

The Right to Vote

Winning the Vote

Take a look back at how women won the right to vote.

Would it be fair if men could vote and women could not? That was the law for a long time.

In 1776, the United States was a new country. Men made all the rules. Women were not given the right to vote until 1920. Women worked hard to win the right to vote. They held marches and spoke out about the unfair laws. Hundreds of those women were arrested and put in jail.

Read the time line to learn more about how women won the right to vote.

1848



Leonard de Selva/Corbis

A women's rights meeting is held in New York. About 300 women and men attend. For years to come, many other meetings are held.

1851

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony meet each other. They help lead the fight for women's right to vote.

Bettmann/Corbis
Elizabeth Cady Stanton;
Susan B. Anthony

1872

Anthony and other women try to vote in the election for U.S. President. They are arrested.

1913

A women's **suffrage** parade is held in Washington, D.C. More than 5,000 women march. Suffrage is the right to vote.

AP Images

1920**Women get the right to vote!**

The U.S. Constitution is **amended**, or changed. The Constitution is a set of laws for our country. The 19th Amendment gives women the right to vote.

Bettmann/Corbis

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. In what year were women given the right to vote?

2. Which two women, mentioned in the passage, helped to lead the fight for women’s right to vote?

3. Why were Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony arrested for trying to vote in 1872?

4. The main idea of this passage is that women had to fight hard over many years to win the right to vote like men. List the key events described in the passage that support the main idea.

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

American women got the right to vote in 1920 due to the success of the suffrage movement.

Who? American women

5. (got) What?

6. When?

7. Why?

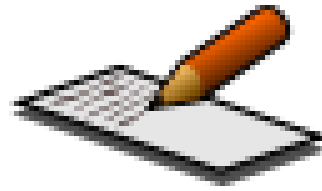
Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 8, 9, and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **amend** (a · mend): change something for the better.

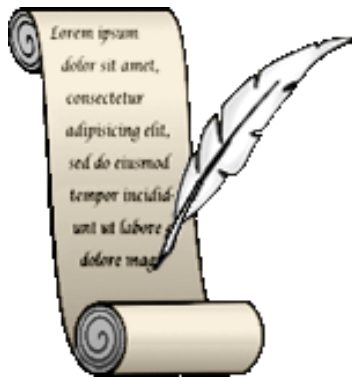
8. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **amend**.

- a. Congress voted to amend the Constitution so that women could vote.
- b. Our teacher decided we no longer needed to be silent in the hallways, so the class rules had to be amended.
- c. We amended our fire safety plan by adding a new escape route.
- d. The laws of the country were amended, and people were no longer arrested for speaking freely.
- e. In the second version of the book, parts were amended because some facts had changed since it was first written.

9. Which image looks more like something being amended?



10. Which image does NOT look like something being amended?



Teacher Guide and Answer Key

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 470

Featured Text Structure: Sequence – the writer provides an order of events or steps in a process

Passage Summary: The passage discusses how women won the right to vote. It includes a time line of events that ends in 1920 with women winning the right to vote.

To the Teacher: Read the passage aloud to the class [TIP: while reading aloud, show the passage on a whiteboard or give all students a copy of the passage so that they can follow along].

Then, use the text-dependent questions 1-7 to facilitate a whole class discussion to ensure students comprehend the key details from the passage.

Finally, use questions 8-10 to deep teach one important vocabulary word [TIP: you can use the model provided for teaching additional vocabulary].

1. In what year were women given the right to vote? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: Women were given the right to vote in 1920. [paragraph 2]

2. Which two women, mentioned in the passage, helped to lead the fight for women’s right to vote? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony helped to lead the fight for women’s right to vote. [paragraph 6]

3. Why were Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony arrested for trying to vote in 1872? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony were arrested because the law allowing women to vote had not yet passed. They broke the law when they tried to vote, and when you break the law you are often arrested. [paragraph 7]

4. The main idea of this passage is that women had to fight hard over many years to win the right to vote like men. List the key events described in the passage that support the main idea. [Main Idea]

Suggested answer:

1848 – 300 women attend a women’s rights meeting in New York.

1851 – Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony meet each other and together help lead the fight for women’s right to vote.

1872 – Susan B. Anthony and other women are arrested when they try to vote in the election for U.S. President.

1913 – Over 5,000 women attend a women’s suffrage parade in Washington, D.C.

1920 – Victory! The U.S. Constitution is amended, and women get the right to vote!

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

American women got the right to vote in 1920 due to the success of the suffrage movement.

Who? American women

5. (got) What? **the right to vote**

6. When? **in 1920**

7. Why? **because of the success of the suffrage movement**

To the Teacher: ReadWorks recommends that you teach this vocabulary word to the whole class out loud using the four steps listed below.

Vocabulary Word: **amend** (a · mend): to change something for the better.

Step 1: Introduce the word

- a. Teacher writes the word on the board and divides it into syllables: (a · mend)

- b. Teacher says: "This word is amend. What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "amend."]

Step 2: Provide a child-friendly definition

- a. Teacher says: "Amend means to change something for the better."
- b. Teacher says: "The passage describes how women fought for the right to vote. When they finally won, the Constitution was changed, or amended, to say that women had the right to vote."
- c. Teacher says: "What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "amend."]

Step 3: Practice the word

Teacher provides examples and additional opportunities to repeat the word. Read the first sentence out loud to your students. Begin reading it again and when you come to the vocabulary word prompt students to say the vocabulary word out loud. Then, finish reading the sentence out loud to your students.

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 8, 9, and 10.

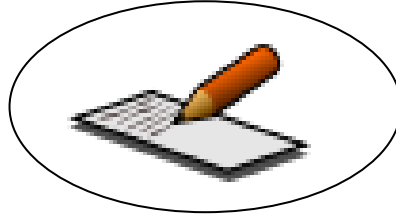
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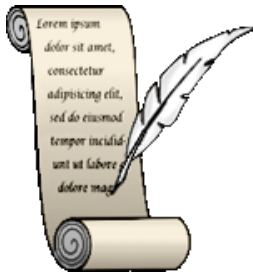
Step 4: Check for student understanding

To the Teacher: This step can be completed as a whole class activity or as an independent practice.

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Suggested Additional Vocabulary: vote, laws, election, arrested, suffrage