

Winning the Vote

Imagine if boys made all the rules. That's how it was in 1776, when the United States was founded. Women were not allowed to vote until 1920! This year [2012] is the 92nd anniversary of that important event.



Library of Congress, George Grantham Bain Collection

Thousands of women marched in New York City for the right to vote.

The women's **suffrage** movement began in the 1800s. Suffrage is the right to vote. To win this right, women held **protests**¹ and marches. Hundreds of those women were arrested and jailed.

Women's groups across the country are honoring those who fought for this right with special events throughout the year. "Learning how women's actions changed America is important. It encourages us to understand that we can make a better world," said Molly Murphy MacGregor, the president of the National Women's History Project.

¹ **protest:** display of disapproval

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. When did the women's suffrage movement begin?

- A 1600s
- B 1700s
- C 1800s
- D 1900s

2. How does the author describe women's suffrage?

- A Women were not allowed to vote.
- B It is the 92nd anniversary of the suffrage movement.
- C Groups are honoring those who fought for women's suffrage.
- D Suffrage is the right to vote.

3. Which conclusion about 1776 is supported by the passage?

- A In 1776 woman protested the right to vote.
- B In 1776 women protested our country.
- C In 1776 women were not treated like men.
- D In 1776 women held marches.

4. Read the following sentences and answer the question below: "The women's suffrage movement began in the 1800s. Suffrage is the right to vote. To win this right, women held protests and marches. Hundreds of those women were arrested and jailed."

What does the word **movement** mean?

- A people acting together
- B people exercising
- C people voting together
- D people ruling others

5. Which statement supports the main idea of the passage?

- A Women's groups honor those who fought for women's suffrage.
- B 2012 is the 92nd anniversary of women's suffrage.
- C Hundreds of women were arrested and jailed.
- D Suffrage is the right to vote.

6. In what year were women finally allowed to vote?

7. What can you tell about men's position in our country in 1776? How do you know?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Men were the only ones who could vote _____ women earned the right.

- A thus
- B earlier
- C until
- D first

9. Answer the following questions based on the sentence below.

Long ago, women marched and protested for the right to vote.

Who? _____

When? long ago

(did) What? _____

Why? _____

10. **Vocabulary Word:** right: something allowed by law.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: _____

Teacher Guide and Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 770

Featured Text Structure: Descriptive – the writer explains, defines or illustrates a concept or topic

Passage Summary: In the early years of our country, women were not allowed to vote. Women protested against this inequality and years later finally won the right to vote.

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- B 1700s
- C **1800s**
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2. How does the author *describe* women's suffrage?

- A Women were not allowed to vote.
- B It is the 92nd anniversary of the suffrage movement.
- C Groups are honoring those who fought for women's suffrage.
- D **Suffrage is the right to vote.**

3. Which conclusion about 1776 is supported by the passage?

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6. In what year were women finally allowed to vote?

Suggested answer: Women were not allowed to vote until 1920. [paragraph 1]

7. What can you tell about men's position in our country in 1776? How do you know?

Suggested answer: In 1776 when our country was founded men were the only ones who could vote. Men also were the leaders of the people and made rules and laws. [paragraph 1]

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

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When? long ago

(did) What? **marched and protested**

Why? **for the right to vote**

10. **Vocabulary Word:** right: something allowed by law.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: answers may vary.