

Napoleon

Directions: Read the information below. Look up the words that are underlined and bolded. Define those words in the space provided on this sheet. Then, create a timeline of Napoleon's life using the information provided.

Interesting Facts about Napoleon

- Napoleon is famous for being fairly short, probably 5 feet 6 inches tall. However, he would have been average height during the time period that he lived.
- Today, when someone seems to be overcompensating for being short they are said to have a "Napoleon complex."
- His birth name was Napoleone di Buonaparte. He changed the name to be more French when he moved to mainland France.
- He married his first wife, Josephine, in 1796. She became the first Empress of France, but he divorced her in 1810 and married Marie-Louise of Austria.
- The famous composer Beethoven was going to dedicate his 3rd Symphony to Napoleon, but changed his mind after Napoleon crowned himself emperor.

Napoleon seized power in France in November of 1799. But, who was he? And what had he done? Napoleon Bonaparte was born on the island of Corsica in 1769. He was the son of a noble. In 1784 Napoleon won a scholarship to the elite military training college in Paris.

In 1785, at the age of 16, Napoleon became second lieutenant in the artillery. Napoleon became sympathetic to the Revolution in 1789. In the **Battle of Toulon** in 1793, he led a victorious attack on a Royalist fort and was then promoted to Brigadier General. Napoleon gained more attention in 1795 when he put down a pro-royalist **coup** in Paris. He was promoted to Major General.

In 1796, Napoleon married Josephine Beauharnais. He was put in charge of the French army fighting the Austrians in Italy. Between 1796 and 1797, Napoleon reorganised the French army and inspired the dispirited soldiers. They went on to win several great victories over the Austrians and Italians. The Austrians were forced to sign a **ceasefire** at Leoben in 1797.

Between 1798 and 1799 Napoleon's army attacked the British, but his army was ravaged by plague and sickness, and the British Navy destroyed many of Napoleon's own ships. Still, Napoleon seized Malta and had several victories in Egypt during the expedition. Napoleon returned to Paris in August 1799, after hearing of the military crisis facing France and on November 11th 1799, Napoleon seized control of France in the '**coup d'état**'. Following the Coup, a new **constitution** was introduced, and Napoleon was made **First Consul of France**. Then, on December 2nd, 1804, in the presence of the Pope, Napoleon crowned himself **Emperor**.

Define

1. (Siege) **Battle of Toulon**
2. **Coup ('coup d'etat')**

3. Ceasefire
4. Constitution
5. First Consul of France
6. Emperor

Timeline