



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

1756-1791 A.D.

Prolific Austrian composer and musical genius. Creator of over 600 works in practically every form, his operas consisted of *The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Magic Flute*, among many others. Living in poverty most of his life, he died at an early age from a fever.



Marie Antoinette

1755-1793 A.D.

Daughter of Maria Theresa, queen of France, and wife of Louis XVI, she was disliked by the French public due to her insensitivity toward the people, resistance to reforms, and extravagant living. Convicted of treason, she and her husband were beheaded.



Louis XVI

1754-1793 A.D.

King of France, his reign with Queen Marie Antoinette was unpopular with the masses due to resistance of reforms and taxation of the people while living in luxury, making them a target of the French revolution. Both were executed by guillotine.



Marquis de Lafayette

1757-1834 A.D.

French general and politician who served under George Washington in the American War for Independence, helping in the defeat of Cornwallis at the Battle of Yorktown.



The American Revolution

1760-1836 A.D. While America was being colonized, England fell into financial difficulty due to wars with France. With part of the debt having been created by the cost of protecting the new colonies from France, England justified transferring the burden to the colonists through taxation, causing much agitation among the settlers. The colonists also had unfair representation in Parliament. In 1776, colonial leaders banded together to form a document, claiming their separation from the mother country. This "Declaration of Independence" led to 7 years of warring and the victory of the American Patriots.



The French Revolution

1789-1799 A.D. A series of political acts by reformers of the French government and the middle class. Demanding "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," the bloody revolution began with a storming of the Bastille in Paris, leading to a new government in 1791, a French Republic established in 1792, the eventual execution of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, the Reign of Terror, and the rise of a new power and supporter of French revolution, named Napoleon.



The Seven Years War

1756-1763 A.D. Due to an uneasy balance of power and control of seas and colonies in Europe in the early 18th century, several wars among individual countries erupted. These ended in a temporary peace until another struggle ensued. Finally, two power blocks emerged: Britain, Hanover, and Prussia against Austria, France, Russia, and Sweden. The Prussian and British victories decided the outcome and a new czar of Russia, Peter the Great, enforced a treaty to end the fighting.



Maximilien Robespierre

1758-1794 A.D.

Austere French revolutionary, leader of the Jacobins and the radical Montagnards. Chiefly responsible for the Reign of Terror, he was eventually executed without trial.