PREVIEW 18

Listen to the song "Let Us All Speak Our Minds." Follow along with the lyrics below. Afterward, answer the questions on the next page.

Analyzing "Let Us All Speak Our Minds"

Men tell us 'tis fit that wives should submit
To their husbands submissively, weakly;
Tho' whatever they say, their wives should obey
Unquestioning, stupidly, meekly.
Our husbands would make us their own dictum take
Without ever a wherefore or why for it.
But I don't and I can't and I won't and I shan't,
No, I will speak my mind if I die for it.

For we know it's all fudge to say man's the best judge Of what should be and shouldn't, and so on.

That woman should bow, nor attempt to say how She considers that matters should go on.

I never yet gave up myself thus a slave,

However my husband might try for it;

For I can't and I won't and I shan't and I don't,

But I will speak my mind if I die for it.

And all ladies, I hope, who've with husbands to cope, With the rights of the sex will not trifle.

We all, if we choose, our tongues but to use, Can all opposition soon stifle;

Let man, if he will, then bid us be still

And silent, a price he'll pay high for it.

For we won't and we can't and we don't and we shan't, Let us all speak our minds if we die for it.

PREVIEW 18





Library of Congress

1. What is the mood of the song's melody? What emotions are expressed in the lyrics? Do the melody and lyrics seem to go together? Why or why not?

2. Why do you think women like those pictured above would write and sing a song like this?

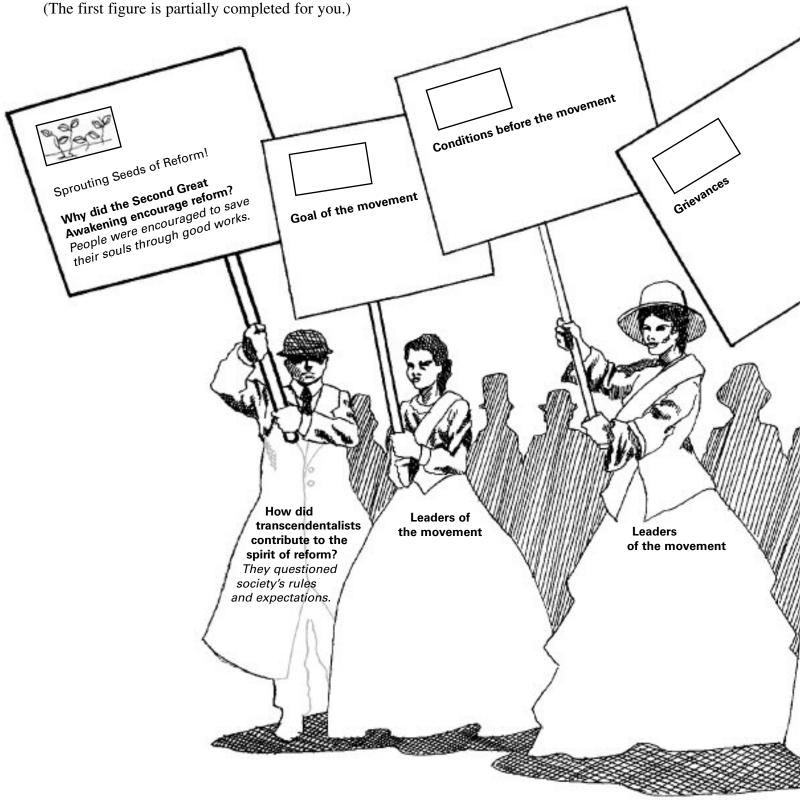
3. Do you think this song's message still has meaning today? Why or why not?



