

Haiti's Path to Freedom

Track dated events to build a historical sequence.

SS.6.W.1.1 "Use timelines to identify chronological order of historical events."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each calendar date that names an event. Then write 1, 2, 3, and so on beside those events from earliest to latest, using the month and day to order events that share a year.

A Revolution in Saint-Domingue

- ① Before Haiti became an independent nation, it was the French colony of Saint-Domingue. On the night of August 21, 1791, enslaved people began a major uprising in the colony's north. The revolt grew into a long revolution. On February 4, 1794, France's National Convention ended slavery in all French colonies. This decision changed the struggle in Saint-Domingue, where formerly enslaved soldiers continued fighting for freedom and control of the colony. Over time, several leaders emerged among the revolutionary forces.
- ② Years later, Napoleon Bonaparte sent a French expedition to regain control. French troops captured the revolutionary leader Toussaint Louverture in June 1802 and sent him to France. He died in a French prison on April 7, 1803. Fighting continued in Saint-Domingue after his capture. On November 18, 1803, Haitian forces defeated French troops at the Battle of Vertières. The victory made French withdrawal from the colony more likely. It also placed the revolutionaries in a stronger position.
- ③ On January 1, 1804, leaders declared Haiti independent at Gonaïves. Haiti became the world's first independent Black republic and the first nation formed after a successful revolt by enslaved people. The new nation chose the name Haiti from an Indigenous Taíno name for the island. Its independence ended French colonial rule in Saint-Domingue. News of the declaration traveled across the Atlantic. Haiti's independence challenged ideas about slavery and colonial power. The revolution's results affected governments, enslaved people, and free people of color in many places.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

Which dated event should be numbered 1? Give its date and event.

2

French troops captured Toussaint Louverture in June 1802. What dated event happened next?

3

Put these events in order from earliest to latest: France ended slavery in its colonies, Haitian forces won the Battle of Vertières, and Haiti declared independence.

4

Two events happened in 1803. Name them in chronological order.

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Create a timeline table for all six dated events in the passage. List the events from earliest to latest, and include each date.

SEQUENCE	DATE	EVENT

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each calendar date that names an event. Then write 1, 2, 3, and so on beside those events from earliest to latest, using the month and day to order events that share a year. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which dated event should be numbered 1? Give its date and event.	August 21, 1791, enslaved people began a major uprising in northern Saint-Domingue.
2	French troops captured Toussaint Louverture in June 1802. What dated event happened next?	Toussaint Louverture died in a French prison on April 7, 1803.
3	Put these events in order from earliest to latest: France ended slavery in its colonies, Haitian forces won the Battle of Vertières, and Haiti declared independence.	France ended slavery in its colonies, Haitian forces won the Battle of Vertières, Haiti declared independence.
4	Two events happened in 1803. Name them in chronological order.	Toussaint Louverture died on April 7, 1803, then Haitian forces won the Battle of Vertières on November 18, 1803.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

SEQUENCE	DATE	EVENT
1	August 21, 1791	Enslaved people began a major uprising in northern Saint-Domingue.
2	February 4, 1794	France ended slavery in all French colonies.
3	June 1802	French troops captured Toussaint Louverture.
4	April 7, 1803	Toussaint Louverture died in a French prison.
5	November 18, 1803	Haitian forces defeated French troops at the Battle of Vertières.
6	January 1, 1804	Leaders declared Haiti independent.

Accept equivalent descriptions of each event. The correct sequence is 1791, 1794, June 1802, April 1803, November 1803, and January 1804.