



**Speaker:** Oh my, the politics of France during this era are just too complex and challenging to get into any sort of detail for this course. Let's just suffice to say, "It was rocky, with some periods of stability," like the weather report.

In the beginning of the century, there was Napoleon. After Napoleon was ousted, the lineage of kings was re-established and once again overthrown in what was called the July Revolution or the Second Revolution. Violent street riots occurred with alarming frequency in Paris. City planners hired a civil engineer, Baron Haussmann, to rebuild Paris in order to prevent street riots and get rid of undesirable populations that also might be causing these street riots.

In the end, Paris got these wonderful grand boulevards and parks which were perfect for the middle class and affluent society of Paris. The poor could no longer afford to live in Paris so the city experienced a bourgeoisie and aristocratic takeover. You see this evidenced in some of the impressionistic works.

**[00:01:11] [END OF AUDIO]**