READING NOTES 18

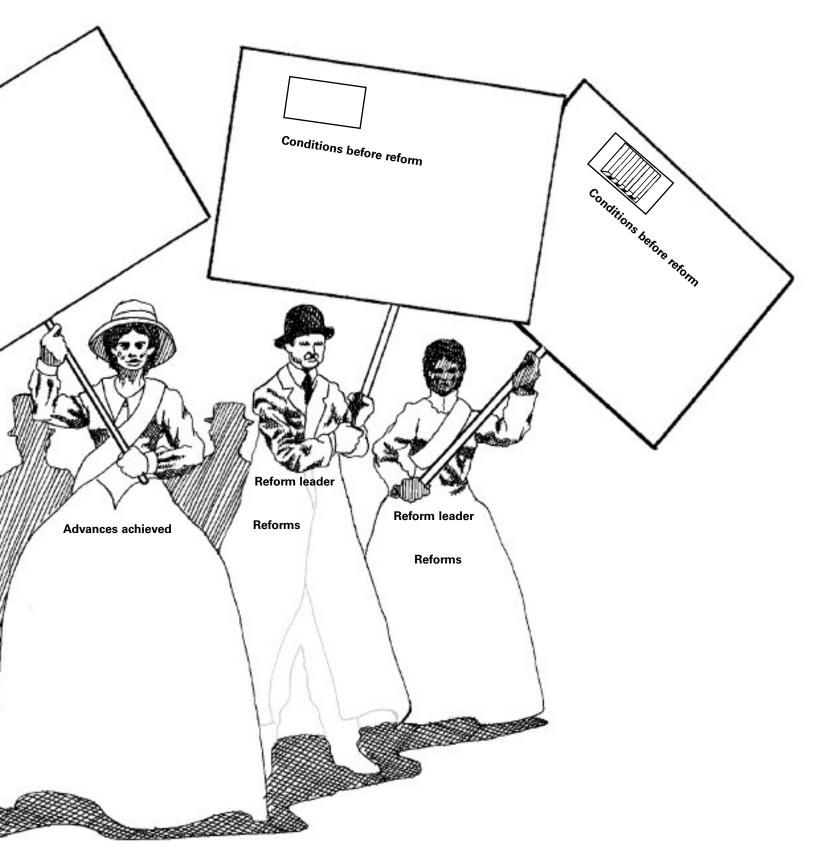
Read Sections 18.2 through 18.7. Follow these steps to take notes on each section:

- 1. Find the figure below whose sign's symbol best matches the information you read.
- 2. Create an appropriate slogan for the reform movement associated with that figure.
- 3. Write the slogan next to the symbol on the sign.
- 4. Write the name of the reform movement or event near the figure.
- 5. Write notes about the reform movement in the appropriate sections. (The first figure is partially completed for you.)



READING NOTES 18





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Critical Thinking About Women's Issues

Excerpt A

"He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable [undeniable] right to the elective franchise [vote]. He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she had no voice."

Step 1. Rewrite the above excerpt from the Declaration of Sentiments, using simpler language that a classmate would understand.

Step 2. Discuss in your group the degree to which this grievance has been redressed today. Place an X on the spectrum below to represent your group's decision.

Not Redressed at All Somewhat Redressed Totally Redressed

Step 3. List facts and information your group used to come to your decision.



Excerpt B

"He has monopolized [dominated] nearly all the profitable employments, and from those she is permitted to follow, she receives but a scanty remuneration [pay]."

Step 1. Rewrite the above excerpt from the Declaration of Sentiments, using simpler language a classmate would understand.

Step 2. Discuss in your group the degree to which this grievance has been redressed today. Place an X on the spectrum below to represent your group's decision.

Not Redressed at All Somewhat Redressed Totally Redressed

Step 3. List facts and information your group used to come to your decision.

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Excerpt C

"He has denied her the facilities for obtaining a thorough education, all colleges being closed against her."

Step 1. Rewrite the above excerpt from the Declaration of Sentiments, using simpler language a classmate would understand.

Step 2. Discuss in your group the degree to which this grievance has been redressed today. Place an X on the spectrum below to represent your group's decision.

Not Redressed at All Somewhat Redressed Totally Redressed

Step 3. List facts and information your group used to come to your decision.



Excerpt D

"He has created a false sense of public sentiment by giving to the world a different code of morals for men and women."

Step 1. Rewrite the above excerpt from the Declaration of Sentiments, using simpler language a classmate would understand.

Step 2. Discuss in your group the degree to which this grievance has been redressed today. Place an X on the spectrum below to represent your group's decision.

Not Redressed at All Somewhat Redressed Totally Redressed

Step 3. List facts and information your group used to come to your decision.

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PROCESSING 18

Create an illustrated timeline that includes the following:

- the title "The Era of Reform"
- these dates: 1820, 1831, 1837, 1840, 1841, 1848, 1850
- these events and people: Charles Finney preaches in the Second Great Awakening; Dorothea Dix discovers the horrors in jails and prisons; George Ripley founds Brook Farm; Horace Mann achieves some success in public education; William Lloyd Garrison starts the anti-slavery newspaper called *The Liberator*; Oberlin College becomes the first college to admit women along with men; Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton attend the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London; 300 people participate in the Seneca Falls Conference
- illustrations or symbols for at least five people or events

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