary right of a monarchy to rule.

**18. Concert of Europe:** a series of alliances among European nations in the 19th century, devised by Prince Klemens von Metternich to prevent the outbreak of revolutions.

**Vocabulary Organizer**

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| Describe (in your own words) | Picture/Symbol/Example |
| 1. Old Regime:

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| 1. Estate:
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| 1. Estates-General:
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| 1. National Assembly
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| 1. Tennis Court Oath:
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| 1. Great Fear:
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| 1. Declaration of the Rights of Man:
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