

# BASTILLE DAY

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## **THE READING / TAPESCRIPT**

Bastille Day is France's most important national holiday. It is celebrated on the 14th of July every year. Every city, town and village becomes red, white and blue as everyone hangs out the French tricolour flag. The holiday's name in French is Fête Nationale, which means "National Celebration". The 14th of July commemorates the storming of the Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789. The Bastille was a prison that held prisoners who disagreed with the French monarchy. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' famous Champs-Élysées. There are parades, military bands and festivities during the day, and fireworks displays in the evening. It is a wonderful, happy occasion when French people show their pride in their country.

Bastille Day celebrates the most important day in French history. The storming of the Bastille prison marked the beginning of the French Revolution. The prison was a symbol of the total power of King Louis the 16th. Most French people were very poor and hated how the monarchy and its supporters were so wealthy. The Bastille only had seven prisoners when Parisians attacked it, but it signalled Louis 16th's power was no longer absolute. Parisians believed their actions meant they were free. It led to the creation of the first French republic in 1792 and the three French ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French national anthem, La Marseillaise, was written that same year and became official in 1795.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. France's most important                | a. tricolour flag           |
| 2. everyone hangs out the French          | b. famous Champs-Élysées    |
| 3. prisoners who disagreed                | c. in their country         |
| 4. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' | d. with the French monarchy |
| 5. fireworks                              | e. national holiday         |
| 6. French people show their pride         | f. displays                 |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. the most important day         | a. King Louis the 16th          |
| 2. the beginning of the           | b. of the first French republic |
| 3. a symbol of the total power of | c. anthem                       |
| 4. Louis 16th's power was no      | d. in French history            |
| 5. It led to the creation         | e. longer absolute              |
| 6. The French national            | f. French Revolution            |

## LISTENING GAP FILL

Bastille Day is France's \_\_\_\_\_ holiday. It is celebrated on the 14th of July every year. Every city, town and village becomes red, white and blue \_\_\_\_\_ the French tricolour flag. The holiday's name in French is Fête Nationale, which means "National Celebration". The 14th of July commemorates \_\_\_\_\_ Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789. The Bastille was a prison that held prisoners \_\_\_\_\_ French monarchy. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' famous Champs-Élysées. There are parades, military bands \_\_\_\_\_ day, and fireworks displays in the evening. It is a wonderful, happy occasion when French people show \_\_\_\_\_.

Bastille Day celebrates the most important day in French history. The storming of the Bastille prison \_\_\_\_\_ of the French Revolution. The prison was \_\_\_\_\_ of King Louis the 16th. Most French people were very poor and hated how the monarchy and its \_\_\_\_\_. The Bastille only had seven prisoners when Parisians attacked it, but it signalled Louis 16th's power was \_\_\_\_\_. Parisians believed \_\_\_\_\_ were free. It led to the creation of the first French republic in 1792 and the three French ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French national anthem, La Marseillaise, was written that same year and \_\_\_\_\_.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

Bastille Day is France's most important \_\_\_\_\_ holiday. It is celebrated on the 14th of July every year. Every city, town and \_\_\_\_\_ becomes red, white and blue as everyone \_\_\_\_\_ out the French tricolour flag. The holiday's name in French is Fête Nationale, which \_\_\_\_\_ "National Celebration". The 14th of July commemorates the storming of the Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789. The Bastille was a prison that \_\_\_\_\_ prisoners who disagreed with the French monarchy. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' famous Champs-Élysées. There are parades, \_\_\_\_\_ bands and festivities during the day, and fireworks \_\_\_\_\_ in the evening. It is a wonderful, happy occasion when French people show their \_\_\_\_\_ in their country.

*held*  
*village*  
*means*  
*pride*  
*national*  
*military*  
*displays*  
*hangs*

Bastille Day celebrates the most important day in French \_\_\_\_\_. The storming of the Bastille prison \_\_\_\_\_ the beginning of the French Revolution. The prison was a \_\_\_\_\_ of the total power of King Louis the 16th. Most French people were very poor and hated how the monarchy and its supporters were so \_\_\_\_\_. The Bastille only had seven prisoners when Parisians attacked it, but it signalled Louis 16th's \_\_\_\_\_ was no longer absolute. Parisians believed their actions meant they were \_\_\_\_\_. It led to the creation of the first French republic in 1792 and the three French \_\_\_\_\_ of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French national \_\_\_\_\_, La Marseillaise, was written that same year and became official in 1795.

*ideals*  
*wealthy*  
*marked*  
*anthem*  
*history*  
*power*  
*free*  
*symbol*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Bastille Day is France's most *importance / important* national holiday. It is celebrated on the 14th *of / for* July every year. Every city, town and village becomes red, white and blue as everyone *hangs / hanging* out the French tricolour flag. The holiday's name in French is Fête Nationale, which *meaning / means* "National Celebration". The 14th of July commemorates the storming of the Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789. The Bastille was a prison that *held / hold* prisoners who disagreed with the French monarchy. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' famous Champs-Élysées. There are parades, military bands and festivities during *one / the* day, and fireworks displays *in / at* the evening. It is a wonderful, happy occasion when French people show their pride *by / in* their country.

