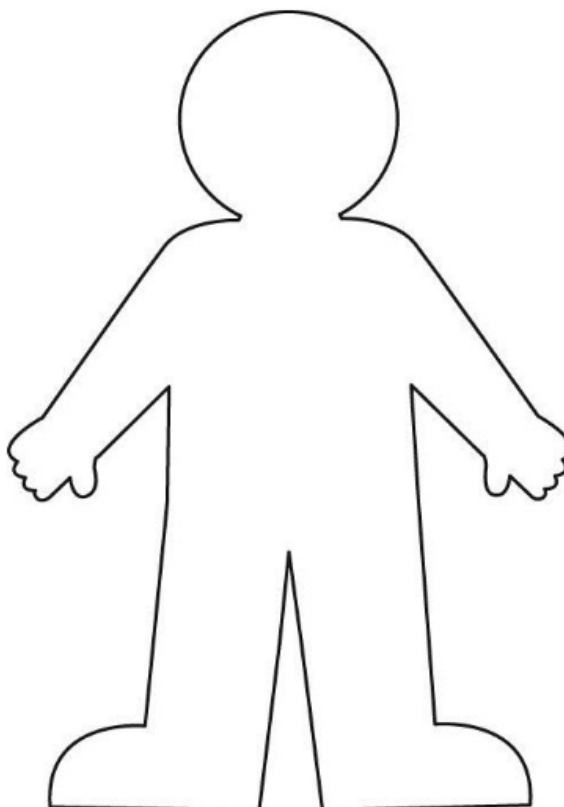


Key figures in history

This simple activity encourages you to research and consider a key figure, in this example Louis XVI. Rather than just making a list of characteristics the activity will help evaluate what are the most critical aspects of a historical figure in understanding their motivations and actions.

How far was the outbreak of the French Revolution due to weak political leadership?



- 1 Using pages 5–25 of your textbook research Louis XVI. Focus particularly on his time as absolute ruler of France (1774–89). Note key features of his personality, views and actions.
- 2 Dress this outline with his key features and annotate (e.g. draw a sword and an arrow suggesting ‘military or foreign policy achievement’). Be imaginative and include the full range of clothes, such as hat, socks, belt. For example, if he turned a blind eye to events, you could give the character a pair of sunglasses.
- 3 Colour code with a highlighter: in green features which suggest he was effective as a ruler and pink for aspects which suggest he was ineffective. Leave ‘neutral’ features as they are.