**World Politics**

**Unit 2 – Absolutism to Revolution**

**Chapter 23 DBQ Assignment**

**The Causes of the French Revolution & The Reign of Terror: Was it Justified**

Using the two document sets and your own knowledge, answer the following two questions regarding the French Revolution. Be sure to cite the evidence you cue from the documents

**Historical Context**

*The French Revolution of 1789 had many long-range causes. Political, social, and economic conditions in France contributed to the discontent (unhappiness) felt by many French people-especially those of the Third Estate. The ideas of the philosophers of the Enlightenment brought new ideas about the role of government and the powers guaranteed to citizens. Finally, the American Revolution showed the French citizenry that a country could be successful without a king.*

1. What are the causes of the French revolution? (Be specific) Explain whether or not the French citizens were justified in rebelling against the government and established systems.
2. Why did Robespierre embark on the reign of Terror? What is justified? Explain!