

Revival Sparks Reform

Trace how religious revival shaped efforts to change society.

SS.8.A.4.9 "Analyze the causes, course, and consequences of the Second Great Awakening on social reform movements."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline causes of the Second Great Awakening, circle actions reformers took, and number two consequences of the movement. Your marks will help you trace how revival beliefs led to social reform.

From Revival to Reform

- ① During the early 1800s, many Americans worried that rapid growth, market changes, and westward migration weakened older community ties. Traveling preachers held large outdoor camp meetings, while ministers such as Charles Grandison Finney led revivals in growing towns. Their messages stressed that each person could choose to seek salvation and live a moral life. Revivals drew women, young people, and people who had little power in politics. This wave of religious energy became known as the Second Great Awakening.
- ② Revival leaders taught that faith should shape actions beyond the church. Converts formed voluntary societies to improve society, often using petitions, meetings, newspapers, and donations. Temperance reformers urged people to stop drinking alcohol because they connected heavy drinking to family hardship and poverty. Other reformers created Sunday schools, Bible societies, and missions for the poor. Many women gained public experience by organizing these efforts, even though they usually could not vote or hold office. The revivals therefore helped turn personal beliefs into organized reform.
- ③ The awakening also influenced campaigns against slavery. Abolitionists, including some religious converts, argued that slavery violated Christian morality and demanded immediate action. Black churches became important centers for worship, education, mutual aid, and antislavery organizing. Reform movements did not all agree, and racism and unequal rights continued. Still, the era changed public life by creating networks of speakers, writers, and local groups. These networks spread reform ideas and gave participants practice working for change, helping later movements for abolition, women's rights, education, and other causes.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What three changes made many Americans worry that community ties were weakening?

2 How did revivals spread, and which groups did they draw into religious activity?

3 How did Second Great Awakening beliefs lead to temperance reform?

4 What was one lasting consequence of the reform networks created during this era?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose temperance reform or abolition. Write four sentences that explain a cause, an action reformers took, and a consequence of that reform movement during or after the Second Great Awakening.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline causes of the Second Great Awakening, circle actions reformers took, and number two consequences of the movement. Your marks will help you trace how revival beliefs led to social reform. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three changes made many Americans worry that community ties were weakening?	Rapid growth, market changes, and westward migration.
2	How did revivals spread, and which groups did they draw into religious activity?	Traveling preachers held camp meetings and ministers led town revivals. They drew women, young people, and people with little political power.
3	How did Second Great Awakening beliefs lead to temperance reform?	Reformers believed faith should guide daily actions, so they urged people to stop drinking alcohol because they linked heavy drinking to family hardship and poverty.
4	What was one lasting consequence of the reform networks created during this era?	They spread reform ideas and gave people experience working for change, helping later movements for abolition, women's rights, education, and other causes.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Second Great Awakening encouraged temperance reform because converts believed moral faith should guide daily actions. Reformers used meetings, newspapers, petitions, and donations through voluntary societies to persuade people to stop drinking alcohol. They argued that heavy drinking harmed families and increased poverty. This campaign showed how revival networks could carry religious beliefs into organized efforts to change society.

Accept accurate cause, reform action, and consequence connections supported by the passage. For the open response, accept either named movement if the student clearly explains a logical chain from revival beliefs to organized reform and an outcome.