The Vote Changed

Research voting rights through questions, sources, and evidence

6.P.4.2 "Engage in authentic research to acquire, refine, and share knowledge through written presentations and products. Refine and formulate viable research questions related to social studies investigations..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline Maya's narrowed research question, circle the direct quotation and its source, and number two pieces of evidence from different sources that support her claim.

More Than One Turning Point

1. Maya begins with a question that is too broad: "When did women win the vote?" She narrows it to: "How did voting rights for women change before and after 1920?" A history book notes that women could vote in certain elections in some states before 1920. In 1869, Wyoming Territory gave women the right to vote, though not every woman met the rules for voting. This book offers background, but Maya needs original records to test the idea that change happened all at once.

2. Maya reads the Nineteenth Amendment, ratified in 1920. It says voting rights cannot be denied "on account of sex." In her notes, she puts quotation marks around those exact words and names the amendment as her source. She also writes a paraphrase: the amendment forbade federal and state governments from rejecting a citizen's vote because of sex. The amendment was a major legal change, but its words do not say that every woman could easily reach a polling place or meet every other voting rule.

3. To investigate who could vote in practice, Maya consults the history book and the text of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The book describes how poll taxes and literacy tests kept many Black Americans, including women, from voting in parts of the country. The act blocked literacy tests in places covered by its rules. Maya's claim is that the 1920 amendment removed a barrier based on sex, but other barriers remained. She plans to compare legal rules with people's experiences instead of treating one document as the whole story.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Use the fact about Wyoming Territory to write a focused research question about women's voting before 1920.

2. Paraphrase the history book's finding about women's voting before 1920. Do not copy its wording.

3. Which exact words from the Nineteenth Amendment could you quote to show what kind of discrimination it banned? Name the source.

4. Maya wants to show that a change in law did not remove every voting barrier. Name two sources from the passage and explain how each helps support that claim.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label about how voting rights and access changed over time. Make a claim, use evidence from two different kinds of sources named in the passage, and include one short quotation credited to its source; put all other evidence in your own words.

ANSWER KEY

The Vote Changed

GRADE 6 · 6.P.4.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline Maya's narrowed research question, circle the direct quotation and its source, and number two pieces of evidence from different sources that support her claim. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use the fact about Wyoming Territory to write a focused research question about women's voting before 1920.	**How did Wyoming Territory's 1869 law change women's voting rights before 1920?**
2	Paraphrase the history book's finding about women's voting before 1920. Do not copy its wording.	**In some states, women could cast ballots in certain elections even before 1920.**
3	Which exact words from the Nineteenth Amendment could you quote to show what kind of discrimination it banned? Name the source.	**"On account of sex," from the Nineteenth Amendment.**
4	Maya wants to show that a change in law did not remove every voting barrier. Name two sources from the passage and explain how each helps support that claim.	**The Nineteenth Amendment shows that voting rights could not be denied because of sex. The history book explains that poll taxes and literacy tests still kept many Black Americans, including women, from voting in parts of the country.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Voting rights for women changed in stages, and a new law did not remove every voting barrier. A history book notes that women in some states could cast ballots in certain elections even before 1920. The Nineteenth Amendment, ratified in 1920, barred denial of voting rights "on account of sex." The history book also explains that poll taxes and literacy tests still stopped many Black Americans, including women, from voting in parts of the country.

Accept other focused research questions supported by the Wyoming fact and accurate paraphrases that keep both limits: some states and certain elections. The museum label should make a supported claim, distinguish two kinds of sources, and credit its quotation.