

Women Who Changed Society

Identify political, social, and economic contributions in American history.

8.23.E "identify the political, social, and economic contributions of women to American society."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Political contributions affect laws or government, social contributions affect communities or public attitudes, and economic contributions affect jobs, money, or businesses. Read each bold sentence as one contribution statement, write P, S, or E beside it, and underline the clue words that led you to your choice.

Actions With Lasting Effects

- ① In 1917, Alice Paul and members of the National Woman's Party picketed outside the White House, demanding a federal amendment for women's voting rights. **Paul organized public protests that pressed national leaders to act.** After being arrested, she continued to support the campaign from prison. **In 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment became part of the Constitution and barred states from denying the vote because of sex.** The amendment did not end all barriers to voting, especially for many women of color, but it changed the nation's laws.
- ② Ida B. Wells used reporting to confront racial violence in the late nineteenth century. **She investigated lynchings and published evidence that challenged false claims used to excuse the killings.** Threats kept her from returning to Memphis after a mob destroyed her newspaper office. **Wells spoke to audiences in the United States and Britain, building public support for efforts against lynching.** Her work informed readers and helped civil rights activists demand that communities protect Black Americans.
- ③ Madam C. J. Walker built a hair-care business for Black women in the early 1900s. **She developed and sold hair products through a growing company. Walker trained thousands of sales agents, giving many Black women a way to earn income.** She also gave money to schools, civil rights groups, and other community causes. Her company showed that women could lead major businesses at a time when discrimination restricted many opportunities. Together, these women changed laws, public attitudes, and access to paid work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What type of contribution did Alice Paul make when she organized protests? Use a clue from the sentence to support your answer.

2 How did Ida B. Wells make a social contribution through her reporting and speeches?

3 Why is Walker's training of sales agents an economic contribution?

4 Classify the Nineteenth Amendment and Walker's hair-product company. How did the effects of these two contributions differ?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

YOUR TURN: Choose a woman in American history who is not named in the reading. Write three sentences that name her, describe one action she took, classify the action as political, social, or economic, and explain its effect.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Political contributions affect laws or government, social contributions affect communities or public attitudes, and economic contributions affect jobs, money, or businesses. Read each bold sentence as one contribution statement, write P, S, or E beside it, and underline the clue words that led you to your choice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What type of contribution did Alice Paul make when she organized protests? Use a clue from the sentence to support your answer.	Political. Her protests pressed national leaders to act on voting rights.
2	How did Ida B. Wells make a social contribution through her reporting and speeches?	She published evidence about lynching, informed readers, and built public support for efforts against lynching.
3	Why is Walker's training of sales agents an economic contribution?	It gave many Black women a way to earn income through sales work.
4	Classify the Nineteenth Amendment and Walker's hair-product company. How did the effects of these two contributions differ?	The Nineteenth Amendment was a political contribution because it changed voting law. Walker's company was an economic contribution because it sold products and created work and income.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Mary McLeod Bethune founded a school for Black girls in Daytona Beach, Florida, in 1904. This was a social contribution because it expanded access to education. Her work helped students gain knowledge and opportunities during segregation.

Accept a category only when the student connects it to an accurate effect named or clearly supported by the passage. For the Your Turn response, accept other historically accurate women and classifications when the action and explanation match the selected category.