After the Uprisings

Weigh the changes and limits of the Revolutions of 1848.

SS24.WH.5a "Evaluate the influence of the Revolutions of 1848 on European politics and society."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one political gain, circle one lasting social change, and mark two political setbacks with an X. Use your marks to judge which changes lasted.

What Changed After 1848?

1. In February 1848, crowds in Paris forced King Louis-Philippe from power. France became a republic and gave voting rights to nearly all adult men. For many workers, a ballot was not enough: they wanted steady jobs and relief from poverty. When the government closed public workshops that employed jobless people, workers rose in June, and the army crushed their uprising. In 1852, Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte made himself emperor, ending the republic. The revolts had opened politics to more men, but they did not secure lasting republican rule or solve workers' economic problems.

2. News of revolt spread to the Austrian Empire, where people challenged the powerful monarchy. Protesters in Vienna pushed the emperor's chief minister, Metternich, to resign. Hungarian reformers demanded a government with greater independence, while some other groups within the empire feared Hungarian control. Imperial troops eventually defeated the uprisings and restored strong central rule. Yet the empire also ended peasants' obligations to provide unpaid labor and other dues to landlords. That change survived the military crackdown. For many rural families, the revolutions reshaped daily life more permanently than they changed who held political power.

3. In the German states, elected delegates met at Frankfurt to plan a united country with a constitution. Their assembly debated rights and offered the crown of a united Germany to Prussia's king. He refused, and the assembly failed when rulers regained control. Even so, its debates kept the idea of German unity linked to questions about representation and rights. Germany was united in 1871 under Prussian leadership, not through the Frankfurt assembly's liberal plan. Across Europe, the revolutions revealed a pattern: rulers could defeat uprisings, but they could not erase every demand or reverse every reform.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did events in France show both a political gain and a limit to that gain?

2. Why was the end of peasants' obligations to landlords a lasting influence of the revolutions in the Austrian Empire?

3. How did the Frankfurt assembly influence politics even though its plan failed?

4. What do Hungarian reformers' demands and other groups' fears show about the limits of a shared political goal in the Austrian Empire?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one paragraph arguing whether the revolutions brought more lasting change to European politics or to society. Use evidence from at least two places in the passage, address one example that challenges your argument, and explain your judgment.

ANSWER KEY

After the Uprisings

GRADE 9 · SS24.WH.5a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one political gain, circle one lasting social change, and mark two political setbacks with an X. Use your marks to judge which changes lasted. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did events in France show both a political gain and a limit to that gain?	**France gave nearly all adult men voting rights and became a republic, but Louis-Napoleon ended the republic in 1852.**
2	Why was the end of peasants' obligations to landlords a lasting influence of the revolutions in the Austrian Empire?	**The reform survived even after imperial troops defeated the uprisings and restored strong central rule.**
3	How did the Frankfurt assembly influence politics even though its plan failed?	**Its debates kept German unity linked to questions about representation and rights, although Germany was later united under Prussian leadership instead.**
4	What do Hungarian reformers' demands and other groups' fears show about the limits of a shared political goal in the Austrian Empire?	**Hungarian reformers wanted greater independence, but other groups feared Hungarian control. They did not agree on what political change should look like.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The revolutions brought more lasting change to society than to political power. In the Austrian Empire, peasants no longer owed unpaid labor and other dues to landlords, even after troops defeated the uprisings. In France, the republic ended when Louis-Napoleon became emperor, showing how a political victory could be reversed. Frankfurt's delegates also failed to unite Germany under their constitution. One political gain complicates my claim: France gave nearly all adult men voting rights in 1848. Still, the Austrian reform outlasted defeat, while two attempts to remake governments collapsed.

Accept either judgment in Part 3 if evidence from at least two places supports it and the response addresses a challenging example. For the marking job, accept any political gain, lasting social reform, and two setbacks identified in the passage.