

# Louis Philippe (The July Monarchy) 1830-1848

Note Structure (based on “France 1814-70: Monarchy, Republic and Empire”- Randell)

## A. Summary of the period

The revolution of July 1830 brought to power Louis-Philippe and established a regime variously known as the July Monarchy, the Bourgeois Monarchy, or the Orleanist Monarchy. The wealthy middle class believed they had a monarch they could control though Louis Philippe was determined not to be a puppet. During this period France underwent the beginnings of an industrial revolution and for the first time the condition of the industrial masses became a political issue. Despite growing opposition to the regime the government refused to consider any major reform of the political system. Following a period of recession (1846-8) there was a revolution in Paris in 1848 which ended Louis Philippe's rule and brought in the Second Republic.

## **B. The Regime Established p37-39**

Use the text to expand on the following bullet points :

- Those who had brought Charles X down did not agree on what should take his place – what did the different groups want?
- Louis Philippe seemed to be obvious choice – why?
  - mention social connections
  - his revolutionary pedigree
- What kind of man did Louis Philippe seem to be? Include his good points and bad points

P40-1

- There were major differences between the regimes of the Bourbons and the Orleanists – on what basis did Louis Philippe hold power? What symbolic changes were made?

P42-3

- Few real changes made to the constitution – include details on
  - changes in franchise (voting qualifications) & electorate
  - impact of these on the French people
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- True to say that few changes had been made?
- Who now held power?

### **C. The Regime Consolidated (p43-45)**

Include : No early guarantee of long term survival (explain why) - reliance on National Guard (who were they ?) to protect the regime - the King's own bravery - showing good sense in early days - good appointment in Guizot.

### **D. The fall of the Regime**

#### **a) Long term causes**

(i) Basic weaknesses of the regime (p45-47)

Include : a) It could be argued that the fall was inevitable' - why was the Orleanist monarchy only a 'useful compromise' ?

b) What were the alternatives that were available ? (need details)

c) How successful had been the attempts by Louis Napoleon at seizing power in 1836 and 1840 ?

b) Attitudes & actions of Louis Philippe (p47-)

Include :

d) In what ways did the personality and life style of the king help to reduce his support ?

#### **3. Foreign policy (p50-3)[You should also refer to Cowie & Wolfson]**

Include

- a. What seemed to be the basic conflict between the aims of the French people and those of Louis-Philippe ?
- b. Louis-Philippe wanted to follow a peaceful foreign policy - how did the situation over Belgium threaten this ?
- c. How did a crisis in the Near East in 1839-40 nearly involve France in a European war ?
- d. How would you describe relations between Britain & France between 1841-6 ?
- e. How did the Spanish Marriages threaten Anglo-French relations ?
- f. According to Randall how important a factor was Louis Philippe's foreign policy in the downfall of his regime ?

#### **c) Domestic Policy (p53-6)**

Include :

- d) What was the attitude of Louis-Philippe towards the political system in France ?
- e) How strong was the demand for the extension of the vote ?
- f) There was little in the way of social reform 1830-48 - was this important ?
- g) What was the aim of the Reform Banquets & how did they lead to the downfall of the regime ?

### **E. Summary of reign & conclusions**

'The government was not overthrown, it was allowed to fall.' How accurate is this as an assessment ?

,Read the Conclusion p56-58. Identify the different conclusions drawn about the causes of the 1848 Revolution in France.

What do you consider to be the main factors in the downfall of the Orleanist Monarchy ?