- Read the source and underline the most important passages.
- Try to say in your own words, what kind of source it is, and what it is about, so that you can tell the rest of the class (the expressions at the bottom of this sheet can help you with this): What information does this text give you about the storming of the Bastille?

An Englishman, Edward Rigby, describes the situation in Paris shortly after the storming of the Bastille:

There was an immense crowd, proceeding to the Palais Royal,, and, as it came closer, we saw a flag, some large keys, and a paper elevated on a pole above the crowd on which was inscribed "The Bastille is taken and the gates are open".

The news of this extraordinary event produced an impression really indescribable. A sudden burst of frantic joy took place.

Shouts and shrieks, leaping and embracing, laughter and tears... manifested among the crowd, such an emotion of extreme gladness as I should suppose was never before experienced by human beings.

to proceed - to move forward

elevated - raised pole - a long stick

burst - Ausbruch

frantic – *hier*: sehr laut, heftig to leap – to jump up to manifest – *hier*: sich ausbreiten

From Letters from France in 1789 by Edward Rigby

Talking about texts – useful expressions

The source was written in... / by ... It deals with / is about /

describes ...

5

The author says / claims that.... This could mean that...

In the text it is said / reported that This shows that ...

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