Bastille Day celebrates the most important day in French history. The storming of the Bastille prison marked the beginning *at / of* the French Revolution. The prison was a symbol of the total *powerful / power of* King Louis the 16th. Most French people were very poor and *hatred / hated* how the monarchy and its supporters were *such / so* wealthy. The Bastille only had seven prisoners when Parisians attacked it, but it signalled Louis 16th's power was no *length / longer* absolute. Parisians believed their actions meant they were *free / freely*. It led to the creation of the first French republic in 1792 and the three French ideals *of / for* liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French national anthem, La Marseillaise, was written that same year and became *officially / official* in 1795.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

Bastille Day is France's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ important national holiday. It is celebrated on the 14th of July (2) \_\_\_\_\_ year. Every city, town and village becomes red, white and blue as everyone hangs out the French tricolour flag. The holiday's name (3) \_\_\_\_\_ French is Fête Nationale, which means "National Celebration". The 14th of July commemorates the storming of the Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789. The Bastille was a prison that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ prisoners who disagreed with the French monarchy. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' famous Champs-Élysées. There are parades, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ bands and festivities during the day, and fireworks displays in the evening. It is a wonderful, happy occasion when French people show their pride (6) \_\_\_\_\_ their country.

Bastille Day celebrates the most important day in French history. The storming of the Bastille prison (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the beginning of the French Revolution. The prison was a symbol of the total (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of King Louis the 16th. Most French people were very poor and hated how the monarchy and its supporters were (9) \_\_\_\_\_ wealthy. The Bastille only had seven prisoners when Parisians attacked it, but it signalled Louis 16th's power was no (10) \_\_\_\_\_ absolute. Parisians believed their actions meant they were free. It led to the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of the first French republic in 1792 and the three French ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French national anthem, La Marseillaise, was written that (12) \_\_\_\_\_ year and became official in 1795.

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |              |                |              |                |
|-----|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) most     | (b) more       | (c) much     | (d) mostly     |
| 2.  | (a) all      | (b) whole      | (c) every    | (d) ever       |
| 3.  | (a) on       | (b) in         | (c) by       | (d) at         |
| 4.  | (a) holding  | (b) holds      | (c) hold     | (d) held       |
| 5.  | (a) militia  | (b) militaries | (c) military | (d) militarize |
| 6.  | (a) in       | (b) on         | (c) by       | (d) to         |
| 7.  | (a) marked   | (b) parked     | (c) barked   | (d) larked     |
| 8.  | (a) powerful | (b) power      | (c) powered  | (d) powering   |
| 9.  | (a) soon     | (b) such       | (c) sew      | (d) so         |
| 10. | (a) length   | (b) longish    | (c) longer   | (d) longing    |
| 11. | (a) creative | (b) creator    | (c) creates  | (d) creation   |
| 12. | (a) some     | (b) same       | (c) similar  | (d) sometime   |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. national iyohadl
2. The Bastille was a pnoris
3. the biggest atsbceoilnr
4. amilyrti bands
5. rnugdi the day
6. happy inoscaco

### Paragraph 2

7. the prison was a slmoby
8. the ayrmhocn
9. its supporters were so tlhwaey
10. their actions tnmae they were free
11. the first French biceulpr
12. national eamthn

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) of the French Revolution. The prison was a symbol of the total power of King Louis the 16th. Most French people were very
- ( ) their actions meant they were free. It led to the creation of the first French republic in
- ( ) bands and festivities during the day, and fireworks displays in the evening. It is a wonderful,
- ( ) poor and hated how the monarchy and its supporters were so wealthy. The Bastille only had seven
- ( ) monarchy. The biggest celebrations are on Paris' famous Champs-Élysées. There are parades, military
- ( ) prisoners when Parisians attacked it, but it signalled Louis 16th's power was no longer absolute. Parisians believed
- ( **1** ) Bastille Day is France's most important national holiday. It is celebrated on the 14th of July every year. Every city,
- ( ) anthem, La Marseillaise, was written that same year and became official in 1795.
- ( ) town and village becomes red, white and blue as everyone hangs out the French tricolour flag. The holiday's name
- ( ) happy occasion when French people show their pride in their country.
- ( ) Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789. The Bastille was a prison that held prisoners who disagreed with the French
- ( ) Bastille Day celebrates the most important day in French history. The storming of the Bastille prison marked the beginning
- ( ) 1792 and the three French ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French national
- ( ) in French is Fête Nationale, which means "National Celebration". The 14th of July commemorates the storming of the

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. holiday important France's national most

---

2. village and town , city Every blue and white , red becomes

---

3. storming Bastille of The the

---

4. French Prisoners disagreed the monarchy who with

---

5. in pride their show people French country their

---

6. symbol The of prison the was total a power

---

7. were people French Most poor very

---

8. The prisoners seven had only Bastille

---

9. longer Louis power no absolute 16th's was

---

10. fraternity , French equality ideals , of and liberty

---

**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE BASTILLE DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Bastille Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Bastille Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Bastille Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. POSTER:** Make your own poster about Bastille Day. Write about what will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.