A Meeting, Two Sources

Read a document and a later account of the Seneca Falls convention.

6.P.3.1.A "Paraphrase the main idea and cite evidence from primary and secondary sources; provide an accurate summary of a source distinct from prior knowledge or opinion."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one demand in the 1848 declaration, circle two details from the National Park Service account, and write P or S beside each source to show whether it is primary or secondary.

What Happened at Seneca Falls?

1. In July 1848, reformers gathered in Seneca Falls, New York, to discuss women's rights. At the meeting, they presented the Declaration of Sentiments, a document written at that time. It says, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal." The declaration lists ways women lacked equal rights, including little control over property after marriage. It also argues that women should have the right to vote. This document is a primary source because people at the meeting created it.

2. An account by the National Park Service, written long after 1848, describes what happened at the convention. It reports that about 300 people attended and that 100 people signed the declaration. The signers included women and men. Unlike the declaration, this account is a secondary source: it gathers information about the past rather than recording a participant's demands. The numbers show that many people took part, but they do not tell us that every person at the meeting agreed with every demand.

3. The demand for voting rights led to debate at the meeting. Frederick Douglass, an abolitionist who attended, spoke in support of women's right to vote. After discussion, the convention approved the voting-rights resolution. The National Park Service account describes this disagreement and the decision that followed. Together, the declaration and the later account show both what reformers asked for and what happened when they asked. Neither source proves that all people in 1848 supported voting rights for women or that the meeting changed laws immediately.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In your own words, what did the Declaration of Sentiments ask for? Cite one demand from the document.

2. What do the National Park Service account's numbers tell you about participation at the meeting? What can they not tell you?

3. How did the meeting handle the demand for voting rights? Cite two details from the later account.

4. A student writes, "Everyone in 1848 supported women's right to vote." Why is this not an accurate summary of the sources?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four- or five-sentence summary of the Seneca Falls meeting. Use one detail from the Declaration of Sentiments and one from the National Park Service account, name each source, and leave out your own opinions or facts not in the passage.

ANSWER KEY

A Meeting, Two Sources

GRADE 6 · 6.P.3.1.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one demand in the 1848 declaration, circle two details from the National Park Service account, and write P or S beside each source to show whether it is primary or secondary. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In your own words, what did the Declaration of Sentiments ask for? Cite one demand from the document.	**The declaration asked for equal rights for women. One demand was that women should have the right to vote.**
2	What do the National Park Service account's numbers tell you about participation at the meeting? What can they not tell you?	**About 300 people attended and 100 signed the declaration, showing that many took part. The numbers do not show that everyone agreed with every demand.**
3	How did the meeting handle the demand for voting rights? Cite two details from the later account.	**The demand led to debate, and Frederick Douglass spoke in its favor. After discussion, the convention approved the resolution.**
4	A student writes, "Everyone in 1848 supported women's right to vote." Why is this not an accurate summary of the sources?	**The sources describe a debate over voting rights at one meeting. They do not show what everyone in 1848 believed.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Seneca Falls convention in 1848 brought people together to discuss women's rights. The Declaration of Sentiments called for women to have the right to vote. A later National Park Service account says about 300 people attended and 100 signed the declaration. It also reports that the voting-rights demand caused debate before the convention approved it.

Accept accurate paraphrases supported by the named sources. Summaries should describe the meeting without claiming that all attendees agreed or adding unsupported opinions.