Liberty for Whom?

Trace how antislavery work helped spark a new movement.

8.C.10.4.A "Trace the emergence of the women's rights movement from the abolitionist movement."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two actions women took as abolitionists, circle two limits they faced, and number the 1840 London convention and the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention 1 and 2. Use your marks to trace how antislavery work led toward women's rights.

From Antislavery to Women's Rights

1 In the 1830s, many women joined the movement to end slavery, called abolition. They collected signatures on petitions, raised money, and spoke at public meetings. The sisters Angelina and Sarah Grimké, who had grown up in a slaveholding family, spoke against slavery to audiences of women and men. Critics argued that women should not speak in public about politics. For women working to end slavery, this criticism raised a troubling question: How could they fight for freedom while being denied a public voice themselves?

2 At an antislavery convention in London in 1840, organizers refused to seat women delegates. Lucretia Mott, an experienced abolitionist, had traveled there to take part. Elizabeth Cady Stanton attended with her husband, who was a delegate. Mott and Stanton met at the convention and talked about holding a meeting on women's rights. The treatment of women at an event devoted to liberty made the contradiction hard to ignore. Their abolitionist work had helped them build connections and practice organizing, but it also exposed limits placed on women's participation.

3 Eight years later, Mott and Stanton helped organize the Seneca Falls Convention in New York. In 1848, participants discussed a Declaration of Sentiments that listed ways laws and customs treated women unequally. It demanded women's right to vote, a proposal that some people opposed. Frederick Douglass, an abolitionist who had escaped slavery, attended and supported the demand for voting rights. The convention did not end inequality, but it helped launch an organized movement for women's rights. Its leaders drew on skills, allies, and ideas about liberty from antislavery work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did women's experiences speaking against slavery help them recognize a need to fight for their own rights?

2. What happened at the 1840 London convention, and how did it lead Mott and Stanton toward a new goal?

3. How did abolitionist work help turn the idea discussed in London into the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention?

4. How does Frederick Douglass's role at Seneca Falls show a connection between the two movements?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a museum label of 70 to 90 words tracing three linked steps from abolitionist work to the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention. Explain how each step led to the next, and include one named person and one specific event.

ANSWER KEY

Liberty for Whom?

GRADE 8 · 8.C.10.4.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two actions women took as abolitionists, circle two limits they faced, and number the 1840 London convention and the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention 1 and 2. Use your marks to trace how antislavery work led toward women's rights. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did women's experiences speaking against slavery help them recognize a need to fight for their own rights?	**Critics said women should not speak publicly about politics, even when they spoke against slavery. That limit made women question why they lacked a public voice.**
2	What happened at the 1840 London convention, and how did it lead Mott and Stanton toward a new goal?	**Organizers refused to seat women delegates. Mott and Stanton met there and discussed holding a meeting on women's rights.**
3	How did abolitionist work help turn the idea discussed in London into the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention?	**Abolitionist work gave women organizing practice and connections. Mott and Stanton used that experience to help organize the Seneca Falls Convention.**
4	How does Frederick Douglass's role at Seneca Falls show a connection between the two movements?	**Douglass was an abolitionist who attended the women's rights convention and supported the demand for women's voting rights.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Women who opposed slavery gathered petitions and spoke in public, learning how to organize for change. When critics said women should not speak about politics, activists saw a gap between calls for liberty and women's own limited rights. At a London antislavery convention in 1840, women delegates, including Lucretia Mott, were refused seats. Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton discussed a women's rights meeting. In 1848, they helped organize the Seneca Falls Convention, where participants demanded women's right to vote.

Accept other accurate causal chains grounded in the passage. The museum label should connect three steps, name a person and an event, and stay within 70 to 90 